

CULTURAL RESOURCE EVALUATION
555 PACIFIC AVENUE
IN THE CITY OF SANTA CRUZ

FOR
HAMILTON-SWIFT DEVELOPMENT
LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS
519 SEABRIGHT AVENUE, SUITE 206
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95062
#60800-94-177

BY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
496 N. FIFTH STREET
SAN JOSE, CA 95112 (408)295-1373
ROBERT CARTIER, PRINCIPAL

MAY 5, 1994

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

P.O. BOX 3377
SALINAS, CA 93912
(831) 422-4912

November 20, 2001

Mr. Dave Gunthridge
Light, Air & Space Construction
P.O. Box 36303
San Jose, CA 95158-6303

Re: AC 3166, Archaeological Monitoring at 503 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz

Dear Sir:

The following is a report of our findings during archaeological monitoring of the excavations for soils remediation at 503 Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, California. Archaeological Consulting has provided monitoring services at your request of October 29, 2001. Anna Runnings, M.A., was on site to monitor excavations on November 5, 2001.

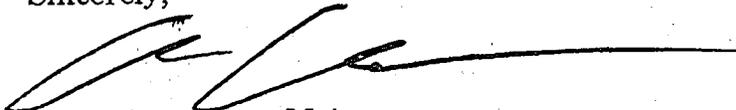
Three areas were excavated in this project. The area at the northwest edge of the parcel had been excavated prior to the arrival of the monitor. That excavation was approximately 3-4 feet in depth and all materials observed in the sidewalls appeared to be either fill or highly disturbed soils.

The second area excavated was at the east edge of the parcel. This area was outside the area designated as sensitive, so a sample trench was excavated to determine whether there was any reason to expect other results. The excavation went through approximately 6 feet of fill and encountered concrete. Under the concrete was a black deposit that smelled like it may have been a septic tank. This deposit extended to a depth of twelve feet.

The third area was near the center of the parcel. The first 4-5 feet were fill, and below that was native, archaeologically sterile sand.

We have concluded that this project has had no adverse impacts on significant cultural materials, and that further excavations on the parcel are unlikely to encounter any intact archaeological resources. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,



Anna Runnings, M.A.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING

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SALINAS, CA 93912

(831) 422-4912

FAX (831) 422-4913

October 29 2001

Mr. Dave Gunthridge
Via fax to 408/979-0621

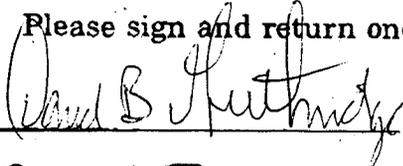
Agreement for Archaeological Monitoring Services

This agreement authorizes Archaeological Consulting to perform archaeological monitoring during earth-disturbing activities associated with your construction project in Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, California. Archaeological Consulting agrees to provide an archaeological monitor as specified by your permit(s), a copy of which must be available on site. If at any time human remains or archaeological resources are encountered, the monitor will be authorized to halt construction activities within 50 meters (150 feet) of the find until appropriate mitigation or data recovery measures are formulated and implemented. At the completion of the monitoring, a letter report will be prepared summarizing the results of the investigations, and containing management recommendations if necessary.

The base rates for archaeological monitoring are \$50.00 per hour per monitor, to and from our office in Salinas, plus mileage (at \$0.32 per mile) and any related expenses, including overtime if necessitated by the project. Office time for report preparation will be charged at the same rate. A four hour minimum will be charged at any time we are called out to the site, and we will require a minimum of two (2) working days notice prior to the beginning of the project to provide a monitor. Long-term projects will be billed monthly; shorter projects will be billed at the completion of monitoring.

If intact midden, archaeological features or human remains are encountered that require data recovery or additional mitigation efforts, that will be bid out separately. Recovered cultural materials will be curated in the public domain at a suitable research facility.

Please sign and return one copy of this agreement.



10/29/01

Date



10/29/01

Date

Gary S. Breschini, Ph.D.

ADMONITION

Certain information contained in this report is not intended for general public distribution. Portions of this report locate significant archaeological sites in the region of the project area, and indiscriminate distribution of these data could result in the desecration and destruction of invaluable cultural resources. In order to ensure the security of the critical data in this report, certain maps and passages may be deleted in copies not delivered directly into the hands of environmental personnel and qualified archaeologists.

THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

ABSTRACT

Archaeological research was carried out for a 2.36 acre area located on Pacific Avenue in the City of Santa Cruz. The research included an archival search in the State records and a surface survey of the project area. The archaeological records search included a review of site records and studies. This search revealed that there are no historic or prehistoric sites listed within the project area, however, a number of prehistoric and historic sites are located adjacent to and within a half mile radius of the project area. The closest prehistoric site is CA-SCR-12, which is situated southeast of the project area and is defined as a shell midden deposit with Native American burials. In addition, a number of other prehistoric sites are located around Neary's Lagoon which is west of the project area. Historic resources recorded in the vicinity of the project area include residential and commercial structures within the downtown section of Santa Cruz many of which date back to the mid to late nineteenth century. The closest historic cultural resource is CA-SCR-246H, the Blakburn House Motel, located at 101 Cedar Street. The surface survey did not identify cultural resources, either prehistoric or historic, within the project area, however, visibility was very limited. In light of the culturally sensitive nature of the area for both prehistoric and historic cultural resources and the limited survey area it is therefore recommended that all earth-moving activities into native soils be monitored by a qualified archaeologist.

REQUEST FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

The archaeological evaluation was carried out to determine the presence or absence of any significant cultural resources. Archaeological services were requested in April 1994 in order to provide an evaluation that would investigate the possible presence of cultural resources. This study meets both the requirements of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).

QUALIFICATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Archaeological Resource Management has been specifically engaged in cultural resource management projects in central California since 1977. The firm is owned and operated by Dr. Robert Cartier, the Principal Investigator. Dr. Cartier has a Ph.D. in Anthropology, and is certified by the Society of Professional Archaeologists (SOPA) for conducting cultural resource investigations as well as other specialized work in archaeology.

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT AREA

The subject area consists of a 2.36 parcel of land located at 555 Pacific Avenue, in the City of Santa Cruz. On the USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle of Santa Cruz, the Universal Transverse Mercator Grid (UTMG) centerpoint of the project area is 586740/4091460. The elevation is approximately 10 feet MSL and the nearest source of fresh water is the San Lorenzo River which is located approximately 900 feet east of the project area.

The proposed project consists of the development of a sixty-unit multi-family complex. Prior to this construction is the removal of the existing warehouse building and the construction of twelve three-story buildings. Two of these buildings will include a Community Center and child care facility.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology used in this investigation consisted of an archival search, a surface reconnaissance, and a written report of the findings with appropriate recommendations. The archival research is conducted by transferring the study location to a state archaeolog-

ical office which maintains all records of archaeological investigations. This is done in order to learn if any archaeological sites or surveys have been recorded within a mile of the subject area. Each archival search with the state is given a file number for verification. The surface reconnaissance portion of the evaluation is done to determine if traces of historic or prehistoric materials exist within the study area. This survey is conducted by a field archaeologist who examines exposed soils for cultural material. The investigator is looking for early ceramics, Native American cooking debris, and artifacts of stone, bone, and shell. A report is written containing the archival information, record search number, the survey findings, and appropriate recommendations. A copy of this evaluation is sent to the state archaeological office by requirements of state procedure.

ARCHIVAL BACKGROUND

Prior to reconnoitering the subject area, a study of the maps and records at the Northwest Information Center of the California Archaeological Site Inventory was conducted and given the file number of 60800-94-177. This research into the records at the Information Center was done to determine if any known archaeological resources were reported in or around the subject area. There are no known archaeological sites located within the subject area, however, a number of sites are located within a half mile radius. These include both prehistoric and historic cultural resources. The proposed project does not fall within the City of Santa Cruz Archaeological Sensitive Area, but a portion of the sensitive zone is adjacent to the southeast corner of the subject property.

Prehistoric sites found within a half mile radius include midden deposits located along the San Lorenzo River and Neary Lagoon area. Historic sites include both residential and commercial buildings such as hotels. The closest archaeological sites include a midden deposit with Native American burials (CA-SCR-12) and a historic house, the Blackburn House (CA-SCR-218H). The following is a more detailed description of these sites:

CA-SCR-12 is defined as a shell midden site that was first identified in 1950 during construction of a motel at Cliff and Third Streets. The site is located approximately 500 feet southeast of the project area. During construction human bones were discovered. Excavations were conducted on the site in 1950 and in the 1970s. A number of site specific studies have been conducted on CA-SCR-12 and artifacts are curated by the University of California, Santa Cruz (CA-SCR-12 site file form).

CA-SCR-246H, or the Blackburn House Motel was originally built by Judge Blackburn. The house is one of the few remaining intact Classical Greek Revival houses in Santa Cruz. The house was constructed in 1850 (Hoover 1970; CA-SCR-246H site file form).

SURFACE RECONNAISSANCE

A "general surface reconnaissance" was conducted by a field archaeologist on all visible open land surfaces in the project area. A "controlled intuitive reconnaissance" was performed in places where burrowing animals, exposed banks and inclines, and other activities had revealed subsurface stratigraphy and soil contents. The project area consists of two automobile dealerships, one is in operation and the other has been abandoned. Visibility of native soils was very limited since almost the entire project area is covered in asphalt hard top, cement, or buildings. There are a few small landscaped area where soils are exposed. In addition, a small area of soil near the corner of Sycamore and Pacific is exposed due to the removal of asphalt. Boundaries were clearly marked. Native soils consisted of medium brown silty loam and rock type included imported gravel. No cultural materials, either prehistoric or historic, were noted during the surface inspection of the project area.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Archival research revealed the presence of both prehistoric and historic cultural resources near the project area. CA-SCL-12, a midden deposit, is located southeast of the project area, approximately 500 feet, and a historic house, CA-SCR-246H, is located north of the subject area. There is a potential for subsurface deposits which may relate to either of these sites such as additional prehistoric midden deposits or historic trash deposits. In addition, limited visibility to native soils prevented a complete assessment of the presence or absence of cultural resources. In light of the close proximity of both prehistoric and historic cultural resources to the project area and the very limited visibility to native soils it is recommended that a qualified archaeologist monitor earth-moving activities into native soils. In the event, however, that prehistoric traces (human remains, artifacts, concentrations of shell/ bone/rock/ash) are encountered, all construction within a fifty meter radius of the find should be stopped, the Planning Department notified, and the project archaeologist develop additional recommendations.

LITERATURE CITED AND CONSULTED

- California Archaeological Inventory, Northwest Information Center
Site File Forms CA-SCR-12 and CA-SCR-246H. MS on file California
Archaeological Site Inventory, Rohnert Park.
- City of Santa Cruz
1981 Procedures for the Protection of Archaeological Resources in the City of
Santa Cruz: An Amendment to the Historic Preservation Plan, an Element
of the General Plan and a Component of the Local Coastal Plan. City
Council Resolution NS-14251.
- Hoover, M., H. E. Rensch, and E.G. Rensch
1970 *Historic Spots in California*. Third edition: Stanford University Press,
Stanford, CA.



