

## 4.4 CULTURAL RESOURCES

---

### INTRODUCTION

This section evaluates the proposed project's potential impacts on cultural resources. Cultural resources are sites, buildings, structures, objects, and districts that may have traditional or cultural value due to their historical significance. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that effects on cultural resources by projects subject to discretionary action be considered in the planning process.

This section describes existing cultural resources conditions at the project site and the pertinent state and local agency laws and regulations related to cultural resources. Potentially significant adverse impacts that could result from the proposed project are described and mitigation measures to reduce these impacts to less-than-significant levels are identified, as appropriate.

In addition to the references listed at the end of this section, the following report was used in the analysis:

- Interactive Resources, Inc., 2014. *Historic Resource Evaluation, Corte Madera Inn, 56 Madera Boulevard, Corte Madera, California.*

This report is provided in **Appendix B** of this EIR.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The prehistoric, ethnographic, and historical contexts for the project site and vicinity are summarized below.

#### PREHISTORY AND ETHNOGRAPHY OF PROJECT SITE VICINITY

The Archaic-Emergent cultural sequence developed by Fredrickson (1974), recalibrated by Milliken et al. (2007), is commonly used to interpret the prehistoric occupation of the San Francisco Bay Area. The recalibrated sequence is broken into two broad periods: 1) the Archaic Period, consisting of the Early Holocene Lower Archaic (8000-3500 cal B.C.), Middle Archaic (3500-500 cal B.C.), Initial Upper Archaic (500 cal B.C.-cal A.D. 430), and Late Upper Archaic (cal. A.D. 430-1050); and 2) the Emergent Period, consisting of the Lower Emergent Period (cal A.D. 1050-1550) and Terminal Late (or Upper Emergent) Period (cal. A.D. 1550-historic).

The oldest archaeological deposits in the San Francisco Bay Area have been identified at Los Vaqueros Reservoir, east of Mount Diablo in Contra Costa County. At Los Vaqueros, an Early Holocene component was identified at archaeological site CA-CCO-696, where charcoal associated with a milling slab was dated to 7920 cal. B.C. The sparse archaeological data from Bay Area Early Holocene sites suggests a generalized, mobile hunter-gatherer adaptation characterized by milling stone equipment and wide-stemmed and leaf-shaped projectile points.

Beginning at around 3500 B.C., local archaeological assemblages include stylized shell beads (often associated with human burials), mortars and pestles, and structural remains. Collectively, these assemblages indicate increased sedentism, regional symbolic integration, and trade during the Middle Archaic. By the Initial Upper Archaic, a “major disruption in symbolic integration systems” occurred, as evidenced by stylistic changes in shell ornaments and mortuary patterns (Milliken et al., 2007:115). The use of mortars and pestles is widespread during this time, although millingslabs and handstones persist in some areas. At around A.D. 430, at the onset of the Late Upper Archaic, archaeological data indicate a westward expansion of “Meganos culture” traits into the Bay Area from the San Joaquin Delta. The Meganos culture is characterized in the archaeological record by dorsally extended burials,<sup>1</sup> often associated with abundant shell beads. The Emergent Period is characterized by introduction of the bow-and-arrow—as evidenced by arrow-sized projectile points—increasing social stratification found in grave goods, and introduction of the Kuksu cult, which unified several language groups around the Bay Area.

Locally, prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified near the bay margin/tidal marshland and include midden deposits, black soil containing artifacts and subsistence debris indicative of intensive episodes of occupation.

Present-day Corte Madera is in the ethnographic territory of the Coast Miwok, who occupied what are now Marin and southern Sonoma counties. The Coast Miwok language is subsumed under the Penutian language stock and includes two dialects: Western, or Bodega, and Southern, or Marin, with Southern being further divided into valley and coast (Barrett, 1908; Kelly, 1978).

Coast Miwok territories were comprised of one or more land-holding groups that anthropologists refer to as “tribelets.” The tribelet, a nearly universal characteristic throughout native California, consists of a principal village occupied year-round and a series of smaller hamlets and resource gathering and processing locations occupied intermittently or seasonally (Kroeber, 1955). Tribelet population ranged between 50 and 500 persons and was largely determined by the carrying capacity of a tribelet’s territory.

The traditional Coast Miwok lifeway was severely disrupted due to introduced diseases, a declining birth rate, and the impact of the mission system. Coast Miwok were transformed from hunters and gatherers into agricultural laborers who lived at the missions. Later, because of the secularization of the missions by Mexico in 1834, most of the aboriginal population gradually moved to ranchos to work as manual laborers.

Today, many Coast Miwok people still live in their ancestral territory in Marin County and continue to engage in traditional cultural practices. The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) are a federally recognized tribe consisting of both Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo (whose ancestral tribal territory is in northern Sonoma County). FIGR, established in 1992, provides members with economic and educational opportunities, and seeks to preserve their traditional heritage.

---

<sup>1</sup> Dorsal extension is a common burial position in which an articulated skeleton is found on its back with the legs extended and the arms lying along the sides of the body.

## HISTORY OF PROJECT SITE AND VICINITY

### Corte Madera History

In 1834 Rancho Corte de Madera del Presidio was granted by Governor José Figueroa to John Reed. The 4,460-acre grant extended from the Tiburon peninsula to several miles to the northwest. The Reed family maintained a large successful ranch on their land for many years, but following the Gold Rush and a ruling on the property by the U.S. Lands Commission, numerous squatters began setting up small farms on lands outside of the reduced Reed family holdings. More settlers subsequently established small dairy farms on the grassy hillsides following the National Homestead Act of 1862.

In 1875, the North Pacific Coast Railroad established a station at Corte Madera that offered a fast and convenient connection to San Francisco in conjunction with the ferry service from Sausalito. The completion of the mile-long tunnel under Corte Madera Ridge in 1894 offered a faster route and served as a catalyst to the growth of the small community.

By 1887, there were only three homes in Corte Madera. From the mid-1870s to the 1890s, the three land owners all began subdividing and selling small lots for development. Most of the parcels were sold for the construction of modest summer residences. Subdivisions and streets were laid out, and the area began to grow primarily as a location for weekend or summer vacations from San Francisco. The population continued to rise with a significant influx of residents from San Francisco following the 1906 earthquake. In 1916, the citizens of Corte Madera voted to officially incorporate.

The early commercial and residential buildings of Corte Madera were constructed primarily around the inland train station. As development continued, more marsh and tidelands near the bay were filled in, and in 1929, Redwood Highway was constructed across a portion of the marshlands.

Like most of the Bay Area, Corte Madera witnessed a significant growth in population following World War II. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, developers carved out earth from the surrounding hillsides and filled in the marshes primarily for postwar tract housing subdivisions and commercial development, such as shopping centers, car dealerships, and motels. By 1970, the population had grown to just under 9,000 and the citizenry and town government began efforts to preserve open space and natural resources, slowing down the fast-paced development of the previous decades. One of the last large new developments was the construction of the Village shopping center east of U.S. Highway 101 in the 1980s. Other shopping centers have been renovated over the years and the business district around Old Corte Madera Square has also undergone revitalization. Today the town maintains a population of almost 9,500 and features land uses primarily consisting of residential, commercial, and protected open space (Town of Corte Madera, 2009; Haehl, 2002; Kyle, 2002).

### Project Site History

The site of the Corte Madera Inn was once part of the Meadowsweet Dairy Farm. The marshlands were acquired in the mid-1800s from the Reed family by S.D. Valentine through a quitclaim deed. Circa 1900, the Sherman family from southern California purchased the property from Valentine and built a summer retreat they named "Overmarsh." In the late 1920s, one of the Sherman's

daughters married engineer Frank Keever who designed a system of floodgates in order to convert the marsh into 1,400 acres of pasture for cattle. The couple began a successful dairy business and named their enterprise the Meadowsweet Dairy Farm. In 1929, the new state highway was constructed through the eastern section of the Meadowsweet property.

After about ten years the couple divorced and dismantled the dairy farm in 1936. The property was sold to Hugh Porter, who then sold the Sherman's house to the Sanford family in 1940.

Following World War II, the former pasturelands were developed into commercial enterprises and single-family residential subdivisions. The road extending southeast past the site of the former dairy was renamed Meadowsweet Drive in 1949 and numerous single-family homes were subsequently constructed on the subdivided parcels. The Madera Gardens residential subdivision located west of the Corte Madera Inn site and a shopping center along the west side of U.S. Highway 101 were developed by Frank Rusalem in 1952 (Haehl, 2002:161). Initially the Corte Madera shopping center consisted of only one large Quonset hut occupied by a grocery store. Then, in 1960, a much larger shopping center was constructed to replace the Quonset hut (Haehl, 2002:166).

Frank Rusalem also acquired the property north of the shopping center and began plans for developing a motel and restaurant in 1955. Rusalem, as part of the Madera Gardens Development Co., hired architect Carlton Arthur Steiner of Berkeley to design the new 60-room motel and noted restaurant architect Mario Gaidano of San Francisco to design the adjacent restaurant. The motel was originally named the Edgewater Inn and the restaurant was at different periods named Bob's Restaurant and New Joe's. In the mid-1970s, Raymond Grialou purchased the motel and restaurant from the estate of Frank Rusalem, who had died in 1969. Approximately 2 years later the restaurant burned down, and plans were immediately made to construct a new, detached restaurant and to renovate the existing motel (Wat, 1976). The new restaurant and motel administration wing alterations were designed by O'Leary, Terasawa & Takahashi of Beverly Hills (Corte Madera Planning Department, n.d.). The extensive motel guest room building renovations were designed by Steinau & Kurtzman Architects & Planners of Belvedere.

Further additions were undertaken in 1978 as designed by architect Pete Hoyt Berg of San Francisco and Tiburon and included a new L-shaped, 26-room guest room building at the northwest corner of the site and a new exterior whirlpool near the existing pool. In the early 1980s Hoyt Berg again served as the architect for the design of two new guest room buildings, a new swim club building, interior renovation of the lobby and meeting rooms, and later an addition to the swim club building. Finally, in 1987, select interior room renovations were undertaken (Corte Madera Planning Department, n.d.). Today the property remains an operational hotel with an adjacent restaurant and a centrally located swimming pool and pool clubhouse.

## **PROJECT SITE CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Interactive Resources (IR) and LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) completed cultural resources studies of the project site. IR completed background research and an architectural field survey in support of an historical evaluation of the Corte Madera Inn; LSA conducted background research to identify archaeological resources, paleontological resources, and human remains at the project site. The purpose of these studies was to 1) identify the proposed project's potentially significant impacts on historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources, and human remains; and 2) provide

mitigation measures for potentially significant impacts on cultural resources, as appropriate. The results of the historical and archaeological studies are summarized below.

## **Historical Architectural Resources**

### *Background*

IR conducted archival research for the historical evaluation of the Corte Madera Inn. Research was conducted at the Corte Madera Planning Department, the University of California at Berkeley College of Environmental Design Library, the San Francisco Public Library, the California Room at the Marin County Library, and numerous online sources. The evaluation, which is summarized below and described in detail in the technical report (Appendix B), was conducted to determine if the Corte Madera Inn is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and/or California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).

### *Corte Madera Inn Historical Evaluation Results*

The Corte Madera Inn is generally associated with the postwar growth of Corte Madera and Marin County. In the decades following World War II, there was significant growth in Corte Madera atop of the former marshlands. In particular, developer Frank Rusalem was integral in the construction of tract housing, shopping centers, and the Edgewater Inn.

IR's technical study notes that the original motel building at the Corte Madera Inn appears to potentially maintain some significance under NRHP/CRHR Criterion A/1 as being generally associated with the postwar development of Corte Madera atop the infilled marshland. However, a thorough assessment of integrity indicates that the subject property only maintains integrity of location and partial integrity of association. Therefore, it appears that the property would not be considered an historical resource under CEQA.

## **Archaeological Resources and Paleontological Resources**

### *Background*

A cultural resource records search of the project site was conducted at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System to identify previous cultural resources studies and site records for the project site and vicinity. The NWIC, an affiliate of the State of California Office of Historic Preservation, is the official state repository of cultural resource records and reports for Marin County.

Consultation between the Town and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) was conducted relating to potential project impacts on cultural resources.

### *Records Search Results*

The NWIC records search indicated that there are no recorded cultural resources within or adjacent to the project site or at the proposed off-site sewer line installation along Monona Drive. Prehistoric archaeological sites in much of eastern Marin County tend to cluster along the edge of the bay and tidal estuaries. The project site and off-site sewer line installation along Monona Drive

are situated on Holocene-age (~11,500 years B.P.) Bay Mud, which was deposited as a result of sea-level rise during the Early and Middle Holocene. Prehistoric archaeological sites are not likely to be situated in Bay Mud, although prehistoric sites may be present on older, stable land surfaces that underlie Bay Mud. These older surfaces predate the formation of tidal estuaries that were formed during the Holocene.

An archaeological survey and excavation conducted in the vicinity of the project site did not identify archaeological resources (Byrd, 2011; Kaijankoski and Meyer, 2011). Excavation north of the project site along U.S. Highway 101, however, identified a stable land surface underlying Bay Mud at a depth of 11.5 to 13.1 feet below surface that has the potential to contain prehistoric archaeological deposits.

Paleontological resources (fossils) have been identified in Marin County in Pleistocene and Pliocene sediments (University of California Museum of Paleontology, 2014). The Holocene Bay Mud that underlies the project site at considerable depth is too recent to contain fossils of paleontological significance. Older Pleistocene surfaces and decomposing Franciscan Formation bedrock have been identified in the vicinity of the project site beneath Holocene Bay Mud (Kaijankoski and Meyer, 2011). These older surfaces have the potential to contain significant fossils.

## **REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

### **FEDERAL REGULATIONS**

No federal regulations relative to cultural resources would be applicable to the proposed project.

### **STATE REGULATIONS**

#### **California Environmental Quality Act**

CEQA applies to all discretionary projects undertaken or subject to approval by the state's public agencies (CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(i)). Under the provisions of CEQA, "a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)).

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) defines an "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources;
- Listed in a local register of historical resources (as defined at Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5020.1(k));
- Identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code; or

- Determined to be an historical resource by a project's lead agency (CCR Title 14(3) Section 15064.5(a)).

An historical resource consists of “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...Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be ‘historically significant’ if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3)).

If an impact on an historical or archaeological resource is significant, CEQA requires feasible measures to minimize the impact (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 (a)(1)). Mitigation of significant impacts must lessen or eliminate the physical impact that the project would have on the resource. Generally, the use of drawings, photographs, and/or displays does not mitigate the physical impact on the environment caused by demolition or destruction of an historical resource. However, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation be undertaken even if it does not mitigate impacts to less-than-significant levels (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(a)(1); California Office of Historic Preservation, 2001:9).

### **California Register of Historical Resources**

Section 5024.1 of the PRC established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Generally, a resource is considered by the lead agency to be “historically significant” if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the CRHR (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3)). For a cultural resource to qualify for listing in the CRHR, it must be significant under one or more of the following criteria:

- Criterion 1:* Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage;
- Criterion 2:* Associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Criterion 3:* Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
- Criterion 4:* Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition to being significant under one or more of these criteria, a resource must retain enough of its historic character and appearance to be recognizable as a historical resource and be able to convey the reasons for its significance (CCR Title 14 Section 4852(c)). Generally, a cultural resource must be 50 years or older to be eligible for the CRHR.

In addition to meeting one or more of the significance criteria, a cultural resource must retain its historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the CRHR. Historical integrity is defined as “the authenticity of a historical resource’s physical identity evidenced by the survival of characteristics that existed during the resource’s period of significance” (California Office of Historic Preservation, n.d.). The evaluation of integrity must be grounded in an understanding of a

resource's physical features and its environment, and how these relate to its significance. There are seven aspects of integrity to consider when evaluating a cultural resource—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association (United States Department of the Interior, 1997:44-45)—which are described as follows:

- *Location* is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The actual location of a historic property, complemented by its setting, is particularly important in recapturing the sense of historic events and persons.
- *Design* is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.
- *Setting* is the physical environment of a historic property. Setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. Physical features that constitute the setting of a historic property can be either natural or manmade, including topographic features, vegetation, paths or fences, or relationships between buildings and other features or open space.
- *Materials* are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
- *Workmanship* is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. It is the evidence of the artisan's labor and skill in constructing or altering a building, structure, object, or site.
- *Feeling* is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character.
- *Association* is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

#### **California Public Resources Code Section 5097.5**

California Public Resources Code Section 5097.5 prohibits excavation or removal of any "vertebrate paleontological site...or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over such lands." Public lands are defined to include lands owned by or under the jurisdiction of the state or any city, county, district, authority or public corporation, or any agency thereof. Section 5097.5 states that any unauthorized disturbance or removal of archaeological, historical, or paleontological materials or sites located on public lands is a misdemeanor.

#### **California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5**

Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that, in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the coroner of the county in which the remains are discovered has determined whether or not the remains are subject to the coroner's authority. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission

within 24 hours of this identification. The Native American Heritage Commission will identify a Native American Most Likely Descendant (MLD) to inspect the site and provide recommendations for the proper treatment of the remains and associated grave goods.

### **LOCAL REGULATIONS**

The Corte Madera General Plan addresses historical resources and notes that “the Town contains historic structures that are important to community identity.” While the General Plan outlines specific goals for the Town to undertake relative to historical and cultural resources, there are currently no specific provisions regarding resources in the Corte Madera Municipal Code and no local listing or register of historical resources, nor is there a zoning district that identifies historical resources. The Town currently relies on the evaluation criteria for the national and state registers for identifying potential historic resources and CEQA for affording protection of any resources (Town of Corte Madera, 2009).

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

This section describes impacts related to cultural resources that could result from implementation of the proposed project. This section begins with the criteria of significance, which establish the thresholds for determining whether an impact is significant. The latter part of this section presents the less-than-significant, potentially significant, and cumulative impacts that could result from development of the proposed project. Mitigation measures are identified to avoid, minimize, or mitigate such impacts, where warranted.

### **SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA**

The proposed project would have a significant impact on cultural resources if it would:

- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5;
- Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5;
- Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature; or
- Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

### **LESS-THAN-SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS**

#### **Impact on an Historical Resource**

*The project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. No built-environment historical resources would be affected by the project. The project site includes the Corte Madera Inn, which was constructed in 1955 along with an adjacent restaurant. Although this property appears eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR under Criterion A/1 due to its association with the postwar*

development of Corte Madera, the property has undergone significant alterations since 1976. These alterations and a fire that destroyed the original restaurant in 1976 have resulted in a loss of integrity, and the property can no longer convey its historical significance under Criterion A/1. The project therefore would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.

## POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

This section addresses the potentially significant impacts to archaeological resources, paleontological resources, and human remains and recommended mitigation measures.

**Impact CULTURAL-1: The project could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5 by unearthing or otherwise displacing archaeological deposits that may occur below the Holocene Bay Mud underlying the project site. (PS)**

The proposed project would include about 8 to 12 weeks of on-site grading that would be required prior to the start of construction. Additional drilling for foundation preparation and installation would also be required. A new sewer line would be installed at an off-site area along Monona Drive.

A geoarchaeological investigation conducted near the project site indicates that there is a potential for buried prehistoric archaeological resources in eastern Marin County beneath Bay Mud that was deposited as a result of sea-level rise during the Holocene (Kaijankoski and Meyer, 2011). Deep ground-disturbing excavations conducted for the project below fill and Bay Mud, therefore, may result in an adverse change to buried archaeological resources that may be located at the project site. Ground-disturbing excavations could result in material impairment by destroying those qualities of a resource that qualify it for listing in the CRHR. In addition, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria have expressed concerns that the project has the potential to affect buried archaeological deposits that are of tribal importance.

The off-site sewer line installation along Monona Drive has been previously disturbed for construction of an existing sewer line, and intact archaeological deposits are not likely to occur at that location.

*Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1: The applicant shall complete a geoarchaeological testing program at the project site prior to issuance of a grading permit by the Town. The testing program shall be designed to 1) characterize the subsurface paleoenvironmental conditions of the project site, including the age and composition of stratigraphic units; 2) assess the presence/or absence of archaeological deposits underlying the project site; and 3) produce a report of findings that includes recommendations for further study of archaeological resources, as appropriate. These recommendations may include archaeological monitoring of areas where there is a potential to encounter buried archaeological deposits during construction or additional excavation to recover and study buried archaeological deposits. The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria will be contacted in the event that archaeological deposits are unearthed. The Town shall ensure that the recommendations of the report of findings are followed as a condition of the project's grading permit. (LTS)*

**Impact CULTURAL-2: The project could directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site by unearthing or otherwise displacing fossils that may occur below Holocene landforms underlying the project site. (PS)**

Pleistocene surfaces and decomposing Franciscan Formation bedrock have been identified in the vicinity of the project site beneath Holocene Bay Mud (Kajankoski and Meyer, 2011). These older surfaces have the potential to contain significant fossils, although these surfaces likely underlie the project site at considerable depth. There is a remote chance, however, that the deep excavations required for the project, including drilling for foundations, could affect older landforms that have the potential to contain fossils.

*Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-2: Prior to project approval, the City shall ensure that the following compulsory specification be included in the project construction contract plans:*

*“Should paleontological resources be encountered during project subsurface construction activities, all ground-disturbing activities within 25 feet shall be redirected and a qualified paleontologist contacted to assess the situation, consult with agencies as appropriate, and make recommendations for the treatment of the discovery. If the resources are found to be significant, and they cannot be avoided by project activities, adverse effects on such resources shall be mitigated. Mitigation may include monitoring, recording of the fossil locality, data recovery and analysis, a final report, and accessioning of the fossil material and technical report to a paleontological repository. Public educational outreach may also be appropriate. Upon completion of the assessment, a report documenting methods, findings, and recommendations shall be prepared and submitted to the Town for review, and (if paleontological materials are recovered) a paleontological repository, such as the University of California Museum of Paleontology.” (LTS)*

**Impact CULTURAL-3: The project could disturb human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. These remains may be associated with archaeological deposits that may underlie the project site. (PS)**

Prehistoric archaeological sites recorded in the Corte Madera and Larkspur region are known to contain Native American human remains. These remains may occur in association with habitation debris typically associated with shellmounds, including midden containing faunal shell and bone, and culturally flaked stone and groundstone. Implementation of Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1 and compliance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code would reduce this potential impact to a less-than-significant level.

*Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-3: Mitigation Measure CULTURAL-1 shall be implemented, and the project shall comply with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code. (LTS)*

## **CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

Projects that are reasonably foreseeable or that are currently under construction near the Corte Madera Inn project site have adversely affected, or have the potential to adversely affect, cultural resources. Construction of the Rose Lane Residential Community Project in Larkspur, for example,

unearthed a National Register of Historic Places-eligible archaeological site containing hundreds of Native American artifacts and human remains. Potentially significant impacts on recorded or previously unknown archaeological resources, paleontological resources, and human remains could also occur from ground disturbance associated with the 1441 Casa Buena Townhouses project. Impacts on these resources accidentally discovered during implementation of these proposed projects, however, would be mitigated to less-than-significant levels. Collectively, reasonably foreseeable projects that may occur in Corte Madera and Larkspur—including the current project—would not result in cumulatively significant impacts on archaeological resources, paleontological resources, or human remains as these resources would be avoided or otherwise removed, analyzed, and reported (i.e., by a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist).

When development proposals are received by the Town in the future, these will undergo environmental review pursuant to CEQA and, when necessary, mitigation measures will be adopted as appropriate. In most cases, this environmental review and compliance with project conditions of approval will ensure that significant impacts on cultural resources will be avoided or otherwise mitigated to less-than-significant levels.

## REFERENCES

- Barrett, Samuel A., 1908. The Ethno-geography of the Pomo and Neighboring Indians. *University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology* 6(1). Berkeley.
- Byrd, Brian F., 2011. *Archaeological Survey Report for the U.S. 101/Route 580 Twin Cities Greenbrae Corridor Improvement Project, Larkspur and Corte Madera, Marin County, California*, Davis, CA: Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.
- California Office of Historic Preservation, n.d. *California Register and National Register: A Comparison*. Sacramento, CA: California Office of Historic Preservation.
- Corte Madera Planning Department, n.d. Permit file for 1815 Redwood Highway. On file at the Corte Madera Planning Department.
- Fredrickson, David A., 1974. Cultural Diversity in Early Central California: A View from the North Coast Ranges, *Journal of California Anthropology* 1:41-54.
- Haehl, Jana, ed., 2002. *A History of Corte Madera*. Corte Madera, CA: Corte Madera Community Foundation.
- Kajjankoski, Philip, and Jack Meyer, 2011. *Extended Phase I Subsurface Geoarchaeological Investigation Report for the Central Ferry Connection Project, Larkspur, Marin County, California*, Davis, CA: Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.
- Kelly, Isabel, 1978. Native Languages of California. In *California*, edited by Robert F. Heizer, pp. 80-90. Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 8, William C. Sturtevant, general editor. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.
- Kroeber, Alfred L., 1955. Nature of the Land-Holding Group. *Ethnohistory* 2:303-314.

- Kyle, Douglas E, 2002. *Historic Spots in California*, revised edition, Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Milliken, Randall et al., 2007. Punctuated Culture Change in the San Francisco Bay Area, in *California Prehistory: Colonization, Culture, and Complexity*, edited by T. L. Jones and K. A. Klar, pp. 99-123, Lanham, MD: Alta Mira Press.
- Town of Corte Madera, 2009. General Plan for the Town of Corte Madera, available at <http://www.ci.corte-madera.ca.us/planning/GeneralPlan.html>, accessed May 2014.
- United States Department of the Interior, 1997. *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of the Interior.
- University of California Museum of Paleontology, 2014. UCMP Specimen Search Online Database, available online at <http://ucmpdb.berkeley.edu/>, accessed May 2014.
- Wat, Takeshita. 1976. "Corte Madera New Joe's will be rebuilt; motel being renovated," *Marin IJ*, 1976, on file at the Corte Madera Planning Department with documents for 1815 Redwood Highway.

