

general management plan environmental analysis

september 1980

GOLDEN GATE
POINT REYES



NATIONAL RECREATION AREA / NATIONAL SEASHORE / CALIFORNIA

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INTRODUCTION

The legislative process that led to the establishment of Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area was truly a grassroots movement, motivated by social concern as well as a conservation ethic. People throughout the Bay Area worked to see these parks established and have helped plan their future. Residents of crowded city neighborhoods, people in rural towns, young people, old people--thousands contributed their thinking to create a vision of the national parks next door.

The new parklands offer possibilities for nearly every conceivable leisure-time pursuit. Not only are they beautiful, they are also replete with usable buildings from past inhabitants, blessed with a variety of landscapes from urban park to wilderness, and rich in historical associations. This plan was begun with the understanding that its mission was to carefully retain the parks' inherent values, correct their problems, and allow people of all ages, income levels, and lifestyles to enjoy them, now and in the future.

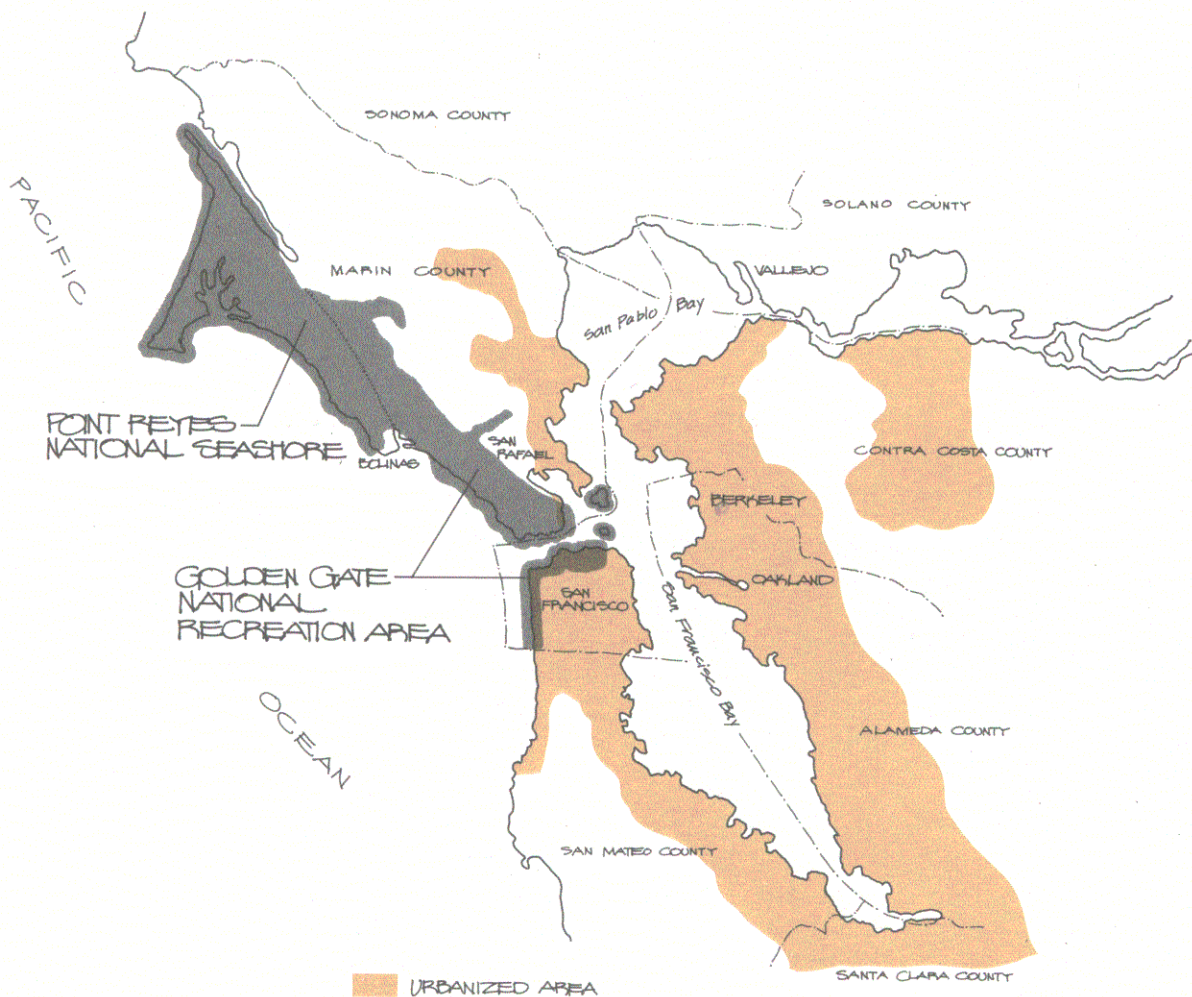
Even though GGNRA/Point Reyes attract many vacationers, most park visitors will continue to be local people, many of whom depend on the parks for a variety of daily leisure experiences. Many urban residents are eager to use the parks, but they have encountered obstacles when contemplating a visit, including indirect or nonexistent transportation, lack of knowledge about where to go and what to do, feeling out of place, and limited outdoor recreation skills.

The plan speaks to these urban needs of today and to predicted needs of tomorrow. It is a guide for the responsible management of some of the nation's most outstanding natural and cultural resources so that they may be enjoyed by the people. And it is a commitment by the National Park Service to share in the responsibility for improving the quality of urban living in the Bay Area.


PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARKS

Residents and tourists alike have long appreciated the scenic and historic qualities of the Marin and San Francisco shorelines. As highlights of this appealing territory the Cliff House, Mount Tamalpais, and Muir Woods have been popular picture post card subjects for many decades.

Luckily those who have most appreciated northern California treasures have also realized how easily they can be lost. While large military and agricultural holdings have effectively protected



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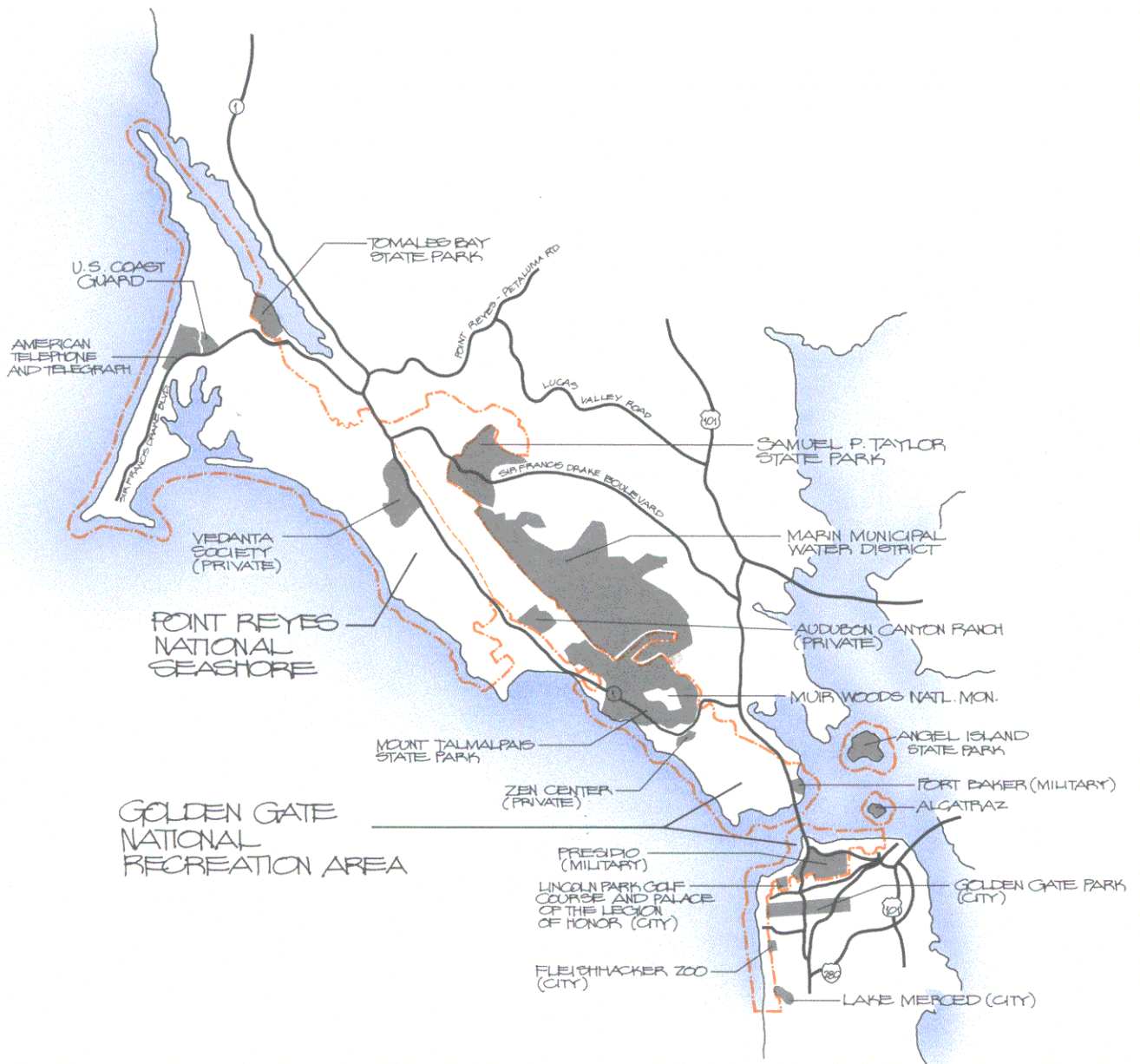
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

much of the lands within the present boundaries of GGNRA/Point Reyes, resounding public protest to threats of overdevelopment or destruction of natural qualities since the late 1800s has protected other areas, helping to establish the Bay Area as the nation's unofficial headquarters for conservation activists.

The real beginning of serious park preservation efforts occurred in the Mount Tamalpais area, which by the turn of the century was crisscrossed by a vast network of hiking trails and a world-renowned scenic railroad. In 1905, Congressman William Kent, spurred by a personal goal to secure national park status for the entire mountain, purchased a redwood-filled canyon at its flanks to save its lofty trees from logging. Further motivated by the threatened condemnation of the canyon floor by a local water company to build a reservoir, Kent donated the land to the federal government and persuaded Theodore Roosevelt to declare it a national monument. The president's proclamation stated that the monument was being established to protect the grove of coast redwoods because "the trees are of scientific value because of the primeval character of the forest, the age and size of the trees (and) their location near centers of population and instruction." It is clear today that although larger, more extensive redwood forests occur along the more remote northern reaches of the California coast, the trees of Muir Woods are the only redwoods millions of tourists will ever see.

Kent's lofty dream of national park status for his mountain did not come any nearer to realization until 1925, when developers threatened to subdivide the mountain's coastal side. A local conservation group with Kent's assistance helped to raise enough money to purchase the initial piece of land that became Mount Tamalpais State Park in 1930. Additional efforts by many conservation organizations and individuals have since added more than 5,000 acres to the park, which is now included within the boundary of GGNRA and is operated by the state of California.

Miraculously saved from urbanization by rugged terrain and poor access roads, the Point Reyes peninsula has presented itself as an attractive coastal wilderness to a procession of interested park planners and preservationists since the 1930s. But not until serious threats of subdivision, logging, and freeway building in the late 1950s did something substantial happen. In 1958 the National Park Service published a coastline study which recommended the inclusion of the peninsula in the National Park System. Pressed by real incidents of logging and subdivision, local activists and a wise and sympathetic Congress finally forged a bill that was signed by President Kennedy in 1962, establishing Point Reyes National Seashore. For a national seashore at that time, Point Reyes' legislation was unusually clear in its intent that natural values should be scrupulously preserved. Its preamble states that the



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park was established "to save and preserve for the purpose of public recreation, benefit and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped." The emphasis on preservation was even further strengthened in 1976 when Congress declared about 50 percent of the park a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Fort Point National Historic Site is the historic counterpart for Muir Woods National Monument, in that it also enjoys independent recognition as a separate unit of the National Park System even though it is now part of GGNRA. Strong local regard for its historical value and architectural and engineering merits was forcefully demonstrated in the 1930s when Golden Gate Bridge designers incorporated a special arch in the bridge structure to avoid destroying the old abandoned brick fortification. As a part of the army's Presidio of San Francisco, the fort was never again threatened, but a handful of dedicated military history enthusiasts worked hard for many years to earn special recognition for the fort and the maintenance, restoration work, and public visitation that would come with it. In 1970, two years before the establishment of GGNRA, they achieved success: An act of Congress established a new national historic site "to preserve and interpret for future generations the historical significance of Fort Point."

The greenbelt that many believe is now one of the world's most remarkable pieces of parkland was completed in 1972 with the establishment of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Hot controversies over the question of what to do with Alcatraz Island and a proposal to build a federal record center on a small piece of federal land in San Francisco precipitated a chain of events that rapidly swept into an unprecedented grassroots park movement.

The language of the Golden Gate legislation states the parks purpose as follows: "In order to preserve for public use and enjoyment certain areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties, California, possessing outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values and in order to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is hereby established." The mandate to preserve the varied resources of the park is obvious in this statement, but the reference to public use and enjoyment deserves additional emphasis. The hearing records pertinent to the enabling legislation reveal that the future use of the park was the subject of considerable discussion. The nearby presence of over five million people provided an unprecedented opportunity to make national park resources and programs available to a wide variety of visitors, many of whom had not been reached by the more remote national parks. Based on the record, this "parks to the people" idea was clearly intended by Congress and the administration to be a major purpose of GGNRA. Although the

idea of establishing more national parks in or near America's larger cities was an innovation of the 1970s, appreciation of the good fortune to have such fine recreational opportunities so close to home has been deeply felt by Bay Area residents since before William Kent started to work toward a national park in 1903. Certainly it was that appreciation which motivated the actions that established all of the parks comprising GGNRA/Point Reyes.

Most observers agree that the lands contained within the boundaries of GGNRA/Point Reyes would be of outstanding significance even if they didn't exist at the fringes of a great city. Together they represent one of the nation's largest coastal preserves--more than 100,000 acres of superlative North Pacific Coast landscape, including sandy beaches, rugged headlands, grasslands, forests, lakes, streams, estuaries, and marshes. Important scientific resources range from small rare plants in the San Francisco and Marin headlands, through towering redwood trees, to the diverse organisms of the mud flats and salt marshes of Point Reyes.

As the extensive wilderness segment of these parklands, Point Reyes displays the greatest diversity of wildlife and vegetation. Native land mammals there number about 37 species, including the elusive mountain lion and an endemic race of mountain beaver. Marine mammals augment this number by perhaps another dozen species. With 338 recorded species of birds, the seashore ranks as one of the best bird-watching and ornithological research areas in the United States. About 750 plant species are found on the peninsula, a few of which are found nowhere else. Coastline habitats harbor some of the richest and most diverse collections of marine organisms on the Pacific Coast.

What Point Reyes contributes in biotic diversity is easily matched by GGNRA's historic wealth. Park Service historians have noted that up to nine distinct areas of Golden Gate would independently qualify as historic units of the National Park System. Cultural resources of GGNRA/Point Reyes present a rich chronicle of two hundred years of history of one of the world's most important and spectacular seaports. Historic themes presented here include Indian culture, the Spanish Empire frontier, the evolution of American coastal fortifications, maritime history, and a multifaceted social history. Prehistoric village sites, lighthouses, a collection of historic ships, military forts, gun emplacements, ranch buildings, and a prison of worldwide infamy are but a few of the highlights of the parks' historic wealth.

But what may be the most significant aspect of the history of the parks remains a mystery. Point Reyes may contain the site of the first known English contact with what is now the United States. According to some experts, Sir Francis Drake probably landed on the peninsula in June of 1579 to refit his ship before sailing across the Pacific on his circumnavigation of the globe.

In spite of the outstanding quality of the scenic, natural, and historic resources of the parks, perhaps their most dramatic aspect is the sharp contrast between extensive undeveloped open spaces and the adjacent intensively developed urban environment of the San Francisco metropolitan area. In the city, the lively color of the GGNRA waterfront and the adjacent tourist bustle of Fisherman's Wharf and Ghirardelli Square are but a short distance from the isolated windswept cliffs and cypress groves of Lands End. Directly across the Golden Gate, facing the soaring towers of the bridge and the high-rise canyons of the city, the Marin Headlands appear much as they did when the gold-seekers poured through this symbolic portal more than a hundred years ago. A short hike from this vantage point can place the viewer in a valley totally remote from the sights and sounds of man. North of the headlands, wilderness quality scenery is common--from mountaintop panoramas to deep forest scenes. This wide variety of resources and outdoor settings provides opportunities for a correspondingly diverse array of recreational and educational activities of a quality and character found nowhere else.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Achievement of the following key management objectives will ensure that the purpose for which the parks were established is fulfilled.

Preservation and Restoration of Natural Resources

To maintain the primitive and pastoral character of the parklands in northern Marin County by providing only minimum, dispersed development. Necessary concentrated developments will be confined to the southern Marin County and San Francisco portions of the recreation area.

To locate development in areas previously disturbed by human activity whenever possible.

To maintain grazing in certain suitable areas and at appropriate levels for the purpose of helping to control fire fuels and as an educational and aesthetic element for visitor enjoyment.

To maintain and restore the character of natural environment lands by maintaining the diversity of native park plant and animal life, identifying and protecting threatened and endangered plant and animal species, marine mammals, and other sensitive natural resources, controlling exotic plants, and checking erosion whenever feasible.

Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Resources

To reuse existing buildings for visitor and management needs in order to help preserve historic structures and reduce building costs.

To retain the current character of cultural resources pending completion of detailed resource management plans.

To recognize the importance of the cultural resources within the recreation area through a positive program of their identification, evaluation, preservation, management, and interpretation.

Making the Recreation Area Readily Available to the Broadest Variety of Park Users

To pursue the extension of transit service between the park and transit dependent neighborhoods.

To offer recreational opportunities to a diversity of park users and to impart knowledge necessary for full enjoyment of park resources through a particular emphasis on interpretation, education, and information programs.

To develop facilities and programs that respond to the special needs of senior citizens, the handicapped, and cultural and ethnic minorities.

To encourage community organizations to utilize park areas and facilities as a setting for their own recreation and education programs.

Provision of a Broad Variety of Park Experiences

To plan facilities to offer a wide variety of uses.

To retain opportunities for recreational activities pursued in the park today.

To develop a trail system for the use of hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians.

To offer visitors a more extensive exposure to the park's resources through the provision of a variety of overnight experiences.

To enhance the visitors' enjoyment of park resources by providing food and rental services where the need is demonstrated.

Consideration of Park Neighbors

To alleviate traffic impacts on adjacent communities and on park resources by the use of transit systems.

To balance the responsibility of meeting the needs of park visitors with the need to protect the interests of residents of adjacent communities.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

Natural Resource Management

To identify, protect, and perpetuate the diversity of existing ecosystems which are found at Point Reyes National Seashore and are representative of the California seacoast.

To protect marine mammals, threatened and endangered species, and other sensitive natural resources found within the seashore.

To enhance knowledge and expertise of ecosystem management through research and experimental programs relating to wildlife, prescribed burning techniques, exotic plant and animal reduction, regulation and control of resource use, and pollution control.

To preserve and manage as wilderness those lands so designated under Public Law 94-567 and to also manage as wilderness to the extent possible those tidelands and lands legislatively designated as potential wilderness.

To retain research natural area status for the Estero de Limantour and the Point Reyes Headlands reserves and propose other suitable sites if found highly desirable for research and necessary for resource protection.

To manage seashore activities in the pastoral and estuarine areas in a manner compatible with resource carrying capacity.

To monitor grazing and improve range management practices in the pastoral zone in cooperation with the ranchers and the Soil Conservation Service.

To monitor and improve maricultural operations, in particular the oyster farm operation in Drakes Estero, in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game.

To monitor activities occurring on nonfederal properties within the national seashore owned by the Radio Corporation of America, the

American Telephone and Telegraph Company, and the Vedanta Society, to ensure that land uses are in agreement with the legislative acquisition exemption.

Cultural Resource Preservation

To identify, protect, and preserve the significant historic and cultural resources of Point Reyes.

To identify features and events that have played a vital part in the recorded history of Point Reyes, such as earthquakes, shipwrecks, land and water uses, the voyage of Sir Francis Drake, and the former U.S. Coast Guard lighthouse and lifeboat station.

To enhance knowledge of the Miwok Indian culture through research and investigation of the numerous archeological sites located at Point Reyes.

To preserve and protect all structures in or nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, and to stabilize and protect other structures and sites pending their historical evaluation.

To monitor and support productive land uses and activities which are consistent with historical patterns.

To ensure that agricultural and maricultural activities are consistent with the historical evolution of land and water use at Point Reyes.

Interpretation

To offer interpretive programs and services which further an awareness and appreciation of the wide diversity of seashore ecosystems and cultural resources, their variety and similarity, their interdependence, and their fragile nature.

To develop programs for interpretation which foster an environmental awareness of the conditions imposed by preservation.

To offer visitor orientation and information programs which furnish a general knowledge of the wide diversity of the seashore and enhance visitor appreciation and knowledge.

To provide opportunities for emphasizing environmental education and programs related to the resource, including the coastal environment.

To continue to interpret the replica Miwok Indian village to further visitor understanding and appreciation of the Miwok Indian heritage.

Visitor Activities

To provide for and permit only those cultural, educational, and recreational activities which are compatible with the preservation of an undeveloped coastline.

Development

To ensure that park development is the minimum necessary for efficient and essential management and that visitor services are consistent with the seashore purposes and compatible with natural resource limitations and the special requirements imposed by the coastal environment.

Access and Circulation

To provide access to and circulation within the seashore which is compatible with other park objectives and considers a full range of alternative means of transportation.

BASIS FOR THE PLAN

The basic tenets upon which this plan has been written are found in the enabling legislation for the parks and in the collection of knowledge gained about their natural and cultural resources. But the most noteworthy aspect of this document is that it represents an intensive effort to ensure that the future management and development of the parks is based on the desires of the people who will use them. Planning has involved extensive discussions with public agencies and conservation organizations and also more than one hundred workshops in Bay Area communities. About 10,000 people of all ages, incomes, and lifestyles have directly participated in this process through these public workshops, letters, and meetings with the planning staff.

In conjunction with this extensive public dialogue, the planning team has carefully compiled and analyzed information about the wildlife, vegetation, soils, history, socioeconomic setting, and other subjects that are key factors in making decisions about the parks' future (Preliminary Information Base, four volumes, October 1975). Public preferences and feelings were carefully filtered through this collection of knowledge. An important intermediate product of this process was the Assessment of Alternatives for the General

Management Plan (May 1977), supplemented by a popular summary, A People's Guide to the Future of the National Parks Next Door. These publications presented up to four alternative scenarios for the future of fourteen geographic units of the park. Each alternative related to one of the four basic park philosophies expressed by the public: (1) minimum visible change--things are O.K. the way they are today; (2) maximum natural appearance--wherever possible restore natural qualities and hold development to a minimum; (3) education/history--the park is an ideal learning environment and visitors need a lot of help to get maximum enjoyment and benefit from it; (4) recreation--the park is a place that offers many opportunities for leisure activities. All of the alternatives protected ecologically sensitive natural areas, retained significant historic structures, and proposed facilities only in areas suitable for development. Each alternative was accompanied by a thorough environmental analysis describing the potential results of each proposal.

During the public review of the Assessment of Alternatives, people were encouraged to interchange the individual proposals to design the park system they preferred. Public responses to the alternatives were gathered in five hearings held by the GGNRA Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) and through individual's and group's letters and worksheets. These responses were analyzed to determine areas where people were in general agreement and areas where issues were still to be resolved. These determinations and the recommendations of the planning staff were submitted in a series of position papers to the public and CAC, which voted approval of the recommendations and resolved the few remaining conflicts through additional meetings and committee work.

The analysis of the public responses to the planning alternatives revealed that a surprising number of proposals received nearly unanimous support from reviewers. These were generally recommended, and proposals that received little or no endorsement were rejected. There was one critical exception to this decision-by-vote process. Many key participants, such as the elderly, who were contacted early in the planning process through aggressive efforts to reach into the community, did not return to comment on the alternatives. Nevertheless, to fulfill their commitment to serve a variety of constituents, the planning team carefully considered the needs of these groups in the formulation of the plan.

When public preference for the future of a particular area was split, some basic valuations seemed to prevail in the decision-making process. On the one hand, emphasis was placed on urban recreational development in areas where the natural landscape has already been significantly disturbed. On the other hand, the proposals lean toward low-intensity use and minimal facilities in areas that retain substantial natural integrity.

Decisions were also tempered by a preference for stabilization and adaptive use of historic structures rather than alternatives for extensive demolition or authentic restoration of buildings and settings. At the same time, the plan favors tearing down nonhistoric buildings to increase outdoor recreational opportunities and enhance the natural scene.

As much as possible, the plan attempts to sustain park uses that are occurring now. However, some activities will be shifted to new locations where they will be more compatible with park resources and other uses.

The cumulative effects of all of the proposals in this plan for GGNRA/Point Reyes have been analyzed to determine if there will be any significant impacts on the environment resulting from plan implementation. The text of this environmental analysis is included as part two of this document.

The Draft General Management Plan (both full text and summary) was distributed to the public in June of 1979. Five public hearings were then conducted by the CAC to receive comments from the public. Generally, comments and suggestions offered by agencies, organizations, the CAC, and the public were supportive and primarily oriented toward clarifying the intent of plan proposals. There were no controversies or recommendations for substantial plan revisions apparent in any of the hearings or in any of the letters and position papers submitted in response to the plan.

Specific suggestions for numerous minor modifications were offered in ten CAC committee reports. These reports, which were approved by the full commission on November 15, 1979, resulted from an exhaustive page-by-page review and analysis of the draft plan by the committees prior to the public hearings. Subsequent to the hearings, two staff reports were submitted to the full commission responding to relevant issues and questions raised by the public in both written and verbal testimony.

At their December 8, 1979, meeting the CAC unanimously voted final approval of the General Management Plan subject to recommended modifications contained in the ten committee reports and the two staff reports. This document contains all of these modifications as well as numerous other specific changes requested by the public during the public hearings and review period.

Because the park has a fulltime planning staff and a citizens' advisory commission which meets regularly, the process of making needed revisions in the plan in the future should be relatively simple and expeditious. Proposals for change may be submitted to the commission or the superintendent either verbally or in writing. An annual review of these proposals by the commission and Park

Service staff will determine which proposals, if any, are worthy of further consideration. Those that are will be subject to full staff analysis, public hearings, and the basic decision-making process prescribed by the by-laws and rules of the commission. Subsequent to necessary committee work and full commission and staff deliberations, recommendations on the proposed revision will be submitted to the NPS regional director for his review and approval. It is anticipated that most approved revisions could be incorporated into the plan simply by the preparation of addendum sheets.

LAND MANAGEMENT ZONING

The following zone designations represent a composite picture of how the park will be managed and developed in the future based on legislative and administrative requirements, resource studies, and public preferences. Because the different values that characterize each zone often overlap, it is nearly impossible to produce an understandable graphic representation of them that is also precise. Therefore the accompanying zoning map located in the pocket on the inside back cover should be used only as a general reference.

NATURAL RESOURCE ZONES

Intensive Landscape Management Zone

Lands within this zone occur entirely within southern reaches of the park and basically include all areas where exotic vegetation predominates. Although all of these areas have been substantially modified through human activities, many of them still contain isolated populations of natural wildlife and vegetation which will be carefully preserved. When choices are available in these zones they should favor native species wherever possible. Within this category the following two subzones have been recognized.

Natural Appearance Subzone: (Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, Lands End, Baker Beach, and Rodeo Lagoon picnic area)

To many park users lands in this subzone may appear to be as natural as wilderness areas at Point Reyes, but they are in fact man-created landscapes which in many cases will require the same degree of maintenance as an urban park setting. The primary management goal in these areas will be to continue to accommodate relatively high use levels with a commitment to intensive maintenance in order to retain the appearance of a natural landscape. Examples of intensive measures that will be required in this subzone include reforestation of Monterey cypress and stabilization and maintenance of planted sand dunes.

Urban Landscape Subzone: (Crissy Field, West Fort Mason, Fort Baker waterfront, Fort Barry parade ground, Stinson Beach developed area)

This subzone is characterized by familiar elements found in traditional city parks--well tended trees, shrubs and flowers, irrigated and mowed lawns, and hard-surfaced areas for walking and congregating. These areas are designed for intensive use and should look complete only when filled with people. Primary resource management activities will include

mowing, irrigation, weeding, fertilization, replanting, and trash pickup.

Pastoral Landscape Management Zone

(northern Olema Valley and northern Point Reyes peninsula)

This zone includes lands within which it has been determined that dairying and cattle ranching are desirable aspects of the scene from both an educational and aesthetic point of view. At a minimum, agricultural buildings and open grasslands will be retained in these areas, and where feasible, livestock grazing will continue within the limits of carefully monitored range capacities. Additional resource management studies may significantly alter the configuration of this zone as it now appears in GGNRA. Also included in this zone is the heather and flower farming operation near Muir Beach, which is considered to be a desirable aspect of the local agricultural scene.

Natural Landscape Management Zone

(Marin Headlands, Stinson Beach area, southern Olema Valley, and a few areas in Point Reyes)

In this zone natural resources and processes will remain as undisturbed as possible given a relatively high level of natural park uses (hiking, primitive camping, etc.). Management activities will be directed primarily at protecting wildlife and vegetation from misuse and overuse and at maintaining a variety of landscape settings conducive to recreation (open grasslands as well as forests).

Special Protection Zone

This zone includes lands that have received legislative or special administrative recognition of exceptional natural qualities requiring strict protection measures. Further analysis of park resources in the future could result in additional lands being placed in this category.

Wilderness Subzone: (Point Reyes)

Public Law 94-567 designated more than half of Point Reyes National Seashore as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, prohibiting nearly all development and mechanical conveyances.

National Monument Subzone: (Muir Woods)

Although contained within the boundary of GGNRA, Muir Woods retains its special status as a national monument, the sole purpose of which is to protect a stand of virgin coast redwoods for public enjoyment of their scientific, scenic, and educational values.

Marine Reserves Subzone: (Point Reyes Headlands, Limantour Estero)

At the recommendation of the National Park Service, marine reserves (research natural areas) were established at the Point Reyes Headlands and Limantour Estero in 1972 by the California Department of Fish and Game to preserve them "in a natural condition, and to protect the aquatic organisms and wildlife found thereon for public observation and scientific study." Management of the headlands reserve prohibits all human intrusion except that associated with approved research projects. The estero reserve protects all lifeforms from removal or disturbance without state and federal collecting permits. The National Park Service maintains a standing proposal to the state to also obtain research natural area status for the Double Point and Bird Rock areas of Point Reyes.

Biotic Sensitivity Subzone: (shoreline and stream courses)

This subzone, derived from high sensitivity ratings in the information base, generally identifies those natural resources in the park that are particularly sensitive to human use or are especially valuable from an ecological or scientific point of view. Use and development in these areas should be either discouraged or mitigated sufficiently to avoid significant levels of deterioration.

Most of the areas covered by this subzone are water courses or bodies of water recognized for their importance in sustaining wildlife and vegetation. Because the lands near these resources have been and will continue to be the most attractive locations for use and minor development, mitigation measures will be particularly important. Siting of minor facilities will be crucial. For example, locating a campground directly upon the bank of a stream could cause unacceptable impacts that could be avoided by shifting the facility only several hundred feet.

HISTORIC RESOURCE ZONES

Preservation Zone

(Fort Point, ships, lighthouses, fortifications, historic buildings at Alcatraz)

Spaces and objects placed in this category are managed and used primarily for the purpose of facilitating public enjoyment, understanding, and appreciation of their historic values. Management activities will include the protection of structures from influences and uses that could cause deterioration and the presentation of tours, exhibits, or other appropriate interpretive efforts.

Because of the unusually large number of historic structures in the parks, many that are suitable for adaptive use have been placed in this category simply because a use has not yet been specifically identified for them. Undoubtedly some of these will be adapted for management or visitor uses in the future, but in the meantime they will be simply protected from damage and deterioration.

Enhancement Zone

(Sutro Baths, Sutro Heights, Cliff House, Aquatic Park)

All of the areas within this subzone were developed originally as recreation spaces and still derive their primary value from recreation use. Management practices will be directed at preserving the basic integrity of their settings and specific structures within them. Enhancement of the usability and attractiveness of these partially rundown and deteriorated areas will be accomplished through the addition of elements and the practice of maintenance activities similar to those described for the urban landscape subzone.

Adaptive Use Zone

(Alcatraz grounds, north and east Fort Mason, Haslett Warehouse, East Fort Miley, areas of Marin Headlands)

This subzone defines structures or spaces of historic value that have been or will be adapted for recreation, park management, and related activities. Although as much historic integrity as possible will be retained throughout all areas of the park, the interior spaces of structures included in this zone may be modified considerably to accommodate recreation, education, and other park-related uses. Exterior settings may also be modified to include site improvements such as landscaping in cases where such

modification is deemed necessary to properly accommodate public use.

SPECIAL USE ZONE

(Vedanta Society, Audubon Canyon Ranch, Zen Center, Mount Tamalpais and Angel Island state parks, Lincoln Park and Marina Green city parks, Presidio of San Francisco)

Lands within this zone are located within the authorized boundaries of GGNRA or Point Reyes National Seashore but are not currently or expected in the foreseeable future to come under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Management policies and practices of the agencies and organizations administering these lands appear to adequately provide for the continued preservation of the natural, scenic, recreational, and historic values which motivated their inclusion within the boundaries.

C H A R A C T E R A N D I N T E N S I T Y O F U S E

The opportunities for park activities provided by thousands of acres of open land and hundreds of vacant buildings are practically limitless. Clearly, GGNRA/Point Reyes can be many things to many people. Because most visitors will continue to be local people, there will be a basic orientation to residents of the Bay Area and their needs for cultural expression, socializing, physical exercise, and the whole variety of daily leisure experiences. But many vacationers will be attracted as well, and there will be a great deal for them to enjoy, also.

GGNRA/Point Reyes is many parks. Some have an urban character, some are wilderness. There are opportunities for gathering together, for solitude, for adventure, for relaxation, for education, and for entertainment. Furthermore, there is enough room that people can pursue all these different activities without getting in each other's way.

So many activities are possible and appropriate that a comprehensive listing of them would be excessively long. Inappropriate activities would be those that would create a hazard, a disturbance, or a severe inconvenience for other visitors, cause adverse impacts on adjacent communities, or cause significant deterioration of park resources. Based on public comments over the past several years, of all the common outdoor leisure activities, shooting, hunting, and off-road vehicle driving are considered by park users to be inappropriate because they would conflict with other uses. Significant environmental deterioration will generally be avoided by ensuring that activities are pursued in suitable settings by a reasonable number of people.

The recreational opportunities of GGNRA/Point Reyes should be enjoyed by the widest variety of people, and this makes access extremely important. There are different kinds of barriers to access. Lack of transportation to the park is the most obvious. The lack of necessary facilities, such as restrooms and picnic areas for day use and campgrounds for overnight use, is another. The deteriorated condition of park resources, particularly of buildings and ruins at Alcatraz and Fort Mason, creates another serious obstacle to use. Barriers may selectively restrict specific groups or individuals. For example, fees can discourage people with low incomes, physical barriers can exclude the disabled, and lack of group facilities can discourage organizations. Despite the closeness of the park to the city, in the minds of many people it will continue to be distant and inaccessible if these barriers are not overcome.

Many of these barriers can be eliminated. The National Park Service and other agencies capable of influencing park-related

transportation will work cooperatively to improve transit service so that people without cars and people preferring not to drive their cars can get to the park. A trail system with overnight camps will let hikers and backpackers enjoy longer excursions. Different kinds of campgrounds and hostels will provide overnight opportunities for people with a range of abilities, experience, and equipment. Recreational equipment, including fishing tackle and sports gear, will be available for loan or rent to visitors who cannot afford to bring their own. The park staff will continue to do all it can to ensure that use of facilities is as convenient as possible for visitors with physical disabilities. These and other efforts will help create a park that is accessible to all who wish to visit, promoting a park population with a diversity of lifestyles, cultures, and interests as rich as the variety of park settings.

GGNRA/Point Reyes is an especially important place for people living in communities with limited recreational resources. To help meet the recreational needs of these people, community gardens at Fort Mason will be expanded, there will be a new senior center at Fort Mason, community meeting rooms will be made available at several locations, and multipurpose indoor recreation space will be provided. Community groups will also be able to reserve other special facilities, including campgrounds, picnic areas, and overnight retreats.

As a result of park development, the theoretical visitor capacity of most park areas will increase. An exception is the heavily used Mount Tamalpais area, where it is hoped that excessive use will decline as recreational opportunities are improved in other areas.

Large increases in the number of visitors are anticipated at Fort Mason, Crissy Field, and Marin Headlands, as a wide range of new activities, services, programs, and transportation options is created in these currently undeveloped and underused areas. New focal points will attract additional visitors to already popular recreation areas like the Cliff House and Aquatic Park. Dispersed use throughout large open areas of the Marin Headlands, Olema Valley, and Point Reyes will also increase.

Maximum visitation levels have been estimated for the different park units, primarily so that impacts on the environment could be quantitatively analyzed. These levels are projections of the number of people that can visit any park area before overcrowding occurs. Thus, they are limits based mainly on people's tolerance of other park visitors, rather than being based on the sensitivity of the physical environment. Environmental factors were carefully considered, but it was determined that in most cases people's enjoyment of the park would be impaired by overcrowding before the environment was significantly disturbed. As the plan is implemented, the projected levels, which are listed in table 1, may

be revised if onsite monitoring indicates that they are too high or too low.

TABLE 1. MAXIMUM VISITATION LEVELS

| Unit | Maximum Visitation at Any One Time ^a | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| | Existing | Projected |
| Alcatraz | 300 | 600 |
| Aquatic Park | 2,000 | 4,340 |
| Fort Mason | 1,900 | 7,615 |
| Marina Green | 3,400 | 3,400 |
| Crissy Field | 100 | 4,300 |
| Fort Point | 650 | 1,200 |
| San Francisco Headlands | 1,500 | 2,500 |
| Cliff House | 700 | 1,850 |
| Ocean Beach | 2,350 | 4,020 |
| Marin Headlands ^b | 1,167 | 5,466 |
| Mount Tamalpais ^b | 9,334 | 8,800 |
| Olema Valley | 250 | 1,615 ^c |
| Point Reyes | 6,720 | 10,080 |

^aMaximum visitation levels for San Francisco units are based on the estimated capacities of the existing and proposed facilities. Maximum visitation levels for Marin County units are based on known daily visitation rates at Mount Tamalpais State Park and Point Reyes National Seashore, converted to people per acre, and divided by the known turnover rate for each unit.

^bFigures for the Mount Tamalpais unit include drive-through visitors and assume that a light reduction in visitation can be accomplished by improving recreational opportunities in other areas.

^cThis figure represents a major reduction in the original projection for the Olema Valley contained in the Draft General Management Plan and in the Assessment of Alternatives (3,250). Due to substantial adverse public comment the projection was recalculated based on more detailed and conservative estimated capacities of the land and facilities.



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NOT TO SCALE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PLANNING UNITS

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

The maximum visitation levels will not be absolute limits. During special events and good weather weekends they could periodically be exceeded without significant long-term effects. They should not be considered as goals, either. Some of them may never be reached. Transportation constraints and weather conditions, in particular, may keep visitation consistently lower. Based on present visitation patterns, however, it is likely that these maximum visitation levels will occur on about 25 to 50 good weather weekend days per year. Visitation will be generally maintained within these maximum limits by controlling auto access wherever possible, informing visitors of opportunities in less heavily used areas, and other practical management strategies.

INTERPRETATION AND OTHER PROGRAMS

During the 1960s and 70s, many Bay Area residents recognized something that needed changing. Their traditional relationship with the landscape was becoming obsolete--a zealous commitment to urban development was giving way to a contemporary need for protection of open space. The land and water surrounding the Golden Gate had served the city well: The harbor had fostered early immigration and trade; the rich soil and towering trees had supplied food and construction materials for a growing city; the coastal cliffs had provided a strategic location for military fortifications protecting nearby residents. But all the while, another attribute of this landscape had been surfacing and growing more recognizable as the city enlarged. San Francisco residents had always flocked to the coast to enjoy their leisure time. They were attracted to this shoreline environment for play and exploration and for their inspiration and education. Over the years, however, urban sprawl had been greatly reducing the availability of this recreational space, with a corresponding increase in people's appreciation of its value.

The establishment of Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area represented a change in land use to respond to people's changing needs. The parks' programs will reflect this modern perspective and the recent commitment to make the city more livable by preserving quality recreational environments for all its residents and for visitors from throughout the country.

Programs will serve a variety of functions. The first, aimed at people who still are unfamiliar with the parks' availability, will be to encourage discovery and to prepare first-time visitors by informing them about the weather, facilities, access, and hazards. Second, programs will promote a feeling of ownership and a sense of responsibility for the parks' condition and preservation. They will also seek to impart an understanding of the area's social and natural history and increase people's awareness of their interactions with their environment. Most importantly, however, programs will be intended for enjoyment. A great variety of programs, from Sunday afternoon concerts to bike races to community picnics, will help people have fun with the hope that relaxation and creative use of their leisure time will make them better able to face the frustrations and enjoy the advantages of urban living.

Discovering the Parks

Informational programs are essential to visitors' enjoyment of GGNRA/Point Reyes. The parks' facilities and programs will continue to change, so repeat visitors as well as first timers will need to know what to expect at each area. The following basic programs are proposed.

General Information. Information centers, information stations, and park publications are proposed to help visitors arriving from nearby or out-of-town to easily understand what the parks offer. Major information centers are proposed for Aquatic Park, Cliff House, Fort Baker, and Bear Valley. Secondary information stations are proposed for Alcatraz, Fort Mason, Fort Cronkhite, and Muir Woods. National Park Service personnel at these locations will extend their informational abilities beyond the parks' boundaries--particularly to understanding transit connections and other public recreational opportunities in the Bay Area. Multilingual staff will be on duty at least at the Aquatic Park and Cliff House information centers. The information program will be coordinated with other public agencies, such as the Visitor and Convention Bureau, involved in the same activities.

Outreach Efforts. A special effort must be made to reach many urban dwellers. People with little money or no mobility often have great recreational needs but few opportunities to learn about and enjoy these parklands. A continual program will be designed to help these potential visitors. Special staff members will be assigned to community outreach, and they will spend more time in the neighborhood than in the park. By making special publications available, attending neighborhood meetings, and presenting out-of-park programs they will help people overcome obstacles to park use such as lack of transportation, timidity, and lack of recreational equipment. A continual effort will be made to supply community service groups with the information and assistance they need to make the park a vital part of their programming. The park staff will be knowledgeable about Bay Area recreational programs, public transit services, new program ideas, and funding sources, and will maintain an up-to-date resource library for use by all interested organizations.

Understanding the Parks

These parklands contain a wealth of natural and cultural resources. They are rich in a variety of terrestrial and marine forms and weather patterns. They are strewn with landmarks, fortifications, monuments, and gun emplacements that bear silent witness to the Spaniards, Russians, Mexicans, Chinese, Japanese, and others who sailed through the Golden Gate, settled by the bay, and added

their own pages to Bay Area history. The historic ships, the Golden Gate Bridge traffic, the pastoral scene at Olema Valley, the military presence, the wilderness of Point Reyes, and the city's old recreational settings begin to illustrate the abundance of contemporary and historic lifestyles that are the essence of the Bay Area. Interpretation will provide an opportunity for visitors to understand the significance of these resources.

Interpretive facilities, which are described in the "Development" section of this plan, will accommodate the variety of needs and interest levels of visitors. Such facilities, however, will be kept to a minimum, and most interpretation will be accomplished using publications, films, park libraries, information centers, and structured activities.

Environmental Awareness

Programs are not provided only for enjoyment, but as opportunities to learn as well. An urban conservation ethic will be stressed, using the parks as a laboratory for learning how to enrich and perpetuate urban living--on an individual and collective scale. Interpretive programs will help translate environmental problems occurring within the park and the community to visitors. This will create an awareness of these problems and encourage a self-commitment to help in their alleviation both at the park and through day-to-day activities in the community.

These programs will also encourage discovery of recreational skills that involve interaction with the natural environment and foster activities that participants can enjoy independently and inexpensively throughout their lives.

The National Park Service will initiate these programs but strive to give community organizations and individuals the capabilities to proceed with them independently. Examples of potential subjects for programs include transit, cultural and natural resource management, environmental education, and energy conservation. Camping programs, visits to the proposed children's farm, community gardening, water safety classes, living history programs, alternative energy demonstrations, bicycle adventures, and sailing are typical of programs that will foster environmental awareness.

A Sense of Ownership and Responsibility

Interpretation and other visitor programs will strive to build a feeling of cooperation between the parks and their neighbors. Park visitors who recognize their public ownership will feel more welcome and responsible for the parks' well-being. Park managers will be

able to more effectively communicate with visitors and seek their assistance in program development, resource management, and safety. The following program concepts will help foster this relationship.

Public Involvement. Since inception, GGNRA and Point Reyes have been planned and managed with the public's involvement. The public's advice has helped resolve various controversial issues and improved the quality of decisions. Public workshops held during the preparation of the general management plan have also been one of the parks' strongest interpretive programs--giving the public an idea of the resource variety and of difficult management choices. Public involvement will continue to be an important program, enabling visitors to influence management decisions and assist in their implementation.

Cooperative Activities. Local groups such as environmental education associations, community service agencies, and cultural institutions have special expertise and programs to offer. The National Park Service will support and utilize these local talents for environmental education, cultural programs, and special events.

Many ways of "sharing the load" in program development, planning, and facilities are possible. One way is by the Park Service providing the space--an open lawn for a special event or a building for a continuing indoor program--and cooperating groups helping with program direction and staffing. Successful examples of this have been the Fort Mason Foundation, the Point Reyes Seminars, and the Frontier Arts Institute, all continuing programs, and the Western Regional Folk Festival, a special event.

Special events are organized activities that occur on an irregular basis, like a string quartet performance in Sutro Heights Park or a regional craft fair at Fort Mason. Audiences range in size from a few dozen people to tens of thousands, and programs can last from a few hours to a few days. The large events are best accommodated at Fort Mason, Aquatic Park, the Fort Baker parade ground, and the Fort Barry rifle range. However, other areas may be used, considering the event's compatibility with the environment and feelings of other park visitors. Specific criteria will be developed to help determine what purposes, sizes, visitor costs, frequency, timing, transit needs, and disruptions to existing users are appropriate for special events.

Work Programs. Perhaps one of the strongest ways of encouraging public stewardship of the park is to have people participate in its maintenance, development, and staffing. There are three existing programs that rely heavily on local communities for their operation: Volunteers-In-Parks, Youth Conservation Corps, and the Young Adult Conservation Corps. Programs of this nature will be

encouraged, giving nearby residents a chance to get involved with the parks' growth. A Senior Conservation Corps is proposed, to utilize the talents of the elderly. A work program for the disabled is also proposed. The Bay Area has a large population of disabled persons due to the progressive measures taken by many of its cities and institutions to ensure that facilities are accessible to everyone. The program will provide opportunities for disabled persons to develop interpretive programs for this audience, help the park recognize and solve access problems, and provide informational services for visitors.

Cultural Heritage Programs. The San Francisco Bay Area is well-known for the strength and diversity of its minority populations, and no other location in the Bay Area is so clearly related to its cultural evolution as the lands near the Golden Gate. The National Park Service will thoroughly investigate the cultural history of these parklands and promote broad-based community interest in the parks by relating their historical relationships with urban dwellers of all backgrounds. An important aspect of these cultural heritage programs will be to welcome all people to the parks and provide a stimulus for cross-cultural communication.

Program Implementation

From discovery to responsibility--that is the goal. Proposed programs should embark the National Park Service on a course of serving a hierarchy of urban needs.

The implications of these programs are many. Managerially, they will depend on a number of changes. New people will be needed--employees with more specialized skills capable of serving a diverse urban population, local people with language skills, knowledge of urban recreational problems, and dedication to solving them. The programs will demand better training for Park Service rangers in social service skills as well as in natural history and protection.

A broader and more detailed definition of interpretation and other visitor programs will be provided in an interpretive plan which will deal exclusively with this subject. This plan will give the needed direction for program and facility development, publications, and items and artifacts that should be included in the park curatorial collection and library. Point Reyes now has an approved Interpretive Prospectus stating the interpretive needs for that park.

DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL

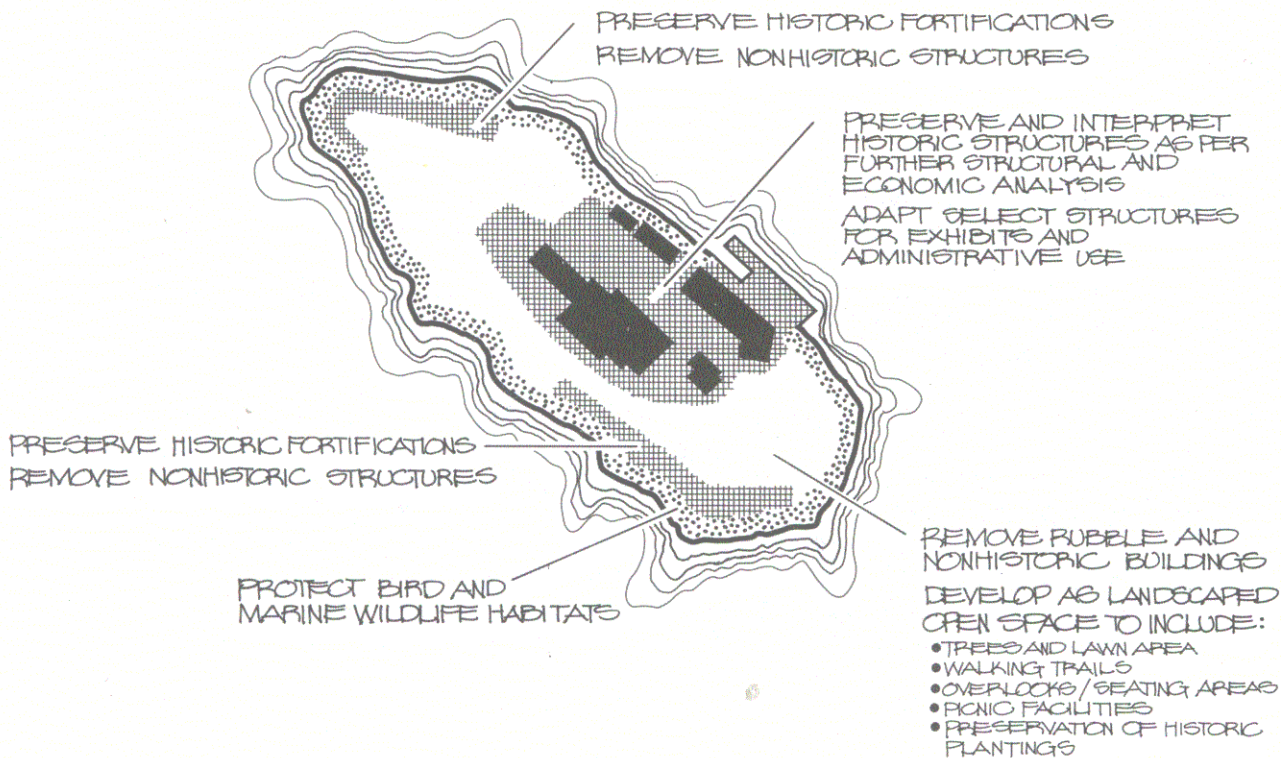
Most areas of GGNRA/Point Reyes are easily accessible by road or trail, and nearly every location currently offers something exciting to see or do. But due to changing functions, deterioration of land and buildings, a desire to serve new users, and the simple existence of opportunities to make some good things better, there is a need for changes in these parks.

GGNRA/Point Reyes displays a fairly typical national park structure, being a large expanse of natural landscape with scattered concentrations of development. The natural landscape, representing most of the park, does not need much more than careful preservation. Proposed improvements there can be termed as modest enhancement measures intended to add depth to a park experience that is already outstanding. They include such facilities as small campgrounds, improved trails, picnic areas, and hostels.

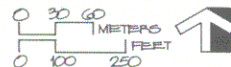
Unlike the typical national park where developed areas are usually clusters of functional support facilities (food service, lodging, etc.); each of these parks' developed areas is a special setting comprised of a unique mix of scenic, cultural, and recreational values. Any one of them has the potential to provide enough experiences to easily occupy an entire day's visit.

All but three of the park's eleven "major" developed areas are located in or near the city--clustered at the edges of the Golden Gate. Primarily because of public preferences, and the need to use and preserve historic resources, these same spots are proposed to remain as developed areas and will continue to represent the focus of park use. Most of them need substantial adaptive measures to fulfill their total potential for public use.

Six of these areas were formerly occupied by the military and derive much of their present appeal from that association. But a large part of these potentially attractive places is marred by deteriorating and unsafe conditions, and their transition to usable parkland is far from complete. Extensive restoration and adaptation measures at Alcatraz, Fort Mason, Crissy Field, Fort Baker, and Rodeo Valley will restore a sense of dignity to these historic settings as well as make them as effective as possible in serving leisure activities. Even though the basic identity of the Aquatic Park and Cliff House areas will not be altered, similar actions will produce a metamorphosis in their appearance. Fort Point, Muir Woods, Stinson Beach, and Bear Valley will all receive improvements, but none will compare with the kind of transformation that is envisioned for their counterparts mentioned above.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ALCATRAZ

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

THE DEVELOPED AREAS

Alcatraz

From a strict resource management viewpoint, historic preservation will be the primary concern at this location. Perhaps the majority of future visitors to the island will continue to be attracted by the intrigue of the prison. But this plan also emphasizes the restoration of the island's parklike qualities and a recognition of its key position in the bay as a spectacular viewpoint.

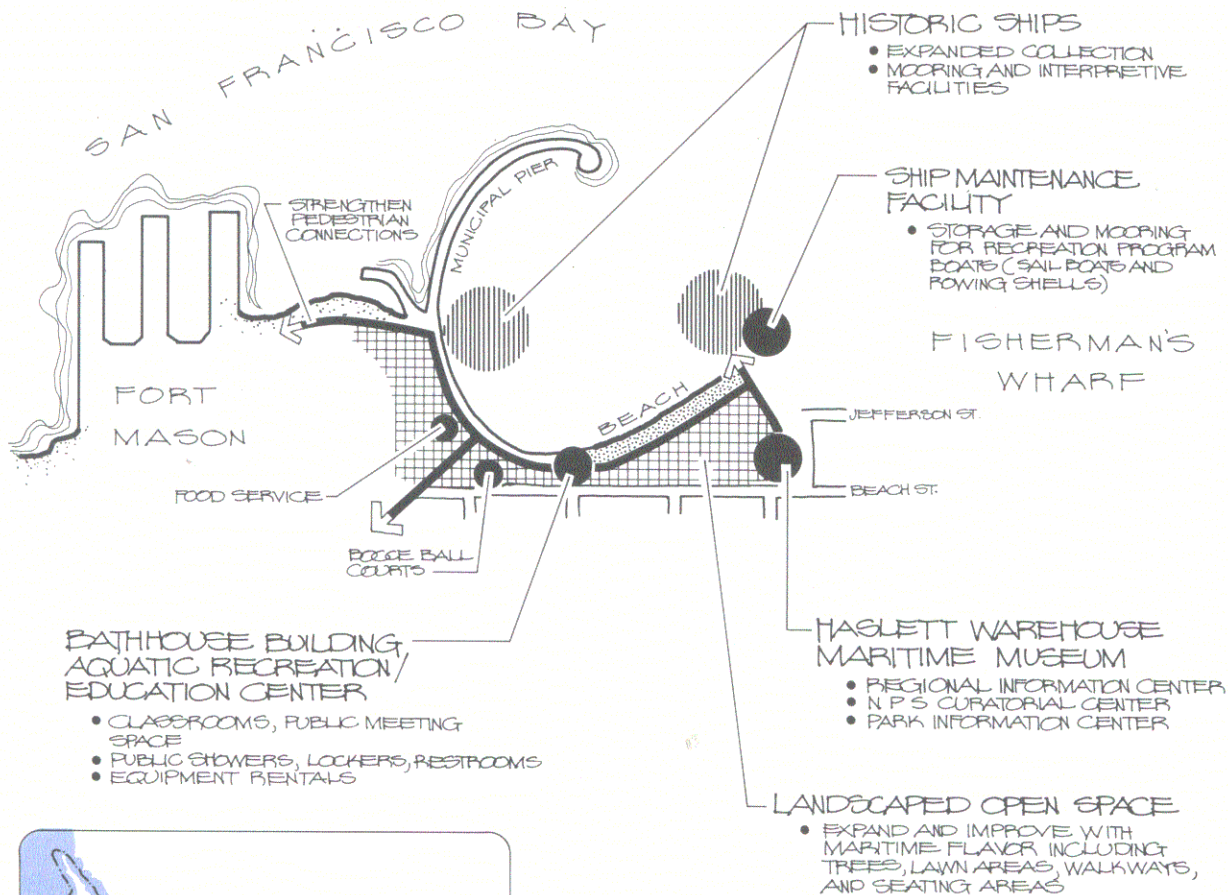
The piles of building rubble and debris and crumbling nonhistoric structures will be removed. The resulting open space will be refilled with topsoil, trees, shrubs, grass, walkways, overlooks, and picnic facilities. Within this pleasant landscaped setting, the stark prison and military structures will stand in honest contrast. To most people this will seem to be a brand new look for the island. But since Civil War times, carefully tended plantings have been an important element there. While literal restoration of historic gardens is not feasible, in a general sense proposed landscape development will return the island to a more accurate historic setting.

Buildings to be stabilized and made safe will be selected on the basis of historic value and economic and structural feasibility. The main cell house, all military fortifications, the barracks, the wharf and the lighthouse have all been identified as historically significant structures that should be preserved if feasible. Suitable space in these structures will be adapted for exhibits relating to the prison era, military era, natural history, and Indian occupation of the island.

The rocky cliffs and shoreline of the island will remain untouched as important habitat for birds and marine organisms.

Aquatic Park

This aptly named feature of San Francisco's colorful waterfront will continue to be a focal point for interpreting man's historical and contemporary dependence on the water. Elements relating to maritime history dominate the scene and will be made even more prominent with a new maritime museum and an expanded collection of historic ships. Historical interpretation will focus on the subject of San Francisco maritime history, with reference to other regional events, such as the gold rush, only as they help to present the main theme. Although not as prominent visually, water recreation will also remain as a primary activity in this area.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

AQUATIC PARK

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

The old brick Haslett Warehouse will be adapted for a museum and information center with its exterior architectural and historical integrity retained. Artifacts from the existing museum will be displayed there along with appropriate additional pieces exemplifying San Francisco maritime history--perhaps even full-sized boats or ships' hulls not suited for exterior display. Most park curatorial museum storage and library space will be incorporated into this new structure. Although extensive interior modifications will be required, an effort will be made to retain a significant portion of the original post and beam construction for interpretive purposes.

A major park information center within the new museum building will describe what GGNRA and Point Reyes have to offer and provide related transportation advice. Because Aquatic Park is already part of one of this country's busiest tourist scenes, a portion of the warehouse will also be used as a regional recreational information center, informing visitors of state, federal, local, and private recreational resources--a place to find out about winery tours, San Francisco historic houses, or Forest Service campgrounds.

If the availability of vessels and funds permit, the current collection of 5 historic ships will be expanded (tentatively up to 12 including the Balclutha, which is owned by the National Park Service but is now berthed outside the park). Additional ships must be small to medium sized and compatible with the 19th and early 20th century steam and sail maritime flavor now evident in the area. The lagoon defined by the municipal and Hyde Street piers will be the setting for the display of these vessels. Until more detailed studies (including a continuing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study of a proposed Fisherman's Wharf breakwater) address the practical problems of wind, surge, and wave protection, it will be assumed that most of the ships will be docked at pier structures on both the east and west sides of the lagoon. For visual and practical purposes, several could be moored in the center with special care to avoid conflict with swimmers and rowers.

If further study confirms the desirability of continued ship mooring in the Hyde Street pier area, the National Park Service will propose to abandon that substandard structure and construct a pier in a new configuration in the same general area. As many ship maintenance functions as possible will be incorporated into the design of this structure, with maximum exposure to visitor viewing. The fate of the existing structure, which is owned by the Port of San Francisco, must be determined through discussions with that agency.

To further strengthen the relationship between the new maritime museum and the Hyde Street pier, a common entry plaza will be developed at the intersection of Hyde and Jefferson streets. The swimming and rowing clubs along Jefferson Street are major visual and physical barriers to the bay, and they will be relocated if they

are placed under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. New facilities for swimmers and rowers will be provided in the old museum building, and the historic club buildings and associated boats will either be incorporated into the new Hyde Street pier structure or moved to the west side of the lagoon at the foot of Van Ness Avenue. The portion of Hyde Street within the park boundary (between Jefferson and Beach) will be obliterated.

To visually emphasize pedestrian access between all of the ships, the existing waterfront promenade will be made more prominent with new seating areas, street furniture, and paving materials that contribute to the maritime setting.

The existing maritime museum building (originally built and known as the Aquatic Park bathhouse) will be adapted as the Aquatic Recreation and Education Center, carefully preserving valuable interior as well as exterior architectural details. The renovated lower level will have supervised showers and lockers and a concession for rental of equipment such as small boats, fishing gear, bikes, and bocce balls. The remainder of the building will serve as multipurpose space suitable for use as classrooms, laboratories, and meeting rooms for various-sized groups. National Park Service and community programs accommodated there will carry out the broad Aquatic Park theme; specific program subjects might include lifesaving, sailing, canoeing, maritime history, and wooden ship restoration. The senior center will gradually be phased out of this building as a new center in Fort Mason develops.

All of Van Ness Avenue inside the park boundary will be removed and replaced with landscaping. In recognition of parking deficits in the northern waterfront, the National Park Service in coordination with appropriate departments and officials of the city and county of San Francisco will explore the possibility of constructing a multilevel parking structure at the terminus of Van Ness.

The Sea Scout clubhouse and maintenance docks will also be removed. The Sea Scouts' boats will be moved to the east side of the lagoon, and their programs and meetings will be held in the aquatic center. (The implementation of these proposals will require full breakwater protection. All detailed planning for them will involve consultation with the Sea Scout organization.) The food concession at the foot of Van Ness will receive a good sprucing-up. The municipal pier will also get a substantial cleanup and minor improvements such as fish-cleaning stations and restrooms. (It may also require major structural renovation.) Night lighting throughout the area will be upgraded.

Few facilities will remain unchanged in Aquatic Park--only the bocce ball courts and most of Victorian Park. A park and transportation information kiosk will be developed near the cable car turnaround to

serve those in the crowd who might not make it into the Haslett Warehouse.

When detailed design work is done for this unit, it will explore ways of making the bleachers adjacent to the aquatic center more attractive and useful as a casual seating and sunning area while retaining their usefulness as seating space for special events. To enhance this function, the original plans for a floating stage should be reassessed and implemented if feasible.

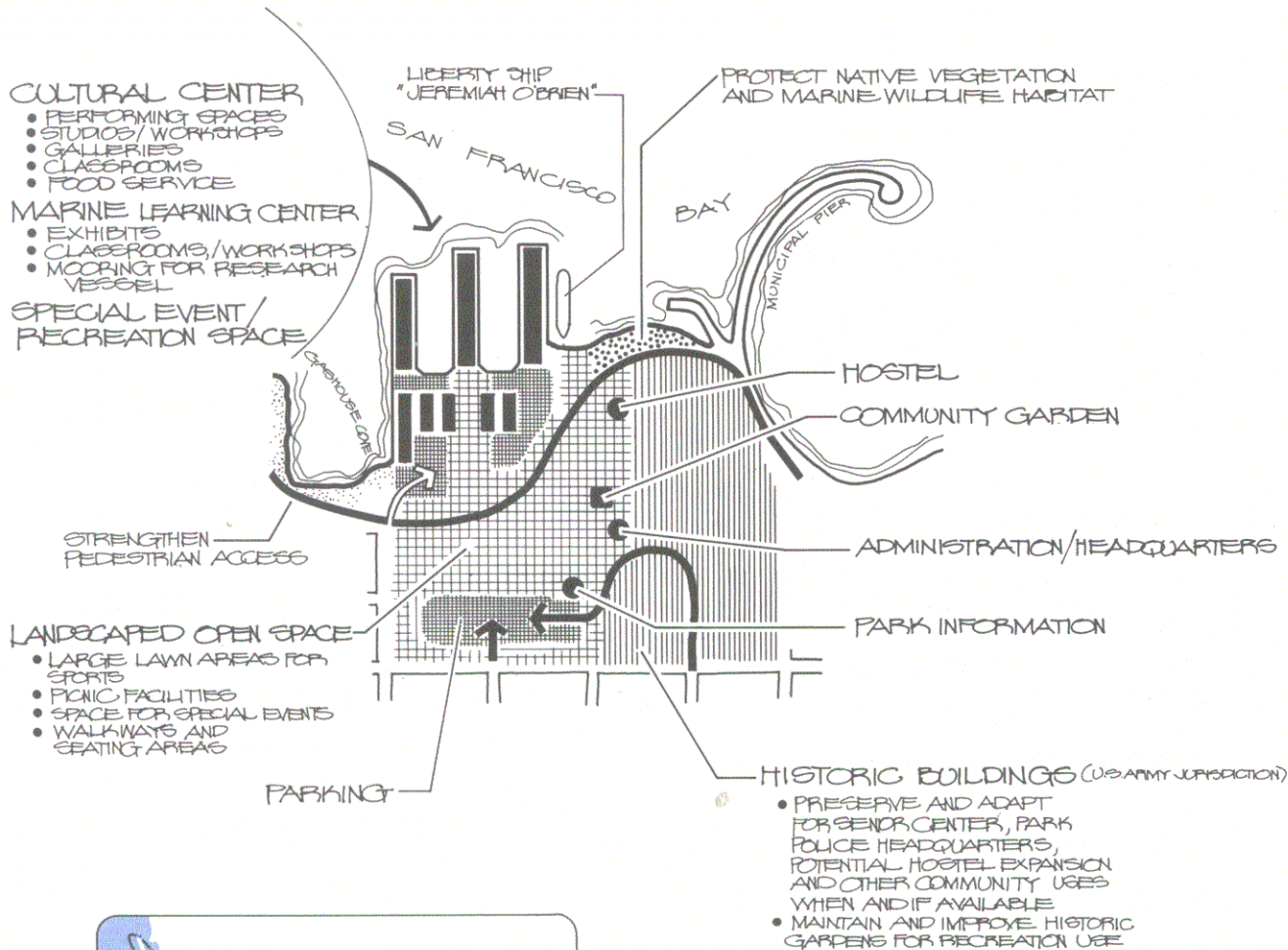
Fort Mason

Acres of vacant or asphalt-paved land adjoining the red-roofed buildings of Fort Mason will be dramatically exchanged for a generous dose of traditional park landscaping, including trees, shrubs, great expanses of lawn, and meandering walkways. The buildings themselves, varying from massive pier structures to match-box 19th century houses will be adapted for a variety of cultural, recreational, and educational programs.

Because of the obvious appeal of the bayshore, the imposing stature of the buildings, and the attractive programs they will contain, the pier and warehouse area will remain the center of attention at Fort Mason. Here the cultural color and diversity of the people of the San Francisco Bay Area will be revealed in theaters, studios, workshops, galleries, and classrooms imaginatively created within one pier building and two or more warehouses. To the Bay Area resident this center will represent one more important source of entertainment and enrichment. To the out-of-towner spilling in from Fisherman's Wharf it could become a convenient place to learn more about one of the Bay Area's prime attractions--its people.

Another pier structure and warehouse will be adapted to accommodate programs concerning San Francisco Bay marine ecology. Specific programs and exhibits offered in these facilities should appeal to drop-in visitors as well as to local school groups and could cover such subjects as marine wildlife, tidal dynamics, bay pollution, and shipping. Although some static museum presentations may be included, emphasis should be placed on visitor participation in learning experiences. Space for docking appropriate research vessels relating to the above programs will be provided adjacent to the pier structure.

The remaining pier structure will be developed as a multipurpose facility to be used for large special events or by community organizations for indoor recreational activities. Space should be reservable to encourage groups to utilize it when participating in other Fort Mason programs.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FORT MASON

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

Fort Mason's developed waterfront space--now a stark, lifeless industrial scene--will retain its rather grand scale but will become a more pleasant place through the judicious introduction of trees and other landscaping. Specific design of these elements will consider the ability of the space to accommodate outdoor events and performances. Continued access for fishermen and people simply strolling the waterfront will be assured. As a convenience to the many people who will enjoy waterfront programs and activities at Fort Mason food service facilities will be provided.

The waterfront's former wartime role has begun to be spotlighted in a visually impressive manner. The Jeremiah O'Brien, a remarkably well-preserved World War II Liberty ship of the type that formerly docked at Fort Mason (the last of its kind) has been rescued from the scrapper's torch and is now permanently moored at Pier 3. Volunteer efforts to totally renovate the vessel and equip it with interpretive exhibits are well underway and should result in a highly appealing historic feature of the waterfront.

Limited parking for Fort Mason visitors will be provided in the pier area and at the southwest corner of the fort. In conjunction with optimum transit access, these facilities should adequately serve average parking demand. Parking for special events will continue to be satisfied in cooperation with the army through shuttle service and remote parking areas in the Presidio.

The pleasant historic plantings within the military residential areas along the eastern side of Fort Mason provide a starting point for the greening of the rest of the site. Many old building foundations and unnecessary roadways have been removed from the west side to make way for landscaping, but known prehistoric cultural materials beneath have been preserved. Elements of the new "upper fort" will include large lawn areas suited for sports and other activities, paved areas with benches and wind shelters for socializing, picnic facilities for both groups and individuals, a garden designed for community participation, a small children's play area, a through-path for walkers, joggers, and cyclists, and a modest park information center and park police headquarters.

The old post hospital building (later the port of embarkation headquarters) will continue to serve as National Park Service administrative offices. Across the historic parade ground (to be restored) the old Civil War barracks has become a hostel. In the future, this type of overnight facility might also be offered in the nearby historic residences overlooking Aquatic Park. Because these and other structures on the east side are still under the jurisdiction of the army, park uses for them will not be contemplated beyond this brief discussion until it has been determined that the army has no further use for them. When any of these structures do become available, they will be specifically analyzed for potential historical interpretation and adaptation into

various community program facilities. The senior activity center now located in Aquatic Park will be one of the uses considered for this location. When buildings are available, relocation will take place over a long-term transition period.

On one hand, people have continually requested that the open space within Fort Mason be maximized; on the other hand, Fort Mason contains numerous historic buildings which need preservation. While the structures in the southeast corner of Fort Mason have been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, they are visually the least attractive and probably are the most difficult to adapt for public uses. If park uses cannot be found for these buildings which justify the cost of their maintenance and the loss of the open space they occupy, selected structures may be removed as permitted by NPS management policies.

The National Park Service central maintenance facility, serving warehousing as well as fabrication and repair functions, is presently located in pier 1 at Fort Mason. The Park Service has long recognized that this is an inappropriate use for a location with such a high potential for public use; however, there are simply no suitable alternative sites under National Park Service jurisdiction offering either the physical space or isolation to accommodate this potentially obtrusive operation. In spite of decentralization efforts, the facility will continue to be comparatively large. The ideal solution to this dilemma would be for the National Park Service to negotiate with the army for a site or facility with minimal visibility and minimal potential for public use within the Presidio of San Francisco. A second, but less desirable, location might be found in Fort Baker. (See "Management Facilities" section.)

Crissy Field

The flat barren expanses of Crissy Field will be transformed through a subtle blend of natural and manicured landscaping into a setting that will greatly enhance its recreational potential and remarkable views of the Golden Gate.

The primary components of this semicivilized shoreline will be a sandy beach and broad expanses of lawn. These grassy areas will be designed in various configurations to accommodate active recreation, programs, special events, picnicking, and even sunbathing when the weather allows. Tables and charcoal grills for family picnicking will be located on and adjacent to these green spaces. Walkways, boardwalks, and seating areas will create pleasant spaces for strolling, viewing the bay, and socializing.

Most of the area will remain level, but some dune-like earth berms planted with natural-appearing ground covers will be created to increase the natural appearance and to help provide wind protection

and visual screening. Trees will be carefully introduced into the scene to also act as windbreaks without blocking desirable views. In recognition of the historical value of the old airfield, new landscaping will avoid significantly changing the present openness of the area. In response to known needs for safe water play opportunities, detailed design studies will also consider the creation of a lagoon, possibly connected with the bay.

Because there are no historic structures suitable for adaptation for indoor space within the Crissy Field 45-acre permit area, most existing structures will be removed. (Many nearby historical buildings relating to Crissy Field remain under the jurisdiction of the army and will be appropriately preserved.) The nearby historic Fort Point lifesaving station could possibly accommodate a small information station and public restrooms. Discussions will be initiated with the Coast Guard to determine the possibility of a space-sharing arrangement. If this is not feasible, those services and also minor food service and recreation equipment rental will be contained in a new structure.

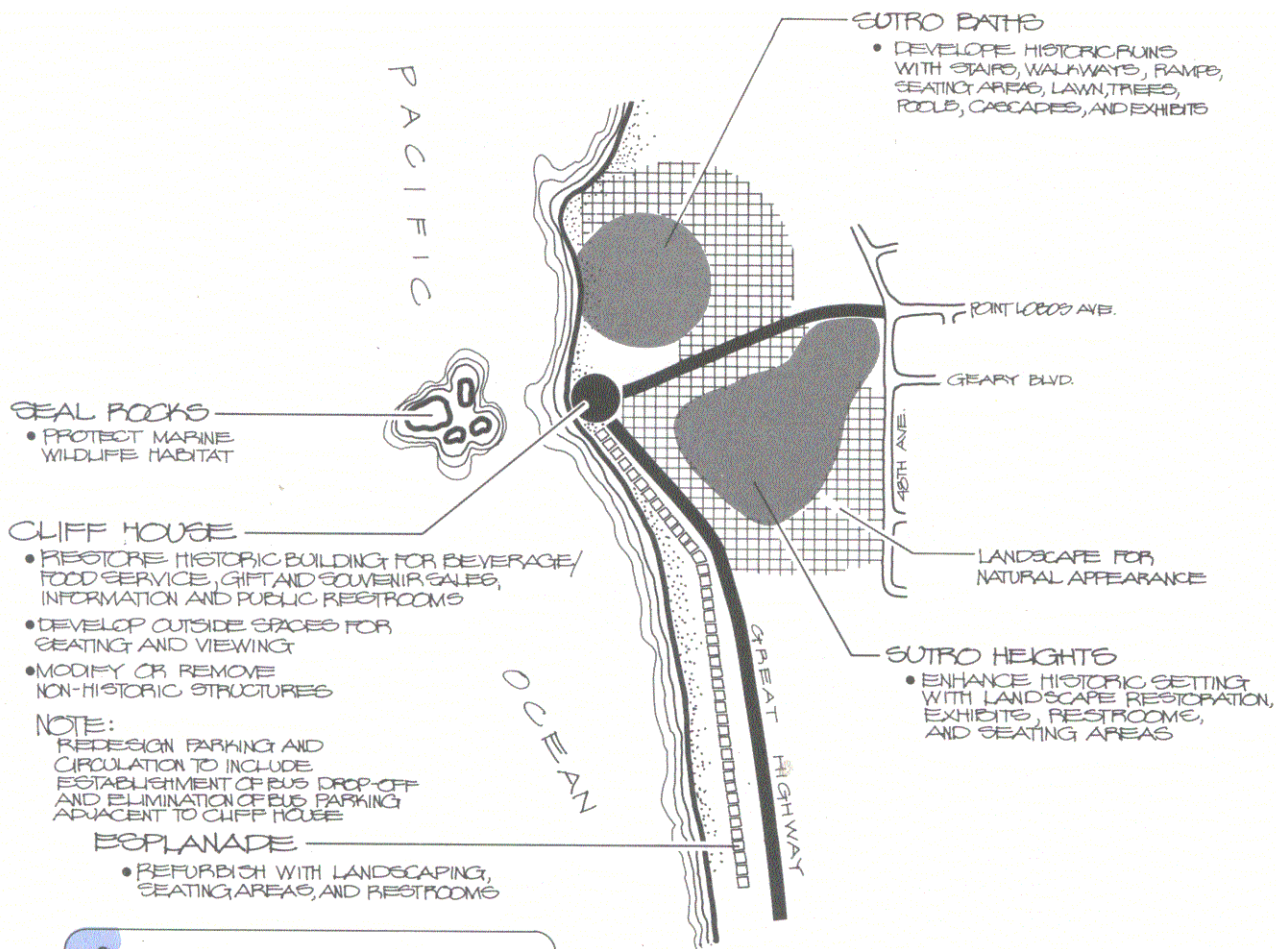
Beach erosion is a continuing problem at Crissy Field. In the past the army has controlled it by placing concrete and asphalt rubble along the shore. However, this solution will be aesthetically unacceptable as the area becomes more parklike, and future design work for Crissy Field will include engineering studies to determine the best methods of stabilizing a natural-appearing beach in this location.

Army plans for further development of commissary and administrative facilities adjacent to this area should be carefully coordinated with recreation use patterns and plans, with a particular concern for access points and parking.

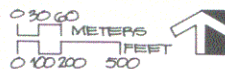
Cliff House

Despite the deteriorated condition of both the land and facilities in this area, everything that has made it one of the world's most popular coastal overlooks for more than 100 years is still here--the sea lions, the wave-swept expanses of Ocean Beach, and views across the Golden Gate to the wild and rugged Marin coastline. The intent here will be to rejuvenate the unsightly development and green up the landscape--and to recapture the spirit of another era when San Franciscans flocked here to frolic in the water, promenade along the beach, or enjoy elegant dining made special by the sights and sounds of the Pacific.

If necessary further study determines that the present Cliff House, built in 1909, still possesses sufficient structural soundness and historical integrity (the building has been altered significantly), the exterior facade will be restored to its former appearance. The



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

CLIFF HOUSE

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

building will continue to be used as a restaurant, lounge, and gift shop. It will also house exhibits relating to the historic role of the Cliff House, public restrooms, and a National Park Service visitor information and publication sales facility. In conjunction with the exterior restoration, other structures in the vicinity that do not appropriately fit into the historic setting will be removed or modified.

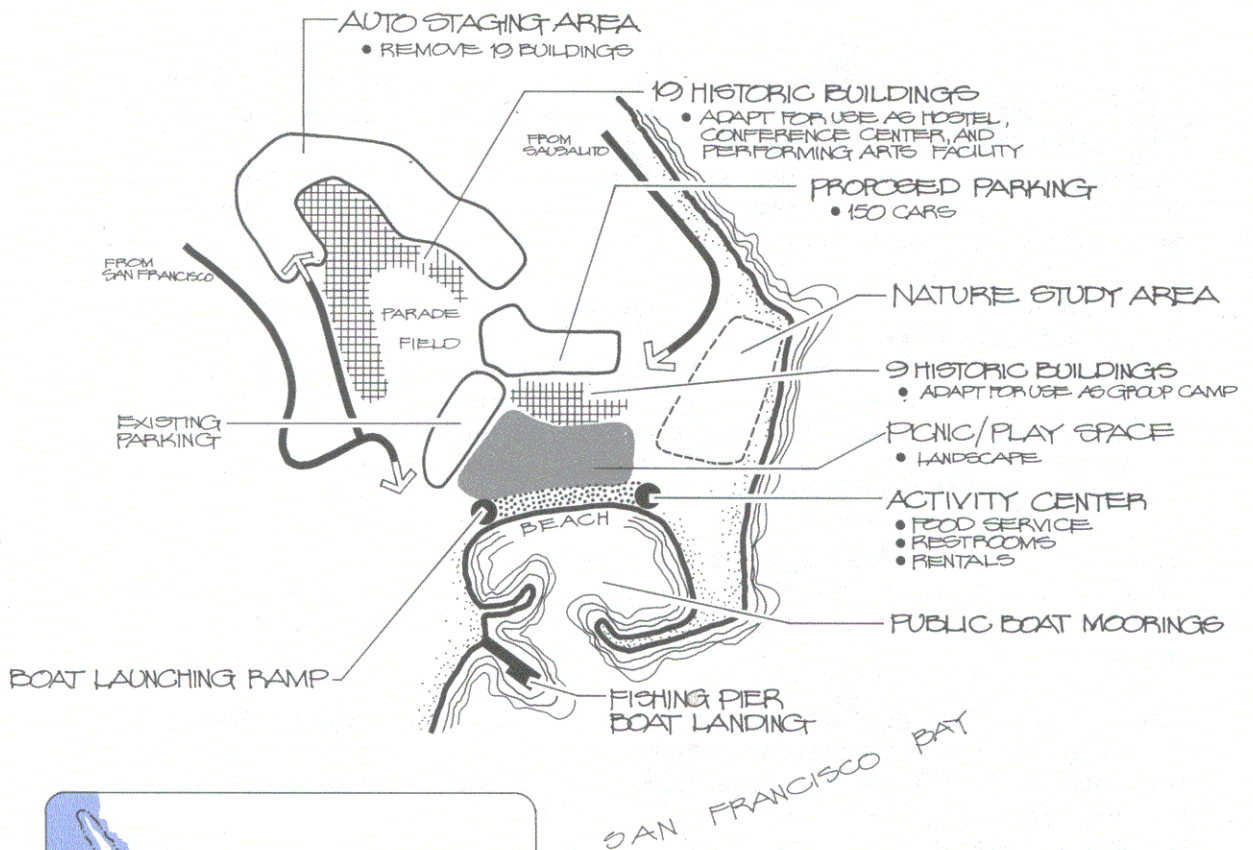
If restoration of the old Cliff House does not prove feasible, design and construction of a contemporary version will be considered as an alternative. A new building should assume an entirely new aspect, as has each of the succession of structures built here since the 1850s. But it should also aspire to generate the same kind of excitement that the 1896 French chateau version prompted, without emulating the visual dominance and opulence of that structure.

Whatever final choice is made for the Cliff House itself, the site's primary value as an overlook will be increased by adding attractive exterior paving and seating areas for those who come only to enjoy the view.

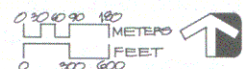
The former site of Sutro Baths will be improved as a setting for enjoying the seaside a little longer, closer, and more privately than the nearby Cliff House overlook will allow. This picturesque, barren, eroding cove filled with crumbling concrete ruins will become a safe and attractive space, easily accessible from the Cliff House. A system of stairs, walkways, ramps, and seating areas will be placed around selected elements of the bath ruins. The special visual appeal and symbolism of the ruins will be complemented by the addition of decorative pools and cascades. A few outdoor exhibits with photos and text will help visitors envision the baths as they once existed.

Landscape improvements will increase the natural appearance of the site. Some alteration of terrain will be needed to accommodate the development described above, to provide for visitor safety, to bury undesirable components of the ruins, to protect prehistoric sites, and to enhance the natural character of the setting. New planting will include Monterey pine and cypress and native shrubs, ground covers, and herbaceous plants. Consideration will be given to the possibility of restoring the small sandy beach that once fringed the cove.

With the hope of reviving its former dignity without disturbing present users, the seawall/esplanade stretching from the Cliff House south to Golden Gate Park will receive a substantial facelift, including new plantings, seating areas, restrooms, and street furniture (benches, lighting fixtures, waste containers, etc.). The National Park Service will continue to work with the city of San Francisco toward the goals of improving pathways for pedestrians



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FORT BAKER

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

and cyclists and strengthening the visual connection between the beach and Golden Gate Park.

Sutro Heights Park will retain its quiet neighborhood orientation. The plantings and statuary of Adolph Sutro's garden will be partially restored, and modest exhibits will explain who he was. Improved overlooks with comfortable benches will help visitors to better enjoy the views. A restroom will be provided.

Future design efforts will focus on rectifying the unsafe, congested, and unsightly conditions created by existing parking and circulation arrangements. Possible improvements might include remote bus parking with a drop-off area in front of the Cliff House, and a safe on-grade pedestrian crossing between the Cliff House and Sutro Heights Park.

Fort Baker

This secluded bowl-shaped valley and quiet-water cove nestled at the foot of the Golden Gate Bridge could become one of the most attractive recreation spots in the Bay Area. Although predominant U.S. Army jurisdiction over this area is expected to continue into the foreseeable future, many improvements in public accessibility and usability could happen relatively soon.

The 6-acre waterfront area now occupied by deteriorated nonhistoric frame buildings and protected by a wood and rubble seawall will be cleared and graded to make way for a sandy beach backed by grass and trees. (Prior to seawall removal a study will be conducted to determine potential beach erosion problems in this location, although it appears that the original shoreline configuration will be restored, and the cove will continue to be protected by two breakwaters.) Backed by a village of historic buildings grouped around a 10-acre parade field, and fronted by 10 acres of quiet bay waters, this spot should become an instant success with picnickers, swimmers, fishermen, sunbathers, and boaters.

If and when it is no longer utilized by the military, the Presidio Yacht Club building will be converted to a day center serving this exciting new activity area. The structure would be modified to contain a food service facility with indoor and outdoor eating space, areas for socializing and playing games, comfort stations, and a place for rental of equipment such as fishing tackle, bicycles, and volleyballs and nets. The yacht club finger piers would be made available to all boaters for one-night berthing. On the opposite side of the cove, the existing boat-launching ramp will be repaired and resurfaced, and the nearby historic pier will be improved with new railings, benches, comfort stations, and fish-cleaning stations. Ferry boat passengers bound for Marin Headlands destinations could

disembark at this pier. An adjacent building will be adapted for use as an information station.

In addition to their great visual appeal, Fort Baker's historic turn-of-the-century buildings also offer abundant program space. In the event of the army's release of these structures a group of them will be converted to a conference/seminar center with classroom, workshop, conference, and short-term residential facilities provided for the study, discussion, and teaching of conservation, ecology, and other park-related subjects. Other structures in the same area could be converted for use as hostel facilities for the general public as well as conferees. The former post industrial center, including a blacksmith shop, bakery, stable, and warehouses, is conveniently located adjacent to the proposed waterfront park. Its interior spaces could be refurbished to create classrooms, dormitories, and work/play areas for the use of school, church, and other groups who may reserve space for their own environmental education or recreation programs. Space in and around nearby Battery Cavallo, an earthwork fortification located on what appears to be a piece of untouched natural bay shoreline, could be used as an environmental study area and overnight campsite by groups occupying the education/recreation center. Extra care will be exercised in the siting of trails and tent sites to protect the earthworks from erosion.

As part of, or at least related to, the Fort Barry artists-in-residence program, several suitable historic buildings at Fort Baker could be adapted to accommodate the performing arts. The old post gymnasium is a likely candidate for this kind of use. If and when the army ceases to use the 19 nonhistoric residential units located behind the parade field, Fort Baker could become a staging area for use by visitors bound for Rodeo Valley. Removal of the structures would provide a parking area with a design capacity of 700 cars for use when Rodeo Valley is closed to private vehicles and is accessible only by transit. Preservation of existing trees and additional plantings will mitigate the visual impact of this parking facility. Some redesign of intersections and circulation routes will be required for adequate access.

Rodeo Valley

The Marin Headlands area is a frontier--an impressive rugged mass of land thrusting the great outdoors almost to the heart of the city. Rodeo Valley, the historic and geographic center of the headlands, is totally isolated from the urban scene, yet it is only a few minutes away. Development here is intended to facilitate the enjoyment of this "accessible wilderness" by people who are unaccustomed to this kind of setting as well as by experienced backcountry users. A scattering of historic army buildings and former building sites will be the primary objects of this effort.

These are confined in two distinct clusters--Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite.

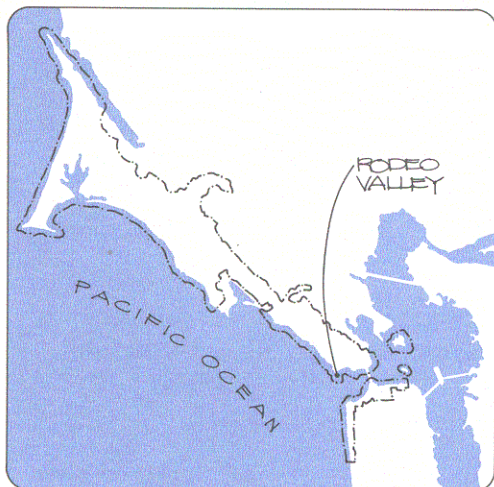
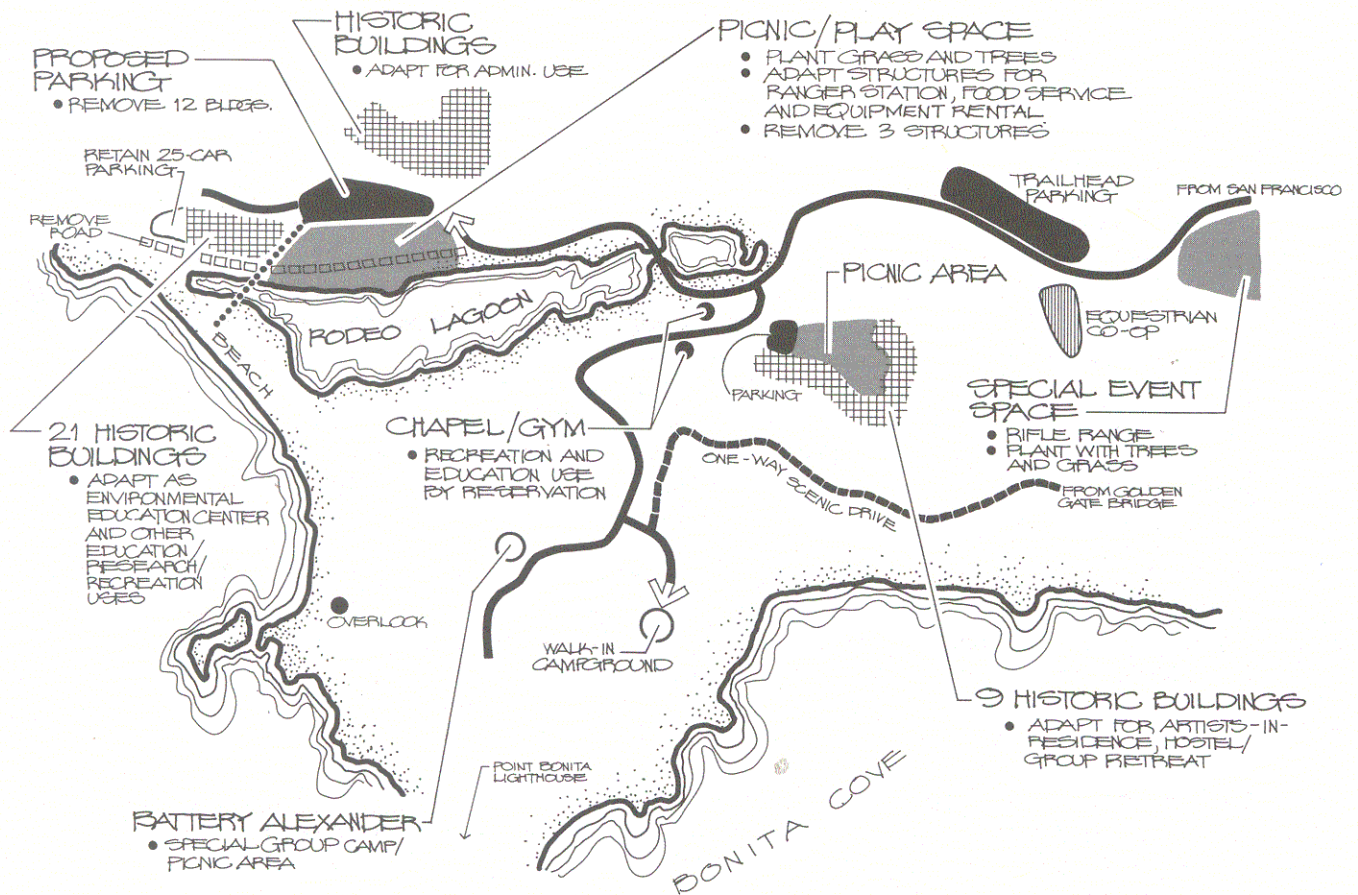
Fort Cronkhite occupies the north side of Rodeo Lagoon and provides access to the popular Coast Trail and Rodeo Beach. Of the more than 40 structures clustered in this area, a distinct group of 25 World War II vintage barracks has been determined to be historically significant, and these will eventually be adapted to accommodate environmental education and community recreation programs. Selected structures may possibly be removed to help improve the appearance and usability of exterior spaces, but care will be taken to ensure the preservation of the historical visual integrity of the complex.

The remaining structures have no historic or architectural value, and most of them will eventually be removed. Because of their good condition some of these buildings have recently been adapted as classroom, dormitory, and conference space for environmental education programs, and they will not be removed until these improvements have been amortized sufficiently.

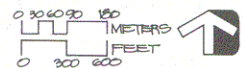
Within the open space resulting from building removal the area furthest away from the lagoon will be developed as a parking area, screened from view by planting and topography. This will replace the existing lot directly adjacent to the beach and allow the removal of nearly a half mile of roadway bordering the lagoon. The 10 acres directly fronting on the lagoon will be enhanced by the addition of natural-appearing plant materials. More Monterey pines, cypress, grass, and picnic tables will transform this old development site into a park setting that will appeal to a wide variety of people. Of the existing structures located within the confines of this proposed picnic/play space, one or more will be retained to provide for a ranger station, restrooms, minor food service, and the rental of bicycles.

The former Nike missile support facilities located on the hillside to the north of the lagoon are considered historically significant structures, and they will continue to be adaptively used for park maintenance and other administrative activities.

Like Fort Baker, Fort Barry lies within a bowl-shaped valley and contains an old parade field rimmed with red-roofed buildings. These structures will be adapted to accommodate a hostel and an artists-in-residence program. The hostel will provide individual and family accommodations and facilities suited for group retreat-type gatherings. The artists-in-residence program will take advantage of the park setting as an inspiration to the creation of the visual arts and the active sharing of that process with park visitors. Actual short-term residencies will be limited. All artists' studios, workshops, and galleries will be open to the public at specified times.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RODEO VALLEY

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

The parade field and adjacent open space will be used primarily as a picnic area with tables, restrooms, charcoal grills, and a small parking area at the edge.

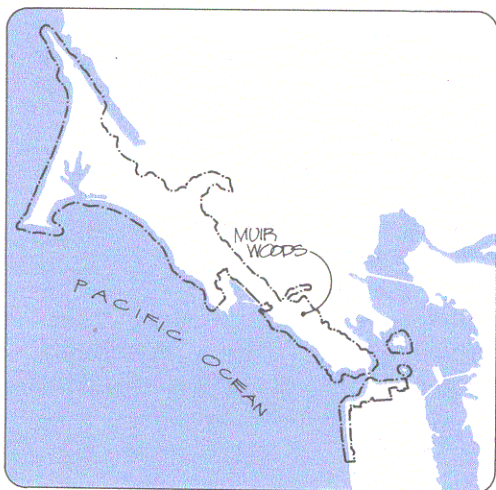
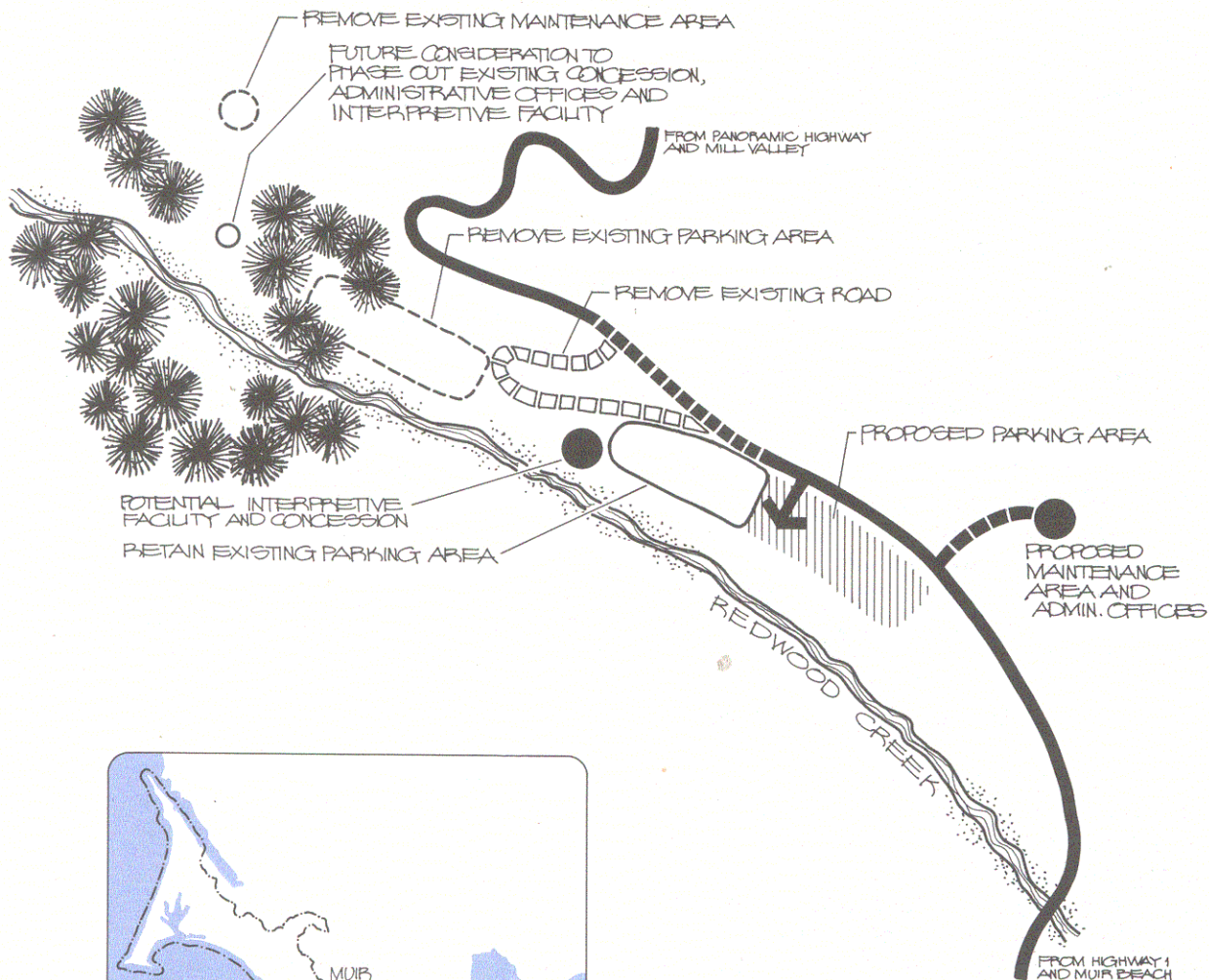
The chapel and gymnasium at the head of the lagoon will be available by reservation to community groups. Farther up the valley, the stables will be retained as a public horse-boarding cooperative with a small complement of rental animals, and the historic balloon hangar will continue to be used as an indoor riding ring. Across the road from the stables a 7-acre site formerly occupied by army quarters will be converted to a well-screened trailhead and interim parking area for use until full public transit service is implemented. Some 400 spaces will be delineated by planting and surfaced with native grasses. This will provide clearly defined but temporary special event and peak use parking that will not be an intrusion during low and normal use periods. The spacious but barren rifle range will receive modest landscape improvements to create an ideal setting for special events such as folk festivals and symphony performances. When not serving this function it will double as a picnic area and playfield. During landscaping efforts, care will be taken to ensure that the former shape and size of the rifle range will remain sufficiently intact to allow adequate historic interpretation.

The 16-acre army Capehart housing area near the Baker-Barry tunnel, with its generous supply of irrigated lawns and trees, will make a fine picnic area. Large open areas suited for sports activities will make it especially attractive to groups. All military housing facilities located in the Marin Headlands currently occupied by the army will continue to be used for this purpose into the foreseeable future. When and if they become available, plan proposals affecting them should be carefully reevaluated.

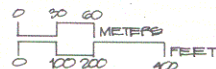
Back toward the lagoon, Battery Alexander will be adaptively used as a small picnic area, day camp, and overnight facility reserved for special groups such as inner-city children, the elderly, and the handicapped.

Muir Woods

Muir Woods National Monument contains some of the world's tallest trees and it is an international attraction. Nearly all development needs relate to one objective--to eliminate the inconvenient and unsightly congestion that now plagues the entrance to the monument during its ever-increasing heavy use periods. The following proposals are essentially a reiteration of those contained in the monument's current master plan, reconfirmed through the public involvement process.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MUIR WOODS

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

To improve circulation patterns and to remove auto congestion from the immediate vicinity of the big trees, the 100-space parking lot located within the redwood grove will be removed, and the area it occupies will be restored to a natural condition. The resulting parking deficit will then be corrected by providing 100 new spaces in the open area adjacent to the remaining parking lot.

To ease a mutually disruptive association between visitors enjoying the woods and Park Service functional activities, the maintenance facilities and administrative offices will be relocated to a small canyon at the extreme eastern end of the monument, well removed from areas of heavy visitor use. Space made available by moving office functions can then be used for information and interpretive facilities.

Because they may cause visitors to stay longer in the grove and therefore aggravate congestion, the excellent restaurant and gift shop now located adjacent to the NPS offices should not be expanded or modified to significantly increase their capacities. In the future when the investment in the existing structure has been sufficiently amortized, or when major repairs or refurbishment are required, consideration should be given to removing the facility and replacing it with a new structure outside the woods at the west end of the parking area. The interpretive center may be relocated at the same time to the same location.

Stinson Beach

No finer swimming beach can be found on the north coast and none offers a more spectacularly beautiful setting than Stinson Beach. These assets help to generate many pleasant park experiences, but as always, this kind of success brings congestion.

Stinson Beach has only one significant development need--to find a way to move hordes of cars in and out of the beach parking lot without directly mixing that flow with the nonvisitor traffic and pedestrians of the adjacent town. In an attempt to solve this problem, a new parking lot entrance is proposed to be developed south of the town to intercept most beach visitors before they drive through the community.

Bear Valley

To the many wilderness travelers and beach-goers who frequent Point Reyes National Seashore, Bear Valley may only be a functional spot--a place to park for a hike in the forests of Inverness Ridge, a place to catch the shuttle bus to Limantour Beach, a restroom stop on the way to Drakes Beach, or a place to buy a needed map or book. But to those who may not have the time or the ability to

fully explore the seashore's expanses (like the out-of-towner passing by) Bear Valley may be the highlight of his or her visit.

The rich blend of rural and natural scenery in this area is already supplemented by fine interpretive facilities such as the Morgan horse ranch, the Miwok Indian village, the Woodpecker Trail and the Earthquake Trail. Nevertheless, some expansion of interpretive programs is in order, particularly to help first-time visitors.

The public's expressed desire is that onsite interpretive facilities should be kept to a minimum throughout the park. Therefore, instead of providing major informational services onsite, programs and exhibits will be expanded at the Bear Valley information center.

A new information center will be developed to offer improved personal information services, an audiovisual introduction to the seashore, an easily grasped geographic orientation to activities and scenery, and additional publications such as maps, books, and pamphlets. The new structure will be modest in size and appropriate to the rural setting in appearance. Its location should provide a degree of isolation from administrative and maintenance areas, which are now a very visible aspect of Bear Valley.

Other minor actions that will significantly increase visitor convenience in this location include the conversion of pit toilets to flush toilets at the heavily used trailhead, expansion of the small picnic area near the trailhead parking lot, and provision of enough food service to satisfy the minimal needs of transit dependent visitors who may reach this distant point by bus without having thought to bring their lunch.

DISPERSED DEVELOPMENT

Hostels and Campgrounds

In keeping with National Park Service policies, most park visitor needs for overnight accommodations will be satisfied through the numerous motel facilities in San Francisco and eastern Marin County. This will not only accrue tax benefits to the local community but will also help to spare the parks' valued scenic qualities from new intrusions.

Despite the sizable unmet demand for all types of camping facilities in the region, environmental and aesthetic constraints seriously limit the ability of the National Park Service to significantly alleviate the shortage.

As previously mentioned, most proposals for facilities outside the developed areas are for small campgrounds and hostels. Hostels are intended to provide low-cost overnight accommodations for hikers

and cyclists of all ages, but car-driving visitors would not be turned away. Whenever possible, these hostels will be developed within historic buildings designated for preservation. Depending upon the structures to be adapted, hostels may offer one of two types of facilities. Army barracks and barns are particularly suited to become dormitory-type facilities, where overnight guests will share common sleeping quarters and kitchen facilities. Ranch houses and old army family quarters are better adapted as places where a family can obtain an individual room.

Proposed hostels have been located no more than a day's travel apart to create a system, that will be reasonably convenient to hikers and cyclists. Because all of the structures that might be adapted as hostels north of Rodeo Valley are still leased and occupied by their former owners, only general hostel locations are indicated in this plan. When a building within these general locations is vacated, it will be determined if it is architecturally and environmentally suitable for a hostel.

Campgrounds are proposed, not as a convenience for people passing through the park, but because the activity of camping is considered an important aspect of a park experience here. Thus, the location, size, and number of campgrounds proposed in this plan reflect a concern for the quality of the camping experience rather than an attempt to satisfy the demand for camping facilities--which probably could never be satisfied at any rate.

All campgrounds in the park will be relatively small and are proposed in locations with minimum visibility from well-used trails and roadways (see General Development map for specific campground proposals). All camps will be used on a permit/reservation basis. No open fires will be permitted.

Hike-in campgrounds are intended for use by backpack campers and will be accessible only by trail. Some will include tables and a few sites will offer simple shelters consisting of a shingled roof over a wood deck to provide protection from fog drip, wind, and rain. All camps will be equipped with sanitary facilities and trash receptacles.

Walk-in campgrounds will be identical to hike-in camps except that the campsites will be clustered within walking distance of a small central parking area (generally 100 to 500 feet). These are intended for use by people with tent-camping equipment that can be carried from the parking area to the campsite. Facilities will include tables, charcoal braziers, restrooms, trash receptacles, and shelters in select locations. One particular campground site in the north end of the Olema Valley offers the space and visual isolation suited for a relatively large group of camp shelters.

Because many people and organizations have expressed a serious concern over increased use in the Olema Valley, facilities in this

area should be developed with great caution only after the complete development of similar facilities in other areas of the park. Conservation organizations, county planners, and local people should be directly involved in the specific siting and design of these facilities. The most important aspect of the proposals as they appear in this document is their character, number, and general distribution.

The proposed walk-in camp at Morse's Gulch should be developed only after satisfactory resolution of concerns for harbor seal habitat voiced by the staff of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory and the Marine Mammal Commission.

The idea of establishing primitive camping zones at Point Reyes, where backpackers would be permitted to camp in generally specified areas with no provision of sanitary facilities, was strongly advocated by most workshop and public meeting participants. However, park management and some organizations are concerned about the potential for fire hazard and water pollution. After the proposals for conventional campgrounds have been implemented, a special study will fully analyze the feasibility of zone camping. The study will focus primarily on the success or failure of zone camping in other park and wilderness settings, with comparative interpretations developed for Point Reyes's unique combination of conditions (climate, accessibility, terrain, resource sensitivities, etc.). If the study results are positive, an experimental zone camping program, including regular monitoring and evaluation, will be instituted based on study recommendations. The success of such an experiment and subsequent establishment of primitive zones could require the elimination of some conventional campgrounds.

Trails

This plan contains no specific proposals for expansion of trail systems in GGNRA/Point Reyes. Because both parks were originally endowed with extensive low-standard military and agricultural roads, effective riding and hiking trail systems have been created largely through designation only. In a few isolated instances short connecting trails have been constructed. Trail improvement for correcting safety and erosion problems is an ongoing management program.

Most of the credit for the difficult job of designating routes compatible with the differing needs of hikers and horsemen is due to the efforts of the Citizens' Ad Hoc Trail Committee and the trails committee of the GGNRA Citizens' Advisory Commission. The work of these committees is partly reflected in the main trails indicated on the General Development map. The basic goal of the ad hoc committee in more than three years of regular meetings was to establish continuous trail access from Fort Funston in San Francisco

to the tip of Tomales Point, providing wherever possible the choice between a ridge route and a coastline route.

Little has been done so far toward designating bicycle routes. A detailed analysis of existing roadways is needed first to determine which ones can accommodate a bicycle lane. Factors to be considered in such a study will include speed and volume of auto traffic, accident occurrences, pavement widths, gradients, scenic qualities, and connections with transit systems. At the same time, separate bike trails will also be considered as a means of increasing safety for cyclists, creating opportunities to visit more remote areas, and providing easier gradients. Good opportunities for separate bike trails seem to exist in the Marin Headlands and the Olema Valley. Bike trails may be paved; however, use of other surfaces, such as stabilized soil, will be explored.

Plans for bicycle trails will be coordinated with the plans of state and local agencies and local bicycle clubs. Both Marin County and the city of San Francisco have bicycle route plans, and these will be regarded as an important basis for GGNRA/Point Reyes bike trail planning.

All future trail and transportation planning should be sensitive to the need to coordinate transit routes and stops with trail routes and related facilities.

Other Facilities

Minor improvements in existing picnic facilities will be accomplished at Fort Funston, West Fort Miley, Baker Beach, and Muir Beach. A small picnic area with associated play equipment is proposed for East Fort Miley, and there will also be a new picnic area at Oakwood Valley in the Marin Headlands that will include some facilities suitable for group use.

Only a few interpretive facilities will be located outside of the major developed areas. Subsequent to full development of a consolidated environmental education center in Rodeo Valley, if there is enough demand to warrant two such facilities, the historic buildings of Rancho Bolinas at the head of Bolinas Lagoon may be adapted as another center to accommodate the outdoor education programs of Bay Area schools. A wayside exhibit explaining the ecological importance of the lagoon may be located along Highway 1 near the mouth of McKinnan Gulch in accordance with the Bolinas Lagoon plan and the recommendations of the Lagoon advisory committee.

Somewhere in the Tennessee Valley area a small barn and corral will be moved in from another location and stocked with a representative collection of farm animals as the basis for a children's educational program serving drop-in visitors and organized school groups.

The historic Octagonal House in West Fort Miley will be adapted to house exhibits covering its role in San Francisco maritime history and nearby interpretive and recreational opportunities. A space including a small campfire circle will also be developed at West Fort Miley, to accommodate community day camp activities and occasional group overnights.

There will be interpretive exhibits and tours provided at the Point Bonita lighthouse.

At Point Reyes, exhibits will be expanded at the Drakes Beach center, and special tours and programs may be conducted at both the Pierce Point Ranch and the lifeboat station. Most new exterior signing and wayside exhibits at the seashore will be for necessary resource and visitor protection purposes.

The lack of suitable restroom facilities can ruin an otherwise enjoyable park experience, particularly for young children and the elderly. Although it may seem obvious that all visitor facilities, including backcountry campgrounds, should have suitable public restroom facilities, some current deficiencies indicate that this point needs additional emphasis. For example, at the Cliff House area, the only restrooms available are those inside the restaurant--an inconvenient situation for the concessioner as well as for visitors who are not interested in concession services. At Limantour Beach in Point Reyes visitors don't seem to mind a moderately long walk from the parking area to the beach, but they do object to repeating that walk throughout the day to avail themselves of the restrooms. All areas of the park will be carefully analyzed for these kinds of deficiencies, and appropriate steps will be taken to correct them.

Responding to the horseback-riding opportunities available in the park, and to an apparent shortage of boarding facilities in the region, individual horse owners have organized cooperative stables in three southern Marin County locations. These facilities will continue to operate in their present general locations; but whereas they were originally conceived and operated to only offer boarding services to members, they will now be modified to provide such services to the general public as horse rental, overnight boarding, and trailer parking. In addition, application of their membership policies and regulations will be monitored regularly to ensure against discriminatory practices.

Particularly in Marin County areas of GGNRA much of the development proposed in the plan is of a dispersed, small-scale nature. Many of these projects may be accomplished with operating funds or through work programs such as the Young Adult Conservation Corps. Some may be done using funds provided by other organizations or agencies occupying space or conducting programs in the parks.

Although these small projects basically will be programmed in response to known demand and the availability of funds, it is important to recognize an additional consideration that will control the appropriate timing of their implementation. Because of the area's inherent appeal and the unusual proximity of a large number of people, there is a high potential for overuse in the rural and primitive areas of the park. Therefore, no development proposal that could result in significant increases in visitation should be undertaken without sufficient assurances that staffing levels are or will become adequate to properly manage the increase.

STATE PARK DEVELOPMENT

Certain lands within the authorized boundary of GGNRA and Point Reyes are outside the jurisdiction of the National Park Service (see special use zone under "Management Zoning" section), but the Park Service maintains a protective interest in these areas and will continue to exert whatever influence is necessary to ensure that natural, historic, and scenic values are preserved and recreational opportunities complement what is available in other park areas. Within this context, the Park Service recommends that a hikers' campground and a hostel be located within the southern limits of Mount Tamalpais State Park, where they will be key links in a system of overnight facilities serving people without cars. The Park Service also endorses moderate expansion of visitor facilities on Angel Island in accordance with the current state park plans.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXPANSION AREAS

Expansion of the boundaries of both Golden Gate and Point Reyes was recently accomplished through Public Law 95-625 and Public Law 96-199. Additional lands may be included through further legislation. Most of the resulting additions will simply provide for protection of scenic and ecological values. Some of the larger areas will be suited for hiking, horseback riding, and informal picnicking, but for the most part these new areas are unsuited for development or extensive use. A major walk-in campground and/or hostel should be considered for the Cheda Ranch, and scattered roadside pullouts and picnic facilities (tables, trash cans, and chemical or vault toilets) might be established along Lagunitas Creek. Potential impacts upon this important salmon spawning area will be carefully considered before any of these ideas is implemented. Study of the possible development or extensive use of these lands should proceed cautiously until a reasonably firm northern boundary is established. When this has been done, facilities proposed in the Olema Valley should also be reviewed to determine what, if any, influence new use and development

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proposals might exert upon them. Cautious consideration is also being given to the establishment of access trails within the Bolinas Mesa addition to Point Reyes with particular attention being paid to the high sensitivity and existing accessibility of Duxbury Reef. The small addition in the Stinson Beach area will facilitate construction of the proposed southern entrance to the beach parking area. New acquisitions adjacent to Sutro Heights Park, now barren and unsightly, will be extensively planted.

MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

Office Space

Under the terms of a current administrative agreement, the superintendent of Point Reyes, who has management authority over all of the national seashore, also has operational authority over the Olema Valley portion of GGNRA north of the Bolinas-Fairfax Road. As long as this agreement is in effect, the headquarters in Bear Valley will continue to be the center of operations for Olema Valley as well as the seashore. The superintendent of GGNRA, based at headquarters facilities at Fort Mason, has administrative supervision over all National Park Service lands south of the Bolinas-Fairfax Road.

Ranger stations will be required at the following locations:

- Alcatraz
- Aquatic Park
- Fort Mason
- Fort Point
- East Fort Miley
- Fort Baker
- Fort Cronkhite
- Tennessee Valley
- Muir Woods
- Stinson Beach
- Hagmaier Ranch
- Tomales Point
- Drakes Beach
- Point Reyes lighthouse

With the exception of Muir Woods, all ranger stations will be housed within existing structures. In addition, at least minimal office space will be required wherever permanently manned interpretive or information facilities exist or are proposed.

Maintenance

Maintenance operations for the parks are presently supported by two major work and storage centers at Fort Mason and Bear Valley.

The Fort Mason center occupies a considerable amount of space for which there is a clear demand for recreational use (see Fort Mason development proposals). Therefore, it will be phased out in conjunction with the development of a new storage and repair/fabrication center in a location to be negotiated with the army, preferably within the Presidio. This facility will be kept as small as possible through the strengthening of smaller centers in the following locations:

- Alcatraz
- Aquatic Park
- Fort Mason
- Fort Point
- East Fort Miley
- Fort Baker (unless the primary maintenance center is located here)
- Muir Woods
- Stinson Beach

As supplements to the Bear Valley center, the following existing maintenance substations in Point Reyes National Seashore will continue in operation:

- Hagmaier Ranch
- Tomales Point
- Drakes Beach
- Point Reyes lighthouse

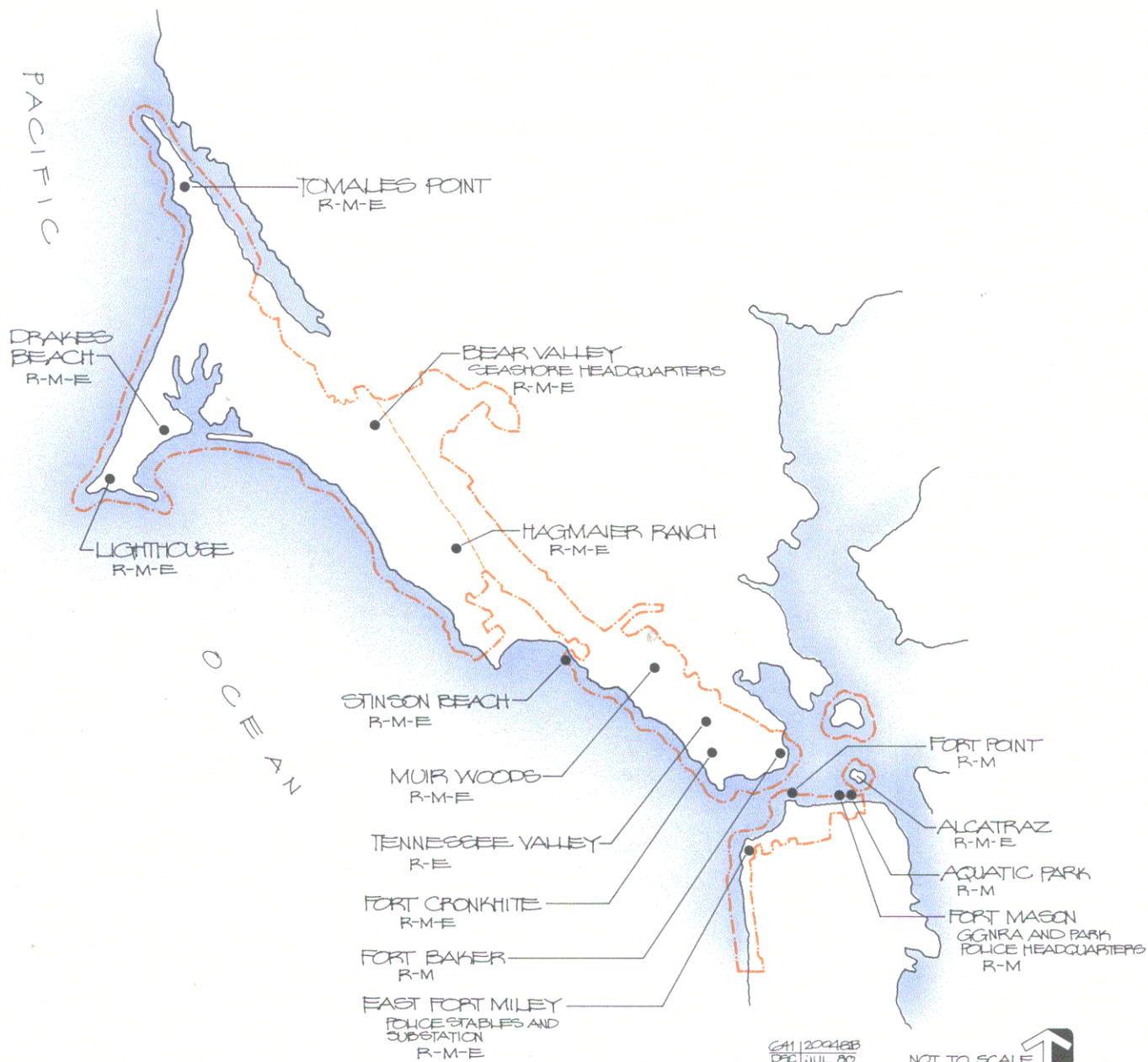
At Fort Funston a small previously disturbed area will be used for the purpose of propagating plants to be used in dune stabilization and other erosion control efforts.

U.S. Park Police

Visitor protection services for the San Francisco portions of the park will continue to be provided by park police based at their present headquarters at Fort Mason. Stable facilities for their horse patrols will remain at East Fort Miley in conjunction with a substation serving police functions for the San Francisco Headlands and Ocean Beach areas. Adaptive use of gun batteries for administrative purposes in this area should be pursued in a manner that would not foreclose future in-depth historical interpretation of those resources.

Emergency Equipment

The National Park Service will maintain fire-fighting and search and rescue equipment at the following locations:



MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

Alcatraz
Fort Point
East Fort Miley
Fort Cronkhite
Tennessee Valley
Muir Woods
Stinson Beach
Hagmaier Ranch
Bear Valley
Tomaes Point
Drakes Beach
Point Reyes lighthouse

Employee Housing

Generally speaking, Bay Area employees of the National Park Service will reside in the community outside park boundaries. Whenever possible, the many residential structures to be retained in the parks will be used for visitor activities. However, there will be exceptions to this policy for purposes of resource or visitor protection--for example, situations where no other reasonable use can be immediately determined for a vacant historic structure or where 24-hour employee availability is deemed desirable. All nonhistoric structures presently functioning as employee housing but not serving essential management needs will be removed as soon as possible or converted to public use.

UTILITIES

Utilities are a major concern at GGNRA/Point Reyes and will be an important consideration in the future use and management of the parks. In some areas no systems exist; in many other areas, particularly former military sites, the existing systems are deteriorated and need substantial upgrading. Sewage disposal is currently handled by a combination of conventional sewage systems and treatment plants, leachfields and septic tanks, composting and pit toilets, and portable self-contained chemical or vault toilets. Water is provided by means of conventional pumping stations and water mains, creek and spring diversions, and wells. Gas, telephone, and electric service are provided by conventional service lines.

The National Park Service will adhere to all applicable provisions of Executive Order 11752 for the prevention, control, and abatement of environmental pollution for all facilities under its jurisdiction. This includes adequate sewage collection and disposal, solid waste collection and disposal, and protection of the quality of waters within, or flowing through, the area. To accomplish this goal, wherever possible sewage and water systems will be connected to

public utilities. The National Park Service will strive to sell or transfer government-owned electrical, telephone, and natural gas distribution systems to public utilities.

San Francisco Parklands

For the most part, the existing utility systems have the capacity to provide the level of service required by the plan. Existing water systems will be modified or extended when possible. The provision of water in sufficient quantity for moderate amounts of washing, drinking, and toilet use should not be difficult. However, when existing systems are not available, alternative means of supplying water will be studied. These may include the use of cisterns and rain catchments, importation, and tank storage.

Existing sewers will be modified or extended wherever feasible. However, where the existing onsite or adjacent sewer is inadequate to serve present or potential needs, alternative systems, including composting and chemical toilets and treatment plants, will be considered.

In San Francisco, a more detailed technical analysis of utility requirements for existing as well as proposed facilities will be undertaken to determine present conditions and the appropriate source for utility service.

Alcatraz is unique in its utility demands. Present utilities include chemical toilets, imported freshwater (for limited washing, irrigation, and emergencies), an onsite generator, and radio for communications. Consideration will be given to converting water and electrical systems to those more appropriate for site conditions (water cisterns, stormwater catchments, wind and solar generators). Additionally, extension of telephone lines will be considered.

Marin County Parklands

In Marin County, expected levels of visitation will be adequately served by the upgrading of existing wastewater facilities or, if necessary, the development of new facilities. Proposed walk-in, hike-in, and group campgrounds, as well as picnic areas and trailheads, will be served by self-contained toilets.

Wherever possible, wells will be used to supply water. Water storage will be provided where necessary for visitor accommodation and fire protection. Where water cannot easily be provided to proposed camps, they will be operated as "dry camps" with no water provided. Where feasible, septic tanks and leachfields will be installed or upgraded to meet the disposal needs of all proposed

indoor overnight accommodations. Secondary treatment will be preferred for major proposed beach comfort facilities. However, where no secondary treatment is available and the ground conditions are acceptable, beach comfort facilities will be serviced by septic tanks and leachfields.

At this time there is not enough information to declare specific solutions for the provision of water and sewer services to larger areas and facilities in Marin. A separate study will be undertaken to determine the most appropriate methods of service. Preliminary findings suggest that the following approaches to utilities may be desirable:

Marin Headlands: Sewer - New sewage collection system. Hookup with Sausalito system.

Water - Possible long-term noninterruptible water service commitment from Marin Municipal Water District, or use of local water sources with storage for peak periods.

Mount Tamalpais: Sewer - Develop new onsite disposal or vault system. Existing service adequate at Muir Woods.

Water - Cooperative development of new water sources with Stinson Beach for village and park use, or separate water supply and storage system. Existing service adequate for Muir Woods.

Olema Valley: Sewer - Where feasible, expansion of existing septic tank systems.

Water - Development of new sources or upgrading of wells, with storage for peak periods.

Point Reyes: Sewer - Expansion of existing system at Bear Valley.

Water - Existing service adequate.

In Marin County, if future studies show that visitor needs exceed the ability of an area to provide adequate water, facilities will be relocated to more suitable sites or scaled down to a level consistent with available supply. Groundwater sites that have shown a concentration of solids due to seawater intrusion will not be utilized as water sources. Groundwater utilized for drinking will be treated.