

APPENDIX L CULTURAL RESOURCES

EVALUATION OF PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE CA-ORA-149
AND HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE CA-ORA-1582H
TEST EXCAVATIONS AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

HUNTINGTON BEACH URBAN CENTER PROJECT
PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY
HUNTINGTON BEACH, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
Volume I

by

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Sites: CA-ORA-149 and CA-ORA-1582H.

USGS Quad: Newport Beach 7.5' 1981.

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The proposed Huntington Beach Urban Center is composed of a combination of commercial and residential buildings underlain by underground parking on a 31-acre piece of property. The commercial section will tentatively include 180,000 square feet of retail, dining and entertainment space, 60,000 square feet of office space, and a 400-room hotel. The residential section will tentatively include 540 multi-story family residential units. All parking will be subterranean in two to three levels. The project area is roughly trapezoidal in shape and is bounded by Pacific Coast Highway to the south, Huntington Street to the east, Atlanta Avenue to the north, and First Street (and Lake Avenue) to the west in the City of Huntington Beach in Orange County, California. It is situated within Section 14 of Township 6 South, Range 11 West, as shown on the 1965 (photorevised 1981) USGS 7.5' *Newport Beach* quadrangle.

SCOPE OF WORK AND PERSONNEL

Professional Archaeological Services (PAS) was hired by Makar Properties of Newport Beach to conduct archival research and test excavations relating to prehistoric site CA-ORA-149 and the historic dump site CA-1582H, both situated within the project area, in order to evaluate the significance of these resources under CEQA, especially Section 15064.5(a)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

The principal investigator for the project was Philip de Barros, Ph.D. of PAS. He was assisted by Co-Principal Investigator, Scott Crull, Ph.D. Key analysts included Judy McKeehan, M.A. (geomorphology); Glenda Luhnnow, M.A. (shellfish analysis); Wayne Bonner, M.A. (archival research and vertebrate faunal remains); Scott Crull, Ph.D. (historic artifact analysis); Susan Walter (vessel ceramics); Steve Van Wormer (mean ceramic date and ceramic economic index), and others too numerous to list. The field director was Judy McKeehan.

NATIVE AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT

Prior to the test excavations, a letter was sent to Gabrielino and Juaneño representatives listed as Most Likely Descendants by the California Native American Heritage Commission informing them of the test excavations and inviting them to a site visit. In addition, Makar Properties invited Robert Dorame of the Gabrielino and Joyce Perry and David Belardes of the Juaneño to meet with Ethen Thacher of Makar Properties and Principal Investigator, Dr. Philip de Barros, of Professional Archaeological Services (PAS), and PAS field director, Judy McKeehan, M.A., to discuss their concerns and to deal with issues relating

to the possible discovery of human remains and associated grave goods and the hiring of Indian monitors to monitor for such finds. Contracts were signed between these two Gabrielino and Juaneño groups with Makar Properties.

Monitors during excavation included Joyce Perry and David Belardes of the Juaneño and Jordan Liggett, Mercedes Dorame, and Robert Dorame of the Gabrielino/Tongva. On June 18th, after the completion of the excavations, those responding to the site visit letter were shown the sites and presented with the preliminary results. Aside from the monitors Robert Dorame, Joyce Perry and David Belardes, Sonia Johnston of the Juaneño also attended this site visit. The other invitees did not respond. Sonia Johnston expressed her concerns about the development of more coastal land in a letter addressed to Makar Properties. Robert Dorame submitted the Gabrielino Tongva Daily Monitoring Reports with field photos to Makar Properties. A copy of this report will be made available to the Native American representatives who attended the site visit.

DISPOSITION OF COLLECTIONS AND FIELD NOTES

The prehistoric and historic artifacts and field notes associated with ORA-149 and ORA-1582H are currently in public storage in San Marcos, California, near Palomar College. The goal is to ultimately curate the material at the new curation facility at Cal State Fullerton when it opens its doors sometime during 2002. Some of these artifacts may eventually be put on public display within the Huntington Beach Urban Center or used as long-term teaching collections.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS

A research design was prepared prior to the investigation of both sites with an emphasis on important research domains and issues relevant to each site. A combination of trenches and 1 x 1 m units were excavated in natural stratigraphic and/or arbitrary 10-cm levels depending upon conditions. Ten units were excavated at ORA-149 and six units at ORA-1589H. The field work took place in late May and early June, 2001. All material was screened through 1/8" wire mesh at ORA-149 and 1/4" wire mesh at ORA-1582H. Wet screening was used at both sites. All material was properly washed, identified and catalogued for curation.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS AT ORA-149

ORA-149 is a prehistoric shell midden situated on gently sloping coastal sand dune deposits overlooking an ancient tidal estuary or "bolsa" that was largely filled in during historic times. It is composed of two principal loci (A and B) as well as surficial deposits that have been smeared from the main deposit to the

north and west. The site once extended well to the east but perhaps 40-50% of the site was destroyed by a deep cut associated with the creation of Huntington Street and by the construction of the Pacific Mobile Home Park on the east side of Huntington. Northern and southern portions of the site were severely impacted by Chevron oil activities from the 1950s onwards. The result is that only a small portion of the original site is left. Locus A consists of a narrow band of stratified midden partially exposed in a shallow arroyo and measures about 245 m² in size; it represents what is left of the southern portion of the site. Locus B1 encompasses the heart of the site near Huntington Street. Locus B2 contains shallow deposits that sit on top of sand dune and sandstone strata. These have been severely impacted by past grading on the property. Locus B1 is about 1,500 m² in size and B2 about 2,800 m². Finally, there are two areas of smeared, surficial midden deposits north and northwest of Locus B about 2,500 m² in size.

The original vegetation probably consisted of some coastal sage scrub, grassland, and/or coastal strand vegetation, but this has now been replaced by largely non-native shrubs and grasses. The vegetation of the former "bolsa" would have been a saltwater marsh community with its associated shellfish, fish, ray and shark populations. The local geology of the bluff is composed of sandstone and loosely consolidated former dune sand deposits.

Site Type: The site consists of two loci A and B. Both are probably the remains of minor residential bases. They were used primarily for shellfish procurement and processing, but they were also seasonal habitation sites based on the presence of fire-altered rock, fish bone, and groundstone tools associated with seed processing, especially at Locus B.

Time Periods: Locus A: Early-to-Mid Late Prehistoric, A.D. 590 to 1280
 Locus B: Late Millingstone and Early Late Prehistoric
 2860 – 1290 B.C.; A.D. 420-890

Depth: Locus A: 100-140 cm
 Locus B1: 60-110 cm in area of intact midden
 Locus B2: <30 cm of highly disturbed midden

Elevation: Locus A: 10 feet
 Locus B1: 5-20 feet
 Locus B2: 20-30 feet
 Areas of Smeared Surficial Midden: 30-31 feet

Artifact Types:

Locus A: Subsurface: split cobble core, core/chopper, small cobble mano?, 1-2 mano fragments, metate fragment, fire-altered rock and 15 debitage (mostly chert, some quartzite and quartz; single jasper, basalt, andesite, and obsidian); bits of historic bottle glass and metal artifacts at depths ranging from 0-110 cm.

Locus B1: Surface: three metate fragments, 1 unshaped bifacial mano, black chert core, basalt split cobble core, quartzite flake tool, fire altered rock and 1 debitage (rhyolite). Subsurface: limpet shell ornament, bone awl frag?, fire-altered rock, 14 debitage (mostly chert, some quartz and quartzite; single chalcedony, metavolcanic, obsidian); historic bottle glass, ceramic, metal, rubber, brick, fiberglass, and cloth artifacts at depths ranging between 0-80 cm.

Locus B2: Surface: 2 debitage (basalt, quartzite). Subsurface: 18 debitage (mostly chert and some quartz, single quartzite), some fire-altered rock; asphalt lumps and historic bottle glass, metal, fiberglass, and plastic artifacts ranging from 0-40 cm.

Animal and Fish Bone:

Locus A: 942 non-fish bone: small mammal (51.1%), rodents (36.2%), mammal (5.0%), gopher (2.2%), snake (2.0%), mouse (1.0%), 6 large mammal (0.6%), 6 medium mammal (0.6%), 6 ground squirrel (0.6%), 3 birds (0.3%); 1 duck, 1 horned lizard, and 1 rabbit (0.1% each). 160 fish bone: shark or ray (16.9%), shovelnose guitarfish (16.3%), leopard shark (15.0%), bat ray (15.0%), bony fish (11.9%), undifferentiated midshipman (9.4%), surfperch (5.6%), shark (2.5%), croaker family (1.9%); thornback, anchovy family and diamond turbot (1.3% each), barred or kelp sand bass, California halibut, and herring (0.6% each).

Locus B1: 342 non-fish bone: rodent (43.3%), small mammal (26.3%), mammal (12.9%), snake (5.6%), 15 large mammal (4.4%), 6 gopher and 6 deer (1.7% each), 4 medium mammal (1.2%), 3 bird (0.9%), 2 lizard (0.6%), and 1 gadwall duck, 1 duck, 1 pond turtle, 1 rabbit and 1 mouse (0.3% each). 117 fish bone: shovelnose guitarfish (46.0%), shark or ray (21.0%), bat ray (16.1%), diamond turbot (10.5%), undifferentiated midshipman (6.5%).

Locus B2: 13 non-fish bone: 1 mammal, 2 rabbit, 2 gopher, 2 rodent, 1 medium mammal, 5 small mammal. 5 fish bone: 4 shovelnose guitarfish, 1 bat ray.

Shellfish Remains:

Locus A: Venus clam (28.2%), scallop (26.4%), Pismo clam (18.2%), oyster (16.9%), Pacific slipper shell (6.0%), spiny cup-and-saucer (2.1%), California horn shell (1.1%), 14 other species (1.1%).

Locus B1: scallop (36.4%), oyster (20.2%), Pismo clam (16.5%), Venus clam (14.1%), Pacific slipper shell (6.3%), spiny cup-and-saucer (2.9%), California horn shell (0.8%) and 16 other species (2.7%).

Locus B2: oyster (30.0%), Venus clams (24.2%), scallop (20.0%), Pacific slipper shell (9.7%), Pismo clam (8.1%), spiny cup-and-saucer (4.5%), California horn shell (1.9%), and 4 other species (1.3%).

Floral Remains:

Locus A: 1 sunflower family seed, 1 wild barley seed

Locus B1: 1 wild barley seed

Artifact Protein Residues:

Locus A: none

Locus B1: prickly pear on metate fragment; chenopod and quail/grouse /pheasant on mano (both surface artifacts)

Degree of Disturbance: Locus A and B1: low to high; Locus B2: high

Volume Excavated : 7.05 m³

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS AT ORA-1582H

ORA-1582H is an historic dump site located on the edge of a low bluff composed of coastal sand dune deposits overlooking an ancient tidal estuary or "bolsa" that was largely filled in during historic times. It was created in the early 20th century and was probably buried under fill sometime after the 1950s. It is located at the end of a triangle of land formed by a northwest-southeast trending berm used for the Pacific Coast Highway (formerly for the Southern Pacific Railroad and Pacific Electric railroad lines) and an old Southern Pacific line that once branched off of the coastal line and headed northwest then north toward Stanton, following a route between Lake and Alabama Streets after crossing the subject property. The site contains an abundance of historic materials, especially glass and ceramics, and has been highly disturbed by past episodes of burning and burial with earthmoving equipment. Chevron oil activities also resulted in the deposition of oil-related materials, including masses of iron cable dumped into various parts of the dump, especially the southern half.

Site Type: Historic municipal dump containing primarily consumer and kitchen items. A small, sparse prehistoric shell midden component is mixed in with the historic materials.

Time Period:

Historic Component : Artifacts date from pre-1860 to the 1960s, but most date from the late 1800s through the 1930s. Most of the bottle manufacturer dates of operation fall between the late 1880s and 1940. Given the known history of Huntington Beach, the dump was probably active from some time between 1905 and 1910 and on into the 1930s with a few intrusive artifacts from the 1940s through 1960s. The weighted mean bottle manufacturer's date is 1917.1. The weighted mean ceramic manufacturer's date is 1915.

Late Prehistoric Component: It dates to the terminal Late Prehistoric or after A.D.1430 based on 2 radiocarbon dates. It consists of sparse burned shell, especially in Unit 5. Its original stratigraphic context has been completely lost.

Dimensions/Area: ca. 120 x 60 m or 7,200 m².

Depth: ranges from two to five feet in most areas

Artifact Materials and Types:

All proveniences: 1,884 artifacts, excluding bulk glass, discarded nondiagnostic metal, non-artifactual shell and bone, and ceramic fragments not linked to vessels. Glass artifacts: 1002/53.2%-- glass bottles, 828/43.9%; glass jars, 68/3.6%; other glass items, 106/5.6% -- stoppers, vials, cups, flasks, tubes, lenses, etc. Ceramic artifacts: 690/36.6% -- ceramic vessels, 627/33.3%; non-vessel ceramics, 63/3.3% -- fuses, insulators, marbles, buttons, pipes, toilet parts, etc. Metal artifacts: 124/6.6% -- including coins. Other materials/artifacts: 68/3.6% -- shell and plastic buttons; jewelry, battery parts, spark plugs, diagnostic brick fragments, fabric, leather, wood, paper, etc.

Units 3, 5, 7, 8: 1,058 items from controlled stratigraphic contexts -- ceramic artifacts: 555/52.5% -- ceramic vessels, 516/48.8%; non-vessel ceramics, 39/3.7%; glass artifacts: 361/34.1%; metal artifacts: 102/9.6%; other artifacts: 40/3.8%.

Glass Bottle Manufacturers: Bottles made by 32 different manufacturers from 9 states (7 in the Northeast and Midwest plus California and Washington) and from Montreal, Canada.

Food Companies Identified/Represented: 26 food companies from 11 states (Northeast, Midwest, South, and California).

Non-Food Companies Identified/Represented: 73 non-food companies from 19 states and from Canada, France, England, and Scotland (covers all types of artifacts except ceramic vessels)

Ceramic Vessels: 627 different ceramic vessels made in 6 states (mostly Ohio, then New York and California; a few from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington) and in six countries (mostly Japan and then England, but also Germany & Bavaria, China, France, and Czechoslovakia).

Metal Artifacts: included numerous hardware items (screws, nails, bolts, fasteners, etc.), 4 utensils, a pail, a pan, a railroad tie spike, 2 keys, spark plugs, a cigarette case, a toy car, a spring, battery terminal, wire and wire mesh, rings, .22 caliber shells, and five 20th c. coins.

Buttons: 39 buttons: 27 made of shell, 6 ceramic or porcelain, 4 glass, 1 plastic and 1 metal. Also, an abalone pendant, a shell pendant, and gray clamshell (all historic).

Jewelry (examples): abalone pendant, a shell pendant, and a clamshell pendant (all historic). A red glass cabochon (part of pendant or hat pin), a cameo, a

sterling silver cigarette case noted under metal above, and a silver ring and two pendants with missing stones.

Other (examples): ceramic & glass marbles, ceramic fuses & toilet parts, a few bricks with maker's marks, a human molar w/ a gold filling, a 1960s hash pipe w/ dog's head.

Activity Groups (Units 3,5,7,8):

All Artifacts: 1,058 items

consumer:	302 – 28.5%	munitions	7 – 0.7%
kitchen:	499 – 47.2%	coinage	5 – 0.5%
household:	56 – 5.3%	building	18 – 1.7%
garment:	28 – 2.6%	auto parts	7 – 0.7%
personal:	35 – 3.3%	unique	14 – 1.3%
hardware:	64 – 6.0%	unid. metal	8 – 0.8%
tools:	1 – 0.1%	hair/hemp?	1 – 0.1%
intrusive	13 – 1.2%		

Vertebrate Fauna: Domesticated cattle and large mammal bone (probably cattle, 93%; domesticated sheep and medium-sized mammal (mostly likely sheep), 6.9%; chicken, rabbit, and rodent, 0.1%. The single rabbit bone may be prehistoric. Relatively small amounts and mostly burned.

Shellfish: Prehistoric (mostly from Unit 5): scallop, 25%; moon snail, 13.6%; mussel, Venus clam, and California jack-knife clam, 11.4% each; Pismo clam, 9.0%; oyster, 6.8%; and seven others, 11.4%. Very small amounts recovered.

Degree of Disturbance: High

Volume Excavated: 5.63 m³

Small Surface Shell Scatter: Two test units were used to investigate a disturbed, redeposited surface scatter of shell a short distance north of ORA-1582H. No shell was found below the first 5 cm and asphalt debris was found in deeper levels.

SITE SIGNIFICANCE AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Site Significance Criteria

According to Section 15064.5(a)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, "a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code §5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) including the following:

- A. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California history and cultural heritage;
- B. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- C. 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
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, if an archaeological site does not meet one of the criteria defined above, "but does meet the definition of a unique archaeological resource in Section 21083.2 of the Public Resources Code, the site shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of Section 21083.2"; in other words, the site is significant and significant impacts (effects) would need to be mitigated to insignificant levels.

If any archaeological resource is neither a unique archaeological resource nor an historical resource, both the resource and the effect on it shall be noted in the Initial Study or EIR, but need not be considered further in the CEQA process [Section 15064.5(c)(4)].

Most archaeological sites are determined eligible under Criterion D and this is the case for the prehistoric shell midden site, CA-ORA-149, and the historic dump site CA-ORA-1582H. The dump does not qualify under Criteria A and B, because it is not associated with specific events, significant patterns of history, or significant persons. It also does not qualify under Criterion C because there are no standing structures or buildings.

Significance of CA-ORA-149

Given we are dealing with a prehistoric shell midden site, site significance was evaluated using Criterion "D", i.e., the site's potential to yield information important in prehistory. In addition, a site's depositional integrity must also be studied. If a site is thoroughly disturbed, it may no longer have any research potential.

Site Depositional Integrity

Most of ORA-149 has been either destroyed or thoroughly disturbed. Locus A is about 245 m² and represents an intact portion of the southern end of the site. Locus B to the north contains two subdivisions, Locus B1 and B2. Locus B1 is about 1,500 m² but most of this locus has been heavily damaged; however, a

core area of about 625 m² centered between Unit 6 and Huntington Street contains intact deposits. Locus B2 consists almost entirely of shallow, highly disturbed deposits which are therefore of little research potential. In short, Locus A and a core area of Locus B1 contain sufficient depositional integrity to merit a significance evaluation under Criterion D.

Research Potential Under Criterion D

Both Locus A and the core area of Locus B1 are viewed as significant under Criterion D because of their ability to address the following research domains or issues as outlined in the research design.

Chronology

- Both loci contain abundant shellfish remains that permit dating the range of occupation of both loci.
- Both loci contain small amounts of obsidian which is also datable and which can help confirm a growing body of data regarding the calibration rate for Coso obsidian in coastal Orange County.
- Locus B1 produced a oval limpet shell ornament which is temporally diagnostic.
- Locus B1 contains a Late Millingstone component whose subsistence trends can be carefully studied.
- Locus A contains intact early to mid Late Prehistoric components which are generally absent from this portion of the coast, especially at Bolsa Chica. Data from this component can help fill in an important gap. Locus B1 also contains an early Late Prehistoric component.

Subsistence, Settlement and Environmental Change

- Both loci at ORA-149 contain significant data on food procurement in the form of vertebrate non-fish and fish bone and shellfish remains, groundstone tools, and protein residues (at Locus B1) to help us understand changing patterns of adaptation to climatic change in north coastal Orange County, especially south of Bolsa Chica on Huntington Mesa.
- Locus A contains evidence of intensification of fishing procurement during the early-to-mid Late Prehistoric Period.
- There are sufficient data at both sites to assess site function, especially with a larger sample of excavated data.
- The ORA-149 test excavation results provide tantalizing clues as to the relationship between dry and moist climatic periods (including severe droughts) during the Medieval Climatic Anomaly and changes in shellfish, animal, and fish procurement, especially at Locus A.
- Additional excavation at ORA-149 may confirm the apparent absence of an Intermediate Period component at this site while Bolsa Chica Mesa was continuously occupied throughout this period.

Lithic Procurement, Reduction, and Trade

- ORA-149 provides baseline data on flaked stone and groundstone lithic procurement and reduction practices during the Late Millingstone and early-to-mid Late Prehistoric in this part of north coastal Orange County.
- The site has produced both Coso obsidian and possibly Franciscan chert which are known trade items. It has also produced a oval ring shell limpet ornament which is temporally diagnostic.

In short, ORA-149 Locus A and Locus B1 qualify as "historically significant" resources under CEQA as they satisfy Criterion D of the California Register of Historical Places.

Management Recommendations for ORA-149

Given that Loci A and B1 of ORA-149 are important historically significant resources under CEQA and given that the proposed project will completely destroy these loci, it is recommended that data recovery excavations take place at both loci to increase our knowledge of prehistory. Such data recovery should focus on the remaining intact portions of Locus A between Test Units 1 and 2 and on a core area of Locus B1 centered around Unit 4.

Significance of CA-ORA-1582H & Management Recommendations

Historic Component (Historic Dump)

The test excavations produced 27 boxes of historic artifacts. The recovered artifacts, including large numbers of complete bottles, have provided much valuable data. The reference data provided by this dump are significant because they provide a baseline for comparison with, and the interpretation of, residential refuse deposits from the general area. However, given the highly disturbed nature of the deposits and the lack of any clear indication that it differs significantly from one area to the other, it is not felt that additional excavation would produce a great deal more new information than what has been made available by the test excavations.

It is therefore concluded that the historic component of ORA-1582H is not an "historically significant" resource under CEQA. However, it would be very useful for local historical societies and departments of anthropology/archaeology if a larger sample of whole bottles and other diagnostic artifacts could be made available as teaching aides in historical archaeology and perhaps for public displays.

It is thus recommended that the destruction of the dump during construction be carefully monitored for the collection of additional diagnostic bottles, ceramic

vessels, and artifacts, through the use of controlled grading under the supervision of a qualified professional archaeologist. Such monitored grading would involve the removal of the refuse deposit in 15-20 cm layers using a skip loader and the reposit of the material in small to medium piles for the archaeologists to scan for diagnostic material. Screening of the earth would not be necessary and nondiagnostic material would not be collected. The emphasis would be on nearly complete to complete artifacts. The collected artifacts would be washed, identified, and cataloged for curation with the intent that they could be loaned out to educational institutions on a long-term basis and to museums for public displays.

Prehistoric Components

Late Prehistoric Shellfish Remains Within the Dump: A small quantity of shellfish remains, one rabbit bone which could be prehistoric or historic, and one possible utilized flake were recovered from within the historic dump, ORA-1582H. Two radiocarbon dates indicate that some of this shell dates to the Late Prehistoric (post-AD 1400). However, the material recovered is from a very disturbed context and has no research value other than the information already gained from the shellfish analysis and radiocarbon dates. Therefore, this prehistoric component is not a "historically significant" resource under CEQA. It is recommended, however, that grading in the vicinity of the dump be monitored to check for possible intact prehistoric deposits that may be buried under the adjacent berm on which sits the Pacific Coast Highway.

Redeposited Shellfish Remains Just Northwest of the Dump: Test excavations revealed that the two small shellfish scatters in this location are surface material that has been redeposited from elsewhere. The shellfish remains are underlain by deposits of broken asphalt. There are no intact prehistoric components and the material has no research value. This prehistoric component of ORA-1582H is also not an "historically significant" resource under CEQA.

General Recommendation

Given the rich prehistoric and historic remains thus far uncovered on the subject property, it is recommended that construction grading for the project be monitored for possible buried historic and prehistoric archaeological remains. This can be done in conjunction with the monitoring for paleontological remains.