

UNIT 416

MANRESA STATE BEACH

GENERAL PLAN

October 1979



MANRESA STATE BEACH
GENERAL PLAN



State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

OCTOBER 1979

Preliminary

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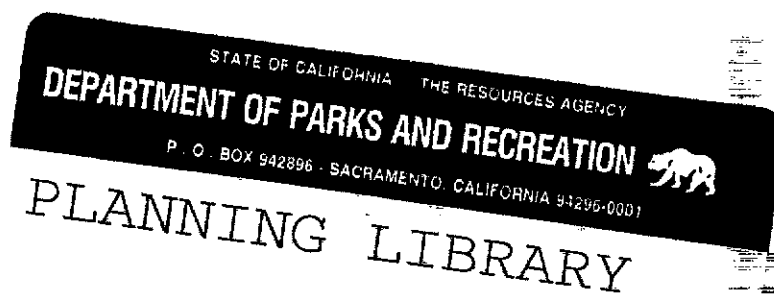
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MANRESA STATE BEACH GENERAL PLAN

OCTOBER 1979

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State of California

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Department of Parks and Recreation



State of California — The Resources Agency
Department of Parks and Recreation
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Proposals	vi
INTRODUCTION	1
General Plan Purpose	3
Project Description	4
State Beach Ownership and Expansion	12
Public Involvement	12
RESOURCE ELEMENT	13
Unit Identification and Classification	15
Resource Summary and Evaluation	16
Declaration of Purpose	21
Declaration of Resource Management Policy	22
Allowable Use Intensity	24
LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT	27
Existing Land Use and Facilities	29
State Properties	29
Adjacent Properties	36
Traffic	39
Public Use and Concerns	40
Existing Recreation Use on Santa Cruz Coast	40
Public Involvement	44
Department Guidelines	49
Proposed Land Use	51
Design Criteria	51
Design Concepts	52
Proposed Site Development	54
Upland Property	54
The Beach	67
Existing Day Use Parking Area	68
Carrying Capacity	70
Utilities	71
Proposed Interpretative Facilities	71
Implementation Sequence	73
Appropriate Future Land Acquisition	74
Conformance to Coastal Act	75
OPERATIONS ELEMENT	77
Supervision	79
Water Safety	80
Concessions Feasibility	80
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT	81
SELECTED REFERENCES	92

APPENDIXES

Appendix A. A More Detailed Look at Traffic.....95
 Appendix B. Summary of Public Involvement.....101
 Appendix C. Partial Listing of California Native Plants.....105

List of Figures

Figure 1 - Location5
 Figure 2 - Study Area Map.....7
 Figure 3 - Existing Upland Map11
 Figure 4 - Existing Day Use Map25
 Figure 5 - Use Intensity Map37
 Figure 6 - Adjacent Land Use Map.....41
 Figure 7 - Local Coastal Parks Map55
 Figure 8 - General Plan Map (Overview).....57
 Figure 9 - Upland Site Development Map63
 Figure 10 - Campground Map69
 Figure 11 - Day Use Site Development Map.....97
 Figure 12 - Traffic.....99
 Figure 13 - Upland Access Map.....99

"C" -- The compatibility between agricultural use and the proposed facilities on the upland property has been examined. While the land and soil are suitable for agricultural use, such use would not be compatible with the proposed camping facility. The upland property in question covers only 87 acres. Of that, the 65 walk-in campsites cover 10.5 acres, 7.0 acres contain vehicular access, parking, and the operations center, and the arroyos take up an additional 8.5 acres. 35 acres are designated as a native plant and wildlife habitat, and the remaining 26 acres make up an interpretive center, trails, beach access, and the open space necessary to support a quality camping experience. The native plant and wildlife habitat is an important restoration of the native coastal environment. It also serves as a buffer between park development and adjacent agricultural lands and homeowners.

No portion of the 87 acres can be used for agriculture as long as recreational facilities are operating. If some of the land were used for agriculture, a buffer would still be required. The acreage supporting recreational use would be significantly reduced; this would lead to the infeasibility of a recreational facility on the upland property.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

This plan's recommendations can be summarized within three categories: Resource Recommendations, Recreation Recommendations, and Operations Recommendations.

Resource Recommendations

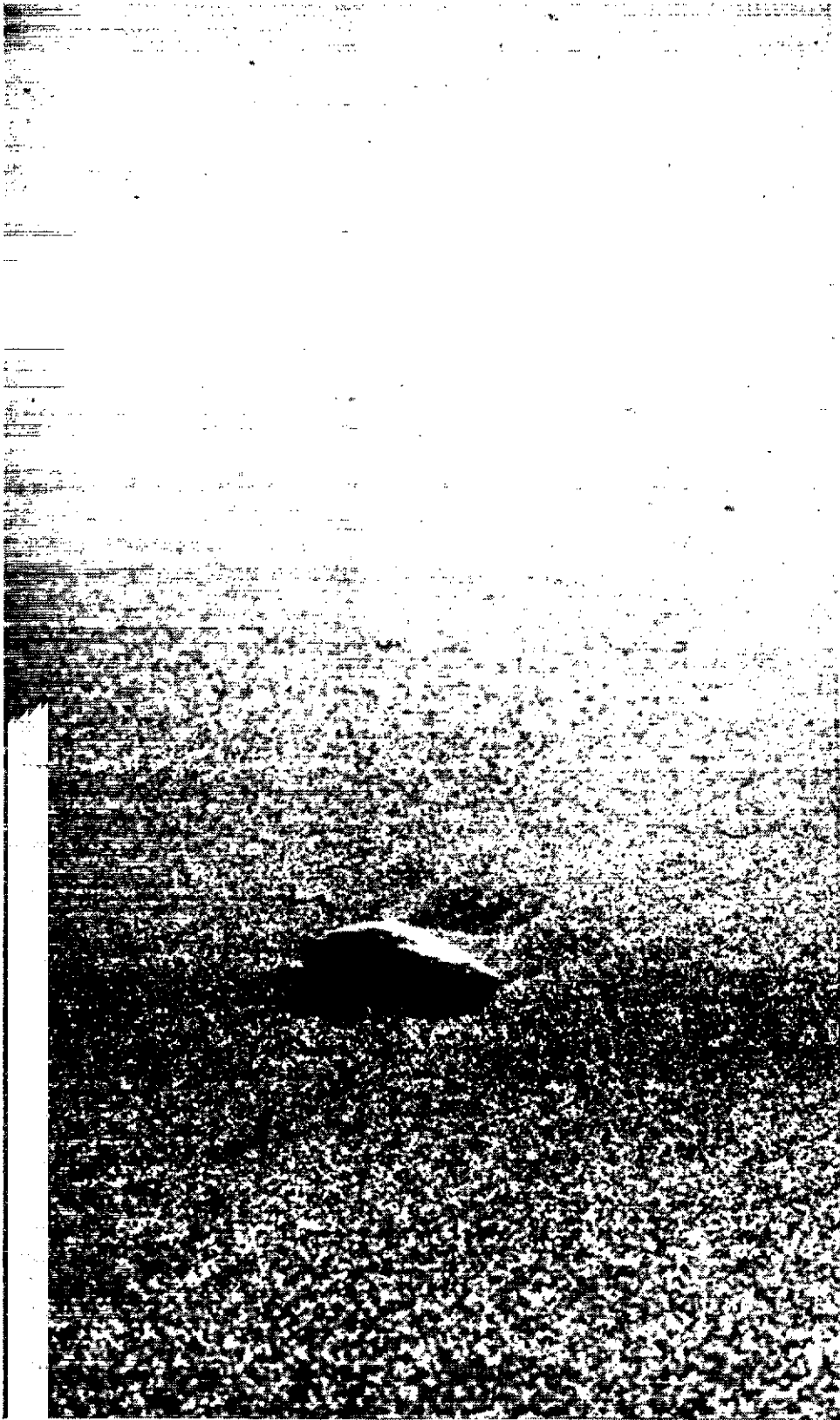
Resource proposals for this park unit will protect Manresa's natural resources through planned use. In addition, the public will be exposed to the dynamics of California native plant communities. The plan proposes to:

- o ESTABLISH A 35-ACRE NATIVE PLANT AND WILDLIFE HABITAT;
- o PROTECT ARROYOS AND BLUFFS FROM ACCELERATED EROSION BY:
 - a. controlling beach access to specific points,
 - b. halting excessive water runoff, and
 - c. implementing erosion control methods along steep slopes;
- o CONTINUE LOW DENSITY BEACH USE.

Recreation Recommendations

Recreation proposals for this state park unit will improve public beach access, and will provide additional overnight facilities on the California coast. The plan proposes to:

- o CREATE A 65-UNIT WALK-IN TENT CAMPING FACILITY that will provide a natural outdoor experience for camping groups, family tent campers, bicyclists, and others.
- o IMPROVE THE EXISTING UP COAST PARKING LOT to provide 210 parking spaces and safe beach access.
- o CONSTRUCT A 40-VEHICLE DAY USE PARKING LOT on the up-land property. This will provide safe public access at a previously difficult beach access point.



Addenda: Manresa State Beach General Plan

- Page 65 -- Title, Agricultural Use Within the Upland Property; insert "C" at bottom of page.
- Page 72 -- Add "trails" to the end of the second paragraph.
- Page 75 -- Insert "A" at the bottom of the page.
- Page 76 -- Insert "B" after the third paragraph.

"A" -- In regard to Section 30221 of the Coastal Act, refer to the section of this plan entitled Public Use and Concerns (Pages 40 to 49), which clearly explains that existing recreation facilities do not adequately meet the demand of users in this area. In regard to Section 30223, the proposed facilities on the upland property, which is adjacent to an existing state beach with limited access, are necessary to support coastal recreation uses.

California Coastal Act

Section 30221: "Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational use and development unless present and foreseeable future demand for public and commercial recreational activities that could be accommodated on the property is already adequately provided for in the area."

Section 30223: "Upland areas necessary to support coastal recreational uses shall be reserved for such uses, where feasible."

"B" -- This plan's proposals comply with Section 30242(2) of the Coastal Act. The section of the Environmental Impact Element (Page 88) that deals with the relationship between short-term uses and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity clearly states that implementation of the plan will protect the site's long-term productivity. Page 90, Paragraph 2, further emphasizes that if environmental priorities change, and the site is deemed more appropriate for some other use, the area will not have been altered enough by project implementation to preclude changes in use.

California Coastal Act

Section 30242(2): "All other lands suitable for agricultural use shall not be converted to non-agricultural uses unless such conversion would preserve prime agricultural land or concentrate development consistent with Section 30250. Any such permitted conversion shall be compatible with continued agricultural use on surrounding lands."

Operations Recommendations

This plan recommends FULL TIME STAFFING, to: (a) promote safe use of the park's recreational resources, (b) enhance visitors' park experiences, and (c) protect the park's resources from indiscriminate use. In addition to general park supervision, staff expertise will be required for:

- o AN ON-GOING PREVENTIVE LIFE-SAVING PROGRAM, and
- o MAINTENANCE AND INTERPRETATION OF NATIVE PLANT AND WILDLIFE HABITATS.

Additionally, this plan recommends that the UPLAND PROPERTY BE IDENTIFIED AS A SEPARATE UNIT OF MANRESA STATE BEACH, operated by the same staff.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

P. O. BOX 2390, SACRAMENTO 95811



Resolution 51-79
Resolution adopted by the
CALIFORNIA PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
at its regular meeting in San Jose
October 12, 1979

WHEREAS, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation has presented to this Commission for approval the proposed General Plan for the Manresa State Beach; and

WHEREAS, this reflects the long-range development plan as to provide for the optimum use and enjoyment of the unit as well as the protection of its quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Park and Recreation Commission approves the Department of Parks and Recreation's General Plan for the Manresa State Beach, preliminary dated October 1979, subject to the following amendments:

1. General Plan shall be amended to discuss the proposed conversion of agricultural land in relation to Coastal Act policies and to give reasons why the Department of Parks and Recreation believes there is no conflict with the Coastal Act, for example:
 - (a) That the plan implements the Coastal Act policy by favoring coastal public recreation and access,
 - (b) That campground and natural habitat development are reversible,
 - (c) That the viability and compatibility of agricultural use in this area should be examined.
2. In the event the proposed dedication of land by the Canon del Sol developer to the Department of Parks and Recreation fails for any reason, staff shall promptly prepare an alternative plan for use of the land in State ownership and shall submit it to this Commission for approval.

AND, subject to such environmental changes as the Director of Parks and Recreation shall determine advisable and necessary to implement carrying out the provisions and objectives of said plan.

INTRODUCTION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

P.O. BOX 2390
SACRAMENTO 95811

(916) 445-7092

January 28, 1980

On October 12, 1979, the State Park and Recreation Commission approved the Preliminary General Plan for Manresa State Beach. In the interest of economy, we are not reprinting the document; therefore, the preliminary plan can now be considered the final plan.

Enclosed are addenda containing Park and Recreation Commission Resolution 51-79 approving the plan (with amendments), comments and responses on the plan's Environmental Impact Element, and a list of minor changes made by the Commission. If you have a copy of the plan, please attach these addenda, and replace the word "preliminary" on the cover with the word "final".

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Acree".

Robert M. Acree
Senior Landscape Architect

Enclosure

K-0423D

INTRODUCTION

General Plan Purpose

This plan contains recommendations that will lead to the best use of Manresa State Beach. These recommendations derive from the department's responsibility to fulfill the following goals:

1. Enhance the PUBLIC'S RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCE, and provide new recreation opportunities.
2. Establish guidelines for RESTORATION, PROTECTION, AND INTERPRETATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES.
3. Determine LAND USE AND VISITOR FACILITIES that are consistent with the park's intrinsic character.
4. Outline an OPERATIONAL PROGRAM for this park unit.
5. Identify the CULTURAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES of the park.
6. Establish a SEQUENCE OF PARK DEVELOPMENT.
7. Determine the potential CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT of the proposals.
8. Provide an INFORMATIVE DOCUMENT FOR the public, the legislature, department personnel, and other government agencies.
9. Identify and resolve MAJOR ISSUES regarding Manresa State Beach:
 - a. Statewide, Californians have demonstrated a strong demand for additional overnight facilities on the Santa Cruz Coast.
 - b. Various citizens have repeatedly expressed the desire to retain the low density character of Manresa State Beach and the surrounding area.
 - c. Natural resources at Manresa (including the bluffs, the arroyos, the beach, and upland properties) are being adversely affected by indiscriminate public use.

This general plan will provide guidelines for management and development of Manresa State Beach through the next 20 years.

Project Description

Location

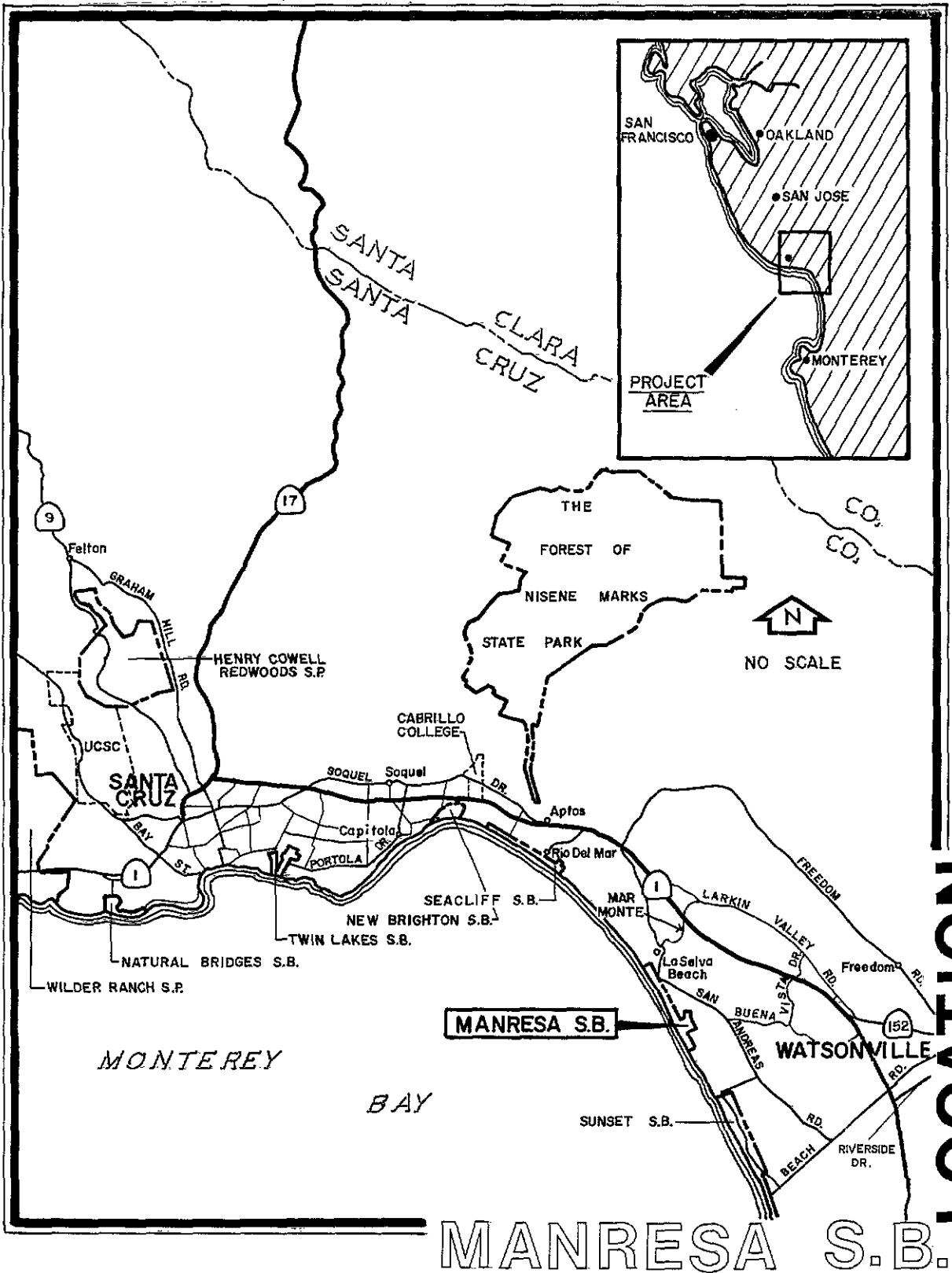
Manresa State Beach lies along Monterey Bay, 11.5 miles southeast of the City of Santa Cruz. The unit is directly west of Watsonville, 28 miles north of the Monterey Peninsula, and 48 miles south of San Jose.

Access

Highway 1, running north and south, provides the most direct access to Manresa. Visitors from the north exit at Larkin Valley/San Andreas Road, and travel 1.9 miles through the rural landscape and the community of La Selva Beach, to an existing day-use parking lot. From the south, visitors either exit at Riverside Drive in Watsonville, or at Buena Vista Drive. Both roads intersect San Andreas Road, which in turn leads to the day-use parking lot.



San Andreas Road at entrance to existing day use parking lot



LOCATION

MANRESA S.B.

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. LOCATION	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN				DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	SHEET No.
CHECKED				APPROVED	DATE

FIGURE 1

Study Area Description

The general study area for this project is a triangular land mass bounded by San Andreas Road, Zils Road, and Monterey Bay. The inland boundaries were chosen because San Andreas Road and the Monterey Bay Academy form strong physical barriers that define the extent of Manresa's immediate sphere of influence. Within this triangle are three distinct planning areas that will be most often addressed throughout the plan: the upland property, the beach, and the existing day-use parking lot.

The Upland

This general plan focuses primarily on the state-owned upland property, located about one and a half miles south of the parking lot. Access is obtained from San Andreas Road by turning seaward at Sand Dollar Drive, Crest Drive, or Zils Road.

The 87 acres in the upland area can be divided into two ocean-facing bowls, separated by a high, gently sloping ridge. Each bowl slopes into an arroyo at its ocean frontage. The northern arroyo is steep-sided, while the southern arroyo is more shallow. Both contain mature stands of eucalyptus trees. The remainder of the upland property is mostly treeless, covered primarily with grasses and native shrubs. A small cluster of willows inhabits a reservoir in the southern bowl.

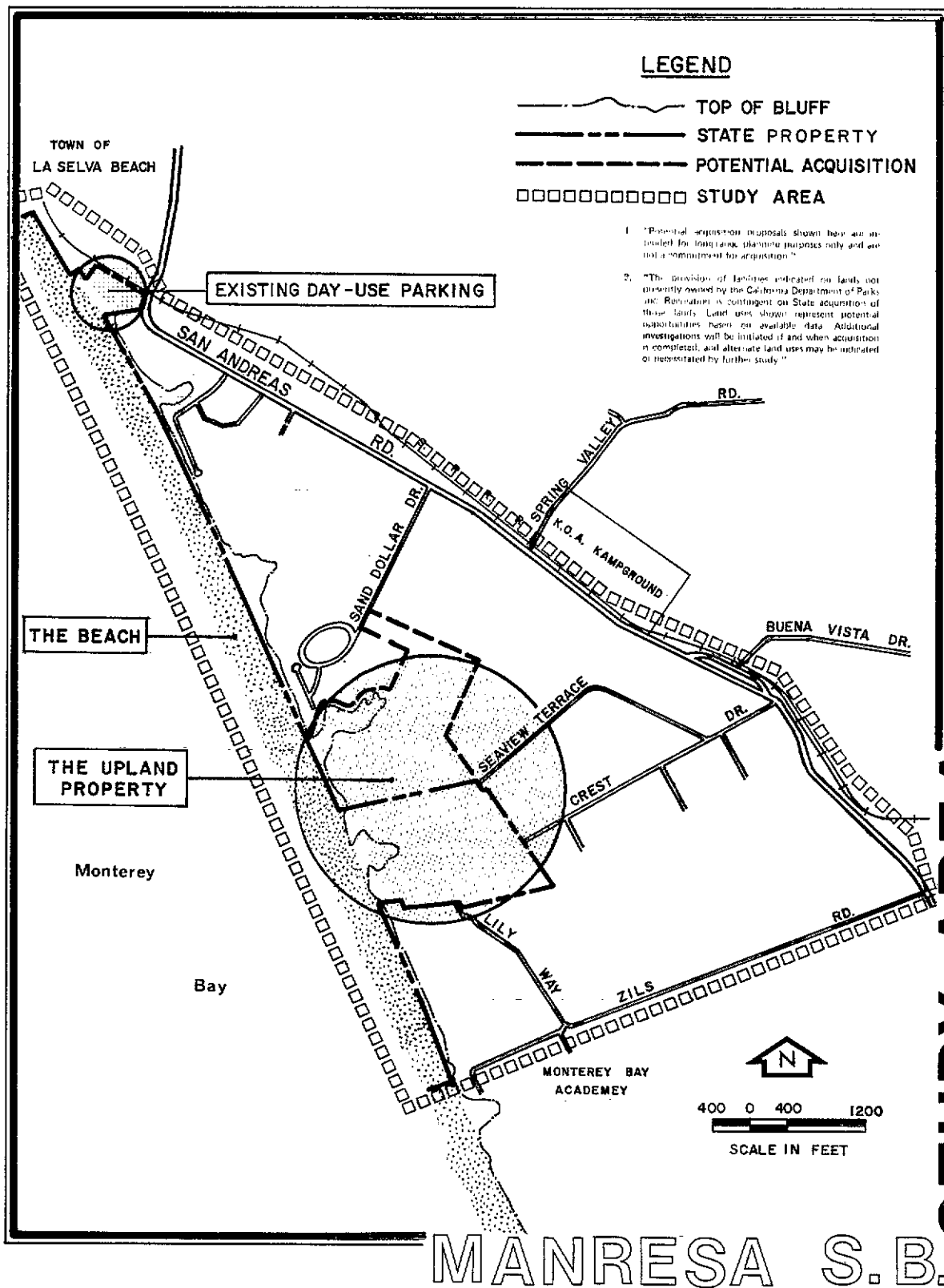
The Beach

The state beach extends nearly two miles from the day-use parking lot on the north, to its southern termination at the Monterey Bay Academy (A Seventh-Day Adventist High School). The wide, sandy beach is lined by 60 to 90-foot cliffs. It is primarily an undeveloped, natural beach, with some prominent exceptions. Two major residential developments impinge upon the beach — "Place de Mer," a quarter mile south of the day-use parking lot, and "Sand Dollar Beach," a half mile further south. Both developments are drastic contrasts to an otherwise natural beach. The steep cliffs were cut back, and the line of condominiums at each location extend down and visually affect the beach.

Existing Day-Use Parking Area

The existing day-use parking area, at the northern tip of the study area triangle, is an unlined lot that provides for more than 250 vehicles. The Southern Pacific Railroad parallels the parking area along its inland border; a privately owned vacation home lies immediately to the north, and a ravine, which is a county right-of-way, borders on the south. Access from San Andreas Road occurs at a sharp curve on the highway.

The remainder of the study area consists of more than 100 scattered single residences, the two housing developments, and approximately 300 acres of open fields and agriculture.



LEGEND

- TOP OF BLUFF
- STATE PROPERTY
- POTENTIAL ACQUISITION
- STUDY AREA

1. "Potential acquisition proposals shown here are intended for long range planning purposes only and are not a commitment for acquisition."
2. "The provision of facilities indicated on lands not presently owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation is contingent on State acquisition of those lands. Land uses shown represent potential opportunities based on available data. Additional investigations will be initiated if and when acquisition is completed, and alternate land uses may be indicated or necessitated by further study."

STUDY AREA

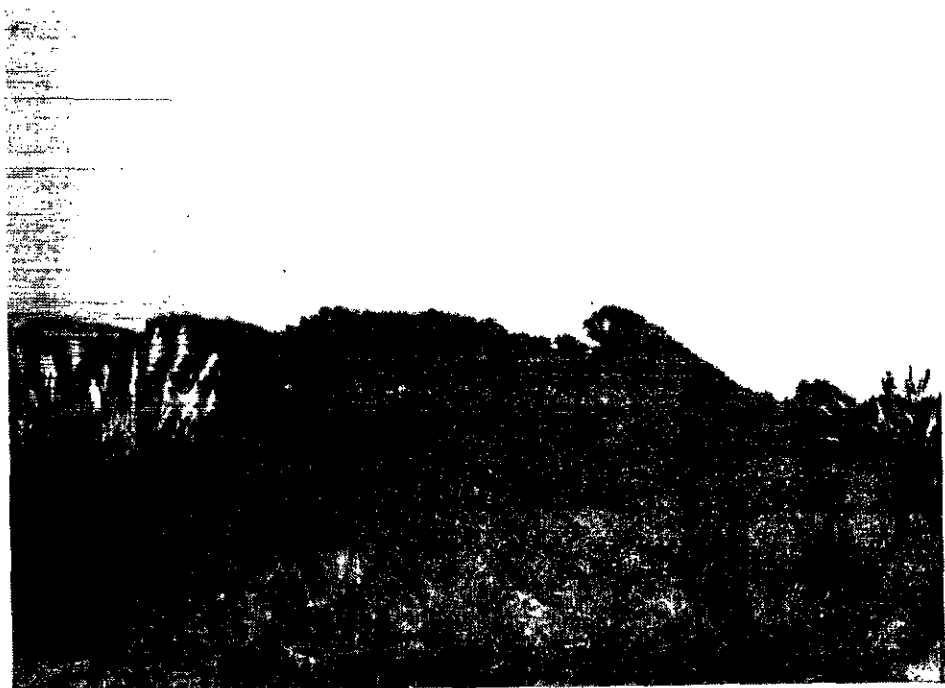
MANRESA S.B.

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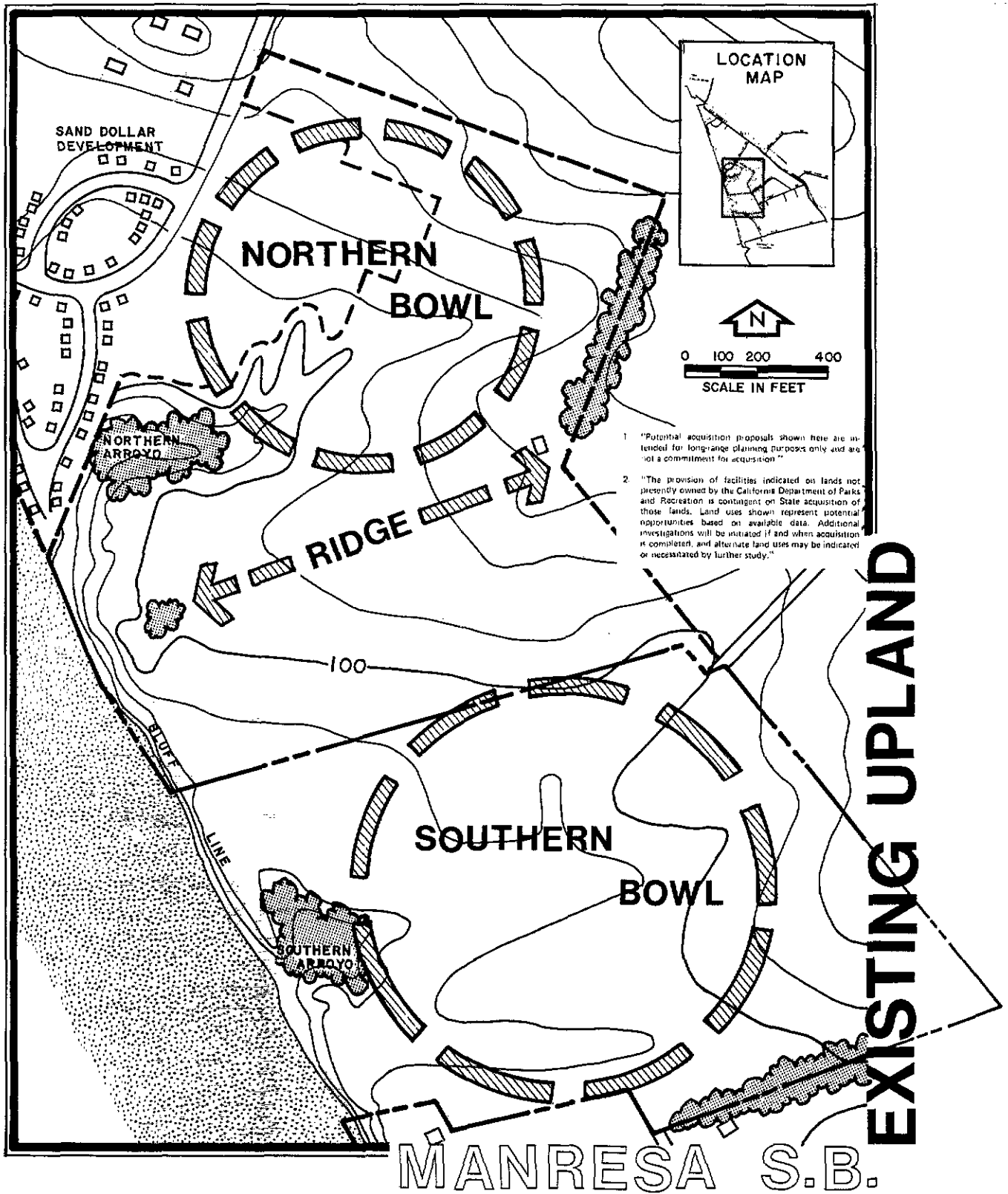
FIGURE 2



Bird's-eye view of southern arroyo and southern bowl



Northern arroyo as seen from Sand Dollar development

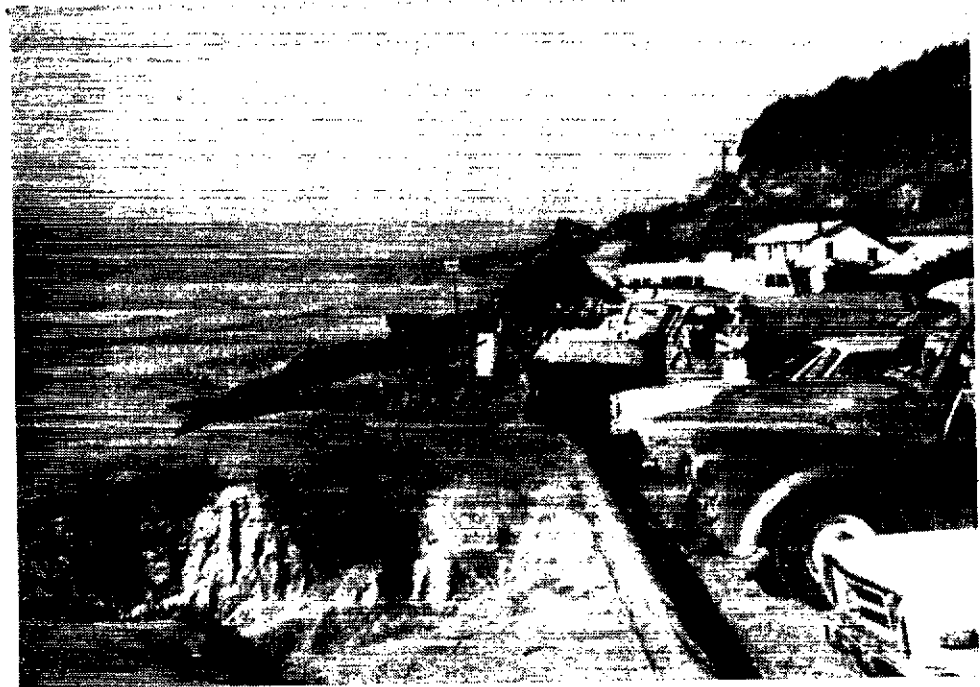


DESIGNER	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. EXISTING UPLAND	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
				APPROVED	SHEET NO.

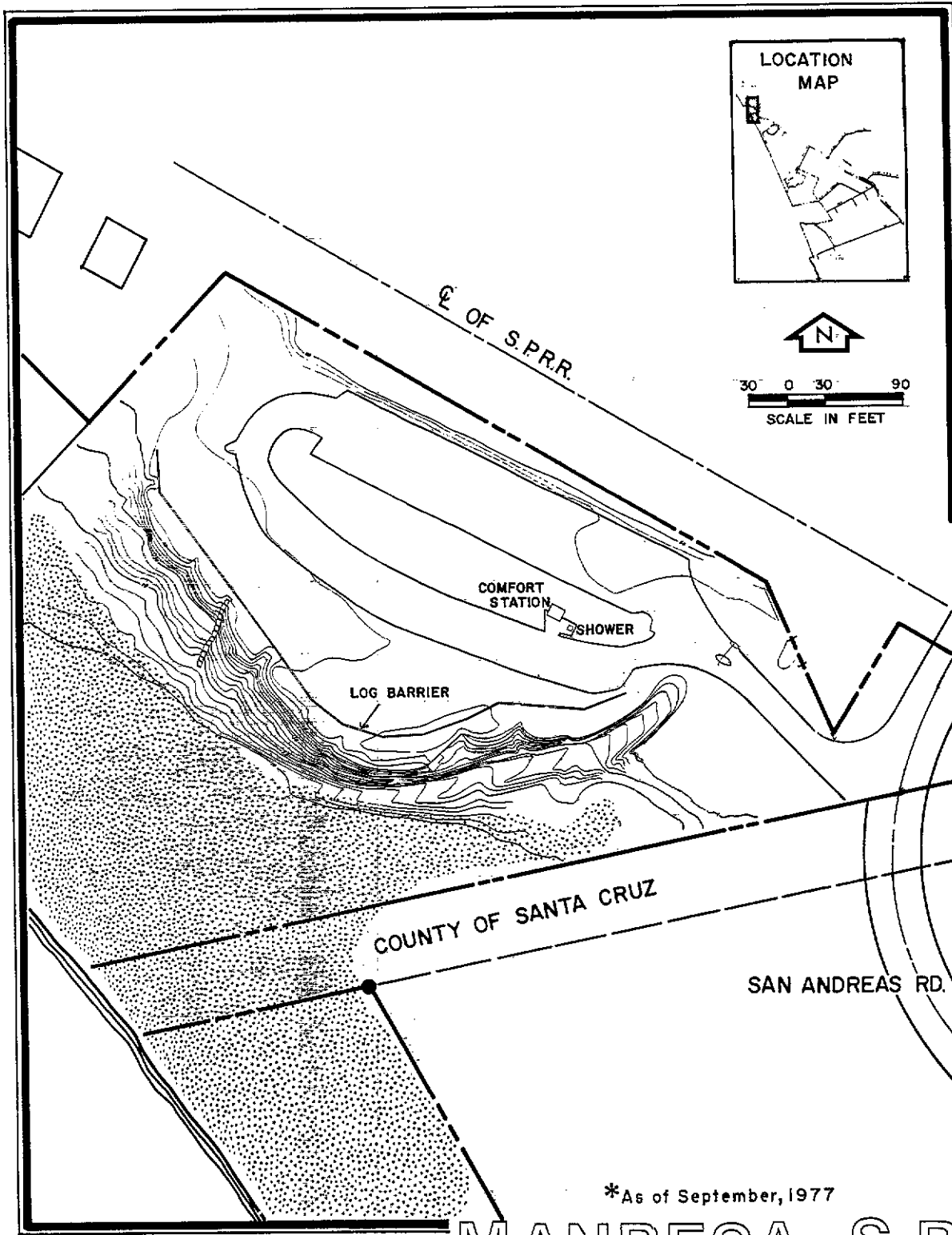
FIGURE 3
9



Existing day use parking



Existing day use parking



EXISTING DAY USE

*As of September, 1977

MANRESA S.B.

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. EXISTING DAY USE*	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN				APPROVED _____ DATE _____	SHEET NO.
CHECKED					

FIGURE 4

State Beach Ownership and Expansion

Manresa State Beach became part of the California State Park System in 1948. The initial acquisition consisted of 20.83 acres, which included 9,500 feet of ocean frontage and a 5-acre upland parcel at the north end of the beach. The upland parcel has since been used for parking.

Manresa remained this size until the 43.45-acre southern bowl was purchased in 1975 through funds provided by the 1974 Park Bond Act, bringing the park's total acreage to 68.28. As of January 1979, the department is attempting to acquire an additional 15 acres immediately north of the southern bowl.

Next to these 15 acres is a 39-acre parcel, the northern bowl, owned by Oceanview Investors. This group has formulated development proposals of varying sizes over recent years. In July 1978, the State Coastal Commission granted a permit for a proposed development of 97 condominium units. As a condition to this permit, the owners are required to dedicate about 29 acres to the Department of Parks and Recreation, for public beach access and recreational opportunities. This dedication, as of January 1979, is contingent on approval of the proposed 97-unit Canon Del Sol development by various government agencies.

Public Involvement

Preparation of a long-range plan requires a thorough knowledge of the site, the surrounding area, and the public's desires. Often, local and statewide users can provide beneficial knowledge about both local conditions and recreational needs which help assist in the preparation of a general plan. The planners research can be supplemented by results obtained from a well-balanced public involvement program. For the Manresa planning project, that program consisted of questionnaires, newsletters, public meetings and individual interviews. Public involvement will be discussed in detail in the land use element.

RESOURCE ELEMENT

RESOURCE ELEMENT

This element has been prepared pursuant to Section 5002.2 (amended September 1978) of the Public Resources Code, which requires that a resource element be prepared following classification or reclassification of a State Park System unit. In meeting this requirement, this plan contains: the declared purpose of the unit in terms of its classification as a state beach; a summary and evaluation of natural and cultural resources; a statement of allowable use intensity; and resource management policies necessary to protect important resource values of the unit for present and future generations to enjoy.

Unit Identification and Classification

Manresa State Beach is located on the central California coast, a little north of the midpoint of Monterey Bay. The upcoast end is directly opposite the community of La Selva Beach, while the city of Watsonville is about 11 kilometers (7 miles) distant. San Andreas Road, a regionally important county thoroughfare, touches the upcoast end of the unit, where it passes under the Santa Cruz branch of the Southern Pacific Railroad; further downcoast, San Andreas Road trends farther inland, and departs from the coastline. Manresa State Beach is about 3 kilometers (2 miles) in length, and its downcoast end is only 1.5 kilometers (1 mile) upcoast from the upcoast end of Sunset State Beach. Seacliff State Beach is located 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) upcoast from Manresa. All of these units are accessible from State Highway 1, which lies only 1-6 kilometers (0.5-4 miles) inland.

The present area of Manresa State Beach is 27.5 hectares (68.28 acres); it includes a strip of ocean at the base of a long line of bluffs, and an upland terrace parcel that was recently acquired for additional access and camping.

Manresa State Beach was classified in November 1962 as a state beach by the then State Park Commission. A state beach is a category of state recreation unit. The Public Resources Code defines these units:

5001.5 (d) **State recreation units.** State recreation units which consist of areas selected, developed, and operated to provide outdoor recreational opportunities. Such units shall be designated by the State Park and Recreation Commission by naming, in accordance with the provisions of this article relating to classification.

In the planning of improvements to be undertaken within state recreation units, consideration shall be given to compatibility of design with the surrounding scenic and environmental characteristics.

State recreation units may be established in the terrestrial or underwater environments of the state and shall include:

...

(4.) State beaches, consisting of areas with frontage on the ocean bays designed to provide swimming, boating, fishing, and other beach-oriented recreational activities. Coastal areas containing ecological, geological, or scenic resources of significant value shall be preserved within state wildernesses, state reserves, state parks, or natural preserves.

Resource Summary and Evaluation

Manresa State Beach lies within the Coastal Strip Landscape Province. This province includes lands along the immediate coastline of California and offshore islands, the flora and fauna of which are directly influenced by the maritime climate.

The following is a summary of the resource information contained in the Inventory of Features prepared for Manresa State Beach.

Climatic Characteristics

The coastal region of central California is an area with a relatively mild climate. Winter temperatures average around 7° to 13° Celsius (C) or 45° to 55° Fahrenheit (F). Temperatures do not dip often or far below the freezing level. Summer maximums most commonly range from 13° to 24° C (55° to 70° F), with a rare maximum of 32° C (90° F) during dry offshore winds. Rainfall occurs mostly from November through April, in conformance with the prevailing Mediterranean climate, and amounts to about 50 centimeters (20 inches) in an average year.

Scenic Values

The scenic values at Manresa State Beach are similar to those of other coastal portions of Monterey Bay. The shoreline is straight, characterized by sandy beach of rather uniform width, backed by bluffs that vary from 10 to 30 meters (30 to 90 feet) in height. Along the beach, the scene is not totally natural, since there are several places where condominiums and other residences on private land extend not only to the crest but actually down the face of the bluffs, thus intruding rather conspicuously into an otherwise relatively natural scene. From the crest of the bluffs, the view is more extensive. During clear weather, the Santa Cruz Mountains can be seen to the northwest, and the Monterey Peninsula, with its forest-clad hills, to the southwest.





Mouth of the southern arroyo

Geology and Soils

Surface geology of the Manresa State Beach area is primarily Pleistocene nonmarine terrace deposits.

Soils in the upland portion of the state beach consist primarily of Baywood loamy sand and Elder sandy loam, which are noted to have fairly rapid surface drainage. Sheet erosion is also rated as rather severe on some of the sloping areas. Terrace land in private ownership 1.2 kilometers (0.75 mile) upcoast from the state-owned upland terrace parcel is extensively eroded by sheet flow on 10 percent slopes. However, slopes on terrace lands within the present state beach boundary are generally less than 10 percent, and no evidence of significant sheet erosion was observed during field surveys in December 1977.

Two major arroyos empty into the ocean within the downcoast portions of the unit. The arroyo near the southern border of the site extends about 150 meters (500 feet) up into the terrace land, and is deeply gullied in a dendritic pattern. The other arroyo is next to the Sand Dollar development, and extends up into the terrace about 300 meters (1,000 feet). Eucalyptus growths established in these drainages are minimizing further gully erosion; however, increasing use of the arroyo mouth and adjacent bluff by visitors for access to the beach is causing accelerated erosion of significant proportions, particularly in the downcoast arroyo.



Blue gum eucalyptus (Eucalyptus globulus)

Plant Life

The flora of Manresa State Beach are highly modified from their natural condition, and reflect the influence of past agricultural land use. Vegetation occurring on most of the upland terrace is typical of that found in abandoned agricultural fields along the coast, with grasses and forbs dominant.

Dense stands of blue gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*) are established in the gullied main drainage at the coastal border of the upland terrace.

The bluff and adjacent border of the coastal terrace supports coastal sage scrub-type vegetation, including brushy species such as coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis* var. *consanguinea*), coastal sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*) and lizardtail (*Eriophyllum staechadifolium*). Low grasses and forbs are also found in the understory. As a result of past agricultural land use, the coastal sage scrub community is represented by only a narrow band of vegetation.

Several native species of coastal strand vegetation occur along the inner margin of the sandy beach, particularly in the downcoast portion of the unit, which apparently receives less visitor use. Common species established include sea-rocket (*Cakile maritima*), sand verbena (*Abronia* sp.), silver beachweed (*Franseria chamissonis*), saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*) and beach primrose (*Chamissonia cheiranthifolia*).

No rare or endangered plant species are known to occur in the unit.

Animal Life

The upland portion of the state beach supports species of birds typically associated with abandoned fields. Species commonly observed include starling, meadowlark, and several varieties of sparrows. Other wildlife that probably occur on the site include small mammals such as deer mouse, western harvest mouse, broad-handed mole, Botta pocket gopher, and black-tailed hare. Predators known to prey on some of these species in the unit include white-tailed kite and red-tailed hawk.

The coastal sage scrub community along the terrace border provides habitat for wildlife associated with shrubby vegetation, such as Allen's hummingbird, lesser goldfinch, house finch, white-crowned sparrow, rufus-sided towhee, and brush rabbit.

The intertidal region of Manresa State Beach and its offshore marine environments is fairly typical of the semi-protected sandy portions of the central California coast. Marine invertebrates encountered with some regularity in this intertidal region include mole or sand crab, spiny sand crab, purple olive snail, beach hopper, pismo clam, and various types of polychaete worms. Pismo clam populations have declined in recent years, and this may be correlated with an influx of sea otter into the region. During certain times of the year, large numbers of jellyfishlike hydrozoans, by-the-wind sailors, and jellyfish can be found washed up on the beach.

Shoreline invertebrates occurring in the intertidal zone, and organic material deposited ashore by wind and wave action, support a wide variety of shorebirds and other avian forms associated with sandy beaches. Common birds observed at Manresa State Beach include sanderling, whimbrel, willet, killdeer, western gull, Heermann's gull and surf scoter.

Some surf fishing occurs at Manresa State Beach. Most of the catch is composed of barred surfperch. Other fish caught from the beach include starry flounder, surf smelt, striped bass, steelhead, California halibut, and various types of salmon and surfperch.

Several marine mammals may be seen in the vicinity of Manresa State Beach. Sea otters occur seasonally in the area, and are of general interest to many people. The California gray whale (*Eschrichtius gibbosus*) can also be seen farther offshore, during its annual winter migration to Scammon Lagoon in Mexico, and its return journey to the Bering Sea in the spring.

Manresa State Beach is not known to provide important habitat for any known rare or endangered species. However, the endangered Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum croceum*) is known to occur at Ellicott Station, 0.8 kilometers (0.5 miles) northeast of the inland border of the property. This salamander is associated with temporary ponds in the winter, and with chaparral and wooded areas during the summer. These preferred habitats do not occur on the state beach property at this time, due to past heavy agricultural use of the land. The endangered brown pelican feeds in nearshore waters off much of the California coast, including Manresa State Beach.

Cultural Resources

Native American Era

No known Native American resources are located on state property at Manresa State Beach.

In the recent Native American and early historic periods, this beach was part of the territory occupied by the Costanoans. At the time of Spanish contact, Costanoan territory extended along the coast from the Golden Gate southward to Point Sur, and in the interior, from the confluence of the San Joaquin and Sacramento rivers southward along the crest of the Diablo Range. The drainage basin of the San Benito River marked the southernmost interior boundary. The Costanoans spoke a language of the Penutian family, reportedly having seven different dialects. They were linguistically and culturally related to the Coast Miwok.

Costanoan economy reflected generalized resource exploitation. Rabbits, small animals, and sea lions were hunted along the San Mateo coast. Whales, when washed ashore, provided abundant food on an irregular basis. The Costanoan communally hunted elk, deer, and at times, bears. They were also avid fisherman, catching salmon and trout from streams, as well as surf fish from the ocean. Mussels and other shellfish also constituted a major source of food. Seeds were substituted for acorns as a food source.

Euro-American Era

As with Native American resources, there are no known historic resources on the department's property. During the Mexican period, Manresa State Beach was part of the Rancho San Andreas Grant. Historically, the beach that fronted much of the Rancho San Andreas (Saint Andrew) was isolated, out of the way, and regularly bypassed, from the time of Captain Gaspar de Portola.

Euro-American occupation of the general area began in the early 1820s, when Jose Joaquin Castro, a soldier-settler at Branciforte, founded the rancho. He received two use grants, one in 1823, and a renewal in November 1833. When Castro died in 1838, the property was passed to his second wife and two of his sons by the first marriage. In 1852, Guadalupe Castro, grandson of Jose Joaquin, filed for ownership in the name of the family, and the patent deed was issued in late January 1876.

In the meantime, most of the beachfront property passed into other hands, and agriculture flourished in the form of potatoes, wheat, sugar beets, vines, orchards, and other truck crops. Agriculture remained supreme; a narrow-gauge railroad served the area, and several small stations, including nearby Leonards and Ellicott, appeared near the beach.

A commercial black-sand removal venture was established near the north end of Manresa State Beach before the beginning of the twentieth century. Details concerning this venture have proved elusive, but basically, in the nineteenth century, the operation was mining the sand for gold and whatever other minerals could be reclaimed. Following World War I, attempts were made to use the sand for production of a high-temperature paint; the operation was expensive and not financially successful. The last venture was quarrying the sand for use as naval ballast, due to its extreme weight when compacted.

During World War II, Manresa Beach was used by the U.S. Army. Camp McQuaide was built nearby, to house the troops stationed there. Today, the McQuaide property is known as "Monterey Bay Academy," operated by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

As roads improved, the beach drew more interest, but it was not until after World War II and the recreation boom that pressure for public control appeared. Large numbers of people sought recreational activities, and land was subdivided into numerous vacation lots. Small new towns appeared, beach resorts flourished, and there was a danger of total private control of beach access. It was in this postwar period that public ownership of Manresa Beach was ensured.

Existing Sites and Features

Manresa State Beach contains no known significant cultural sites or features.

Recreation and Interpretive Potential

The upcoast end of Manresa State Beach, the only portion that is now easily accessible to the public, has been moderately popular since its acquisition by the state.

The use of this unit has not been characterized by peripheral activities (such as model plane flying or hang gliding) as much as have some other coastal units, largely because of the difficulty of access to the boundary and to the bluff area except at the extreme upcoast end of the unit.

Rip currents (rip tides) are known to occur commonly at Manresa State Beach. This condition presents a potential safety hazard to surf users, particularly to those who do not know how to detect or swim away from these currents. Several lives have been lost in recent years along this section of the coastline because of the rip tides.

The interpretive potentials at Manresa State Beach are mainly beach oriented, similar to those at other beach units in the region.

Declaration of Purpose

Manresa State Beach is established to make available for public outdoor recreational use the sandy beach and related recreational and scenic values on the Santa Cruz County coastline near La Selva Beach. All public outdoor recreational activities that relate well to the ocean beach, and that can be accommodated safely without impairing the scenic or natural integrity of the site, may be provided.

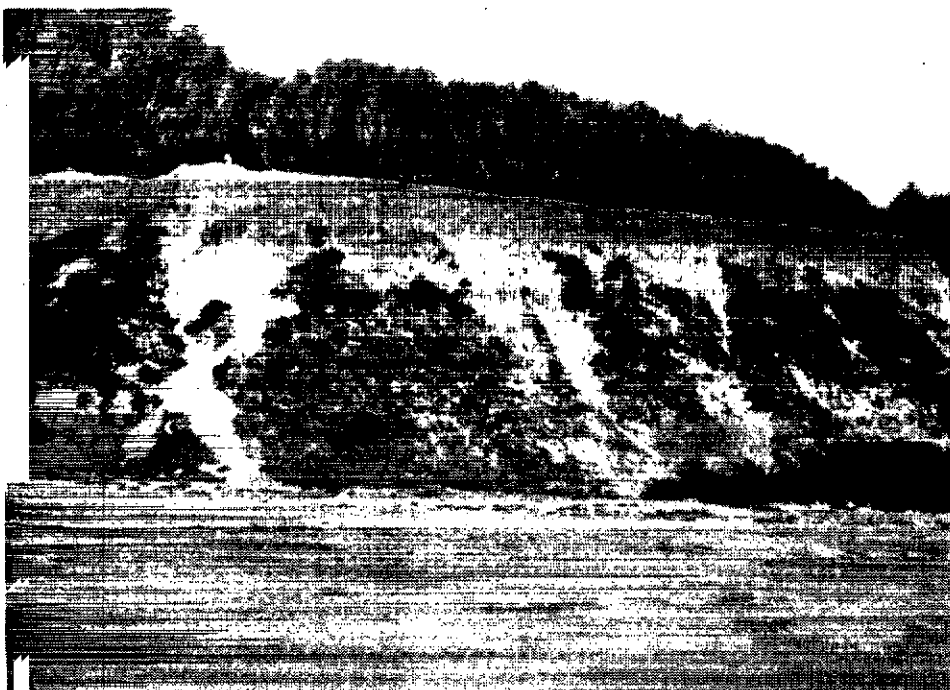
Declaration of Resource Management Policy

It shall be the resource management policy of the department to:

1. Provide and perpetuate recreational opportunities that relate well with the beach and ocean orientation of the unit.
2. Protect the ocean bluff area from any erosion, other than that which would naturally occur in the absence of human impact. All facilities developed on the uplands portion shall be designed so additional runoff from impervious surfaces (parking areas, roads, buildings, and trails) will not cause accelerated erosion of the bluffs or arroyos. Public access to the beach from the uplands shall be restricted to a few designated access points. These points shall be designed and constructed to facilitate foot traffic to the beach, with a minimum amount of modification to the bluff profile. Runoff from the uplands shall not be allowed to drain off the bluff along access points, unless suitable measures are taken to ensure that accelerated erosion will not occur.
3. Establish a buffer zone at least 15 meters (50 feet) wide on the terrace land adjacent to the downcoast bluff, where recreational facilities will be limited to access and interpretive trails. Native sage scrub-type vegetation shall be encouraged to reestablish in this area to provide a more natural landscape, native wildlife habitat, and a natural check on bluff erosion. This buffer zone shall also be established around the arroyos.
4. Protect the scenic values of the property, including both interior views and views from adjacent lands. All developments in the unit shall be adequately screened by careful siting of facilities and by plantings. In landscaping, plants native to the region shall be used to provide a more natural setting and native wildlife habitat. Exotic plants that may naturalize and encroach onto the natural communities shall be avoided.



5. Restrict upland development of roads and other public-use facilities to the flattest grades possible, to prevent erosion and soil slippage.
6. Encourage recreational and interpretive uses of the area, to the extent that they do not detract from, diminish, or harm the values present. In the planning of facilities for visitor use, consideration should be given to compatibility of design with the surrounding scene and environmental characteristics. In this regard, the department shall strive to ensure that the intensity and capacity of developments for public use are in proper relation to the ability of the natural and cultural resources to withstand the impact of visitor use.
7. Control animal populations such as ground squirrels only when necessary to minimize potential health hazards to the public. The reduction or elimination of preferred habitat of nuisance species shall be given principal consideration when controls become necessary.
8. Identify and block off all volunteer trails leading to the beach from the terrace that may adversely affect the environment.
9. Establish, to the greatest extent possible, plants native to the general area, and encourage their growth.
10. Arrest accelerated erosion of the low bluff below the northernmost Jay-use parking area through proper redesign and construction of visitor access trails and site drainage.
11. Protect and interpret any Native American or other cultural resources that may be discovered at the state beach.
12. Assure that all planning, operational, and resource management activities that occur at the state beach are carried out in accordance with the department's Resource Management Directives.



Cliff face of southern arroyo

Allowable Use Intensity

State law (Section 5019.5, Public Resource Code) requires the department to prepare a land carrying capacity survey before any recreation development plan is made. To determine "carrying capacity," the department is using "allowable use intensity," which is a more recreation-oriented term.

The determination of allowable use intensity has three basic components: (1) management objectives; (2) visitor perceptions and attitudes; and (3) impact of any development and use of natural and cultural resources (ecological and cultural resources sensitivity determination).

Management objectives for Manresa State Beach are generally set forth in the statutes defining a state beach, in the Unit Identification and Classification section of this report.

Visitor perceptions and attitudes are sometimes referred to as the "social carrying capacity," and involve assessing what recreationists perceive as an acceptable recreational environment; what degree of isolation or crowding is acceptable; what amount of site deterioration is acceptable; and other perceptions and attitudes pertaining to the quality of visitors' recreational experiences. These factors are very difficult to quantify, and are related to the social development and environmental awareness of the society.




The third component in determining allowable use intensity involves an analysis of the natural and cultural resources to determine the physical limitation of the area for development of facilities, and the ability of the ecosystem to withstand human impact (ecological sensitivity). This analysis is based on a number of environmental considerations, including: soils (their erodability and compaction potential); geologic factors (such as geomorphic stability and relief); hydrologic considerations (including potential for pollution of surface waters, or for depleting surface and ground waters through water use); vegetation characteristics (such as durability, fragility, and regeneration rates); and wildlife considerations (such as population levels and stability, and tolerance to human activity). Additional considerations include rare and/or ecological sensitivities and/or endangered plants and animals, unique botanic features or ecosystems, and examples of ecosystems of regional or statewide significance (marshes, riparian areas, and vernal pools).

Based on the preceding criteria, allowable use intensity for Manresa State Beach has been determined and delineated in Figure 5. Included in this figure is a general description of the types of activities that may be appropriate in the categories of high, moderate and low uses. These activities are given for general planning purposes only. On-site field investigations by qualified resource specialists will be necessary before design and construction of specific facilities that may result in significant modification of the existing environment. Site-specific investigations may indicate that higher or lower use intensity would be appropriate.




1 "Potential acquisition proposals shown here are intended for long-range planning purposes only and are not a commitment for acquisition."

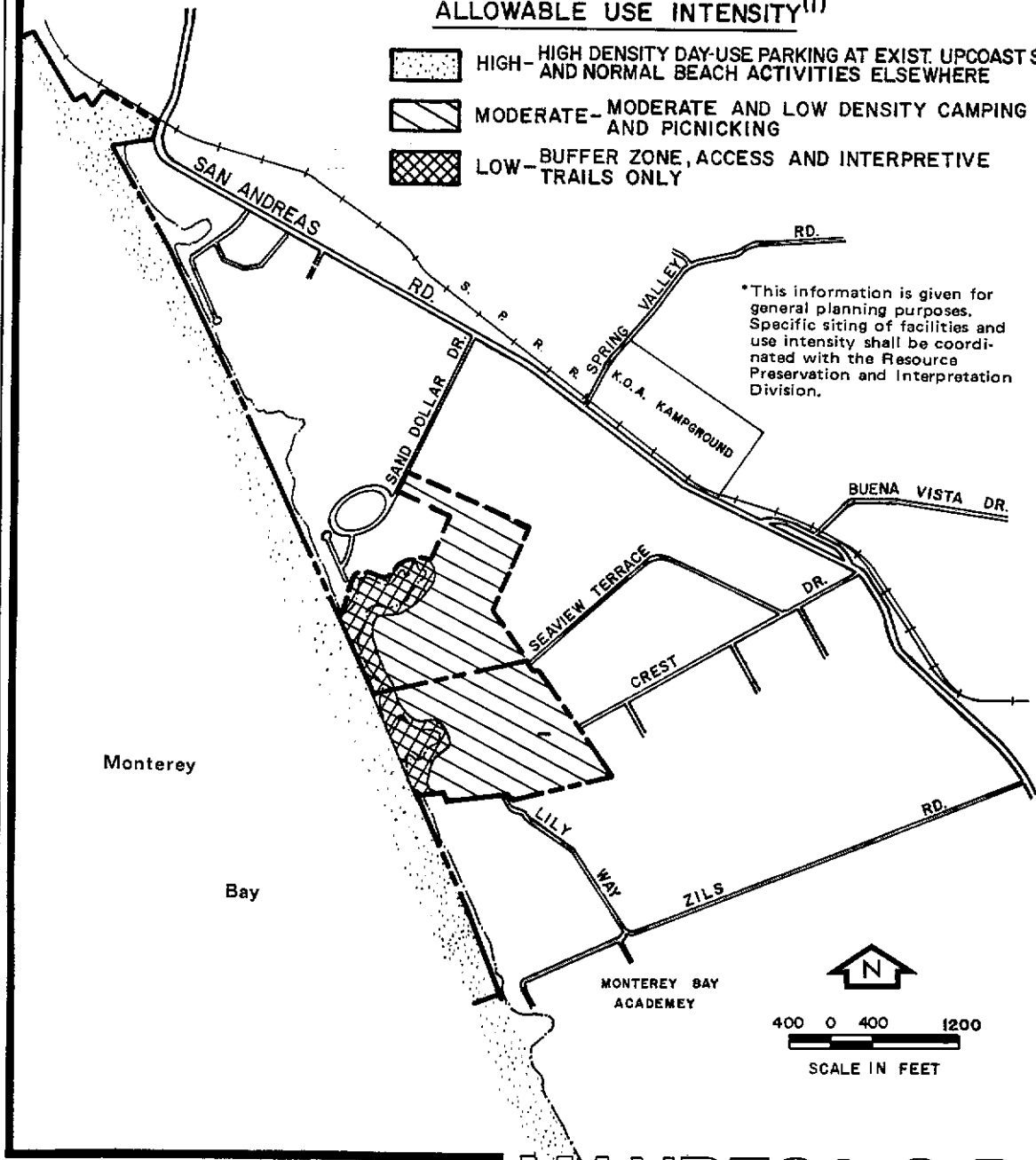
2 "The provision of facilities indicated on lands not presently owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation is contingent on State acquisition of those lands. Land uses shown represent potential opportunities based on available data. Additional investigations will be initiated if and when acquisition is completed, and alternate land uses may be indicated or necessitated by further study."

LEGEND

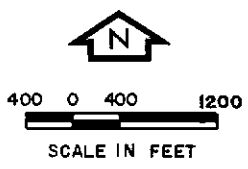
-  TOP OF BLUFF
-  STATE PROPERTY
-  POTENTIAL ACQUISITION

ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY⁽¹⁾

-  HIGH - HIGH DENSITY DAY-USE PARKING AT EXIST. UP-COAST SITE AND NORMAL BEACH ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE
-  MODERATE - MODERATE AND LOW DENSITY CAMPING AND PICNICKING
-  LOW - BUFFER ZONE, ACCESS AND INTERPRETIVE TRAILS ONLY



*This information is given for general planning purposes. Specific siting of facilities and use intensity shall be coordinated with the Resource Preservation and Interpretation Division.

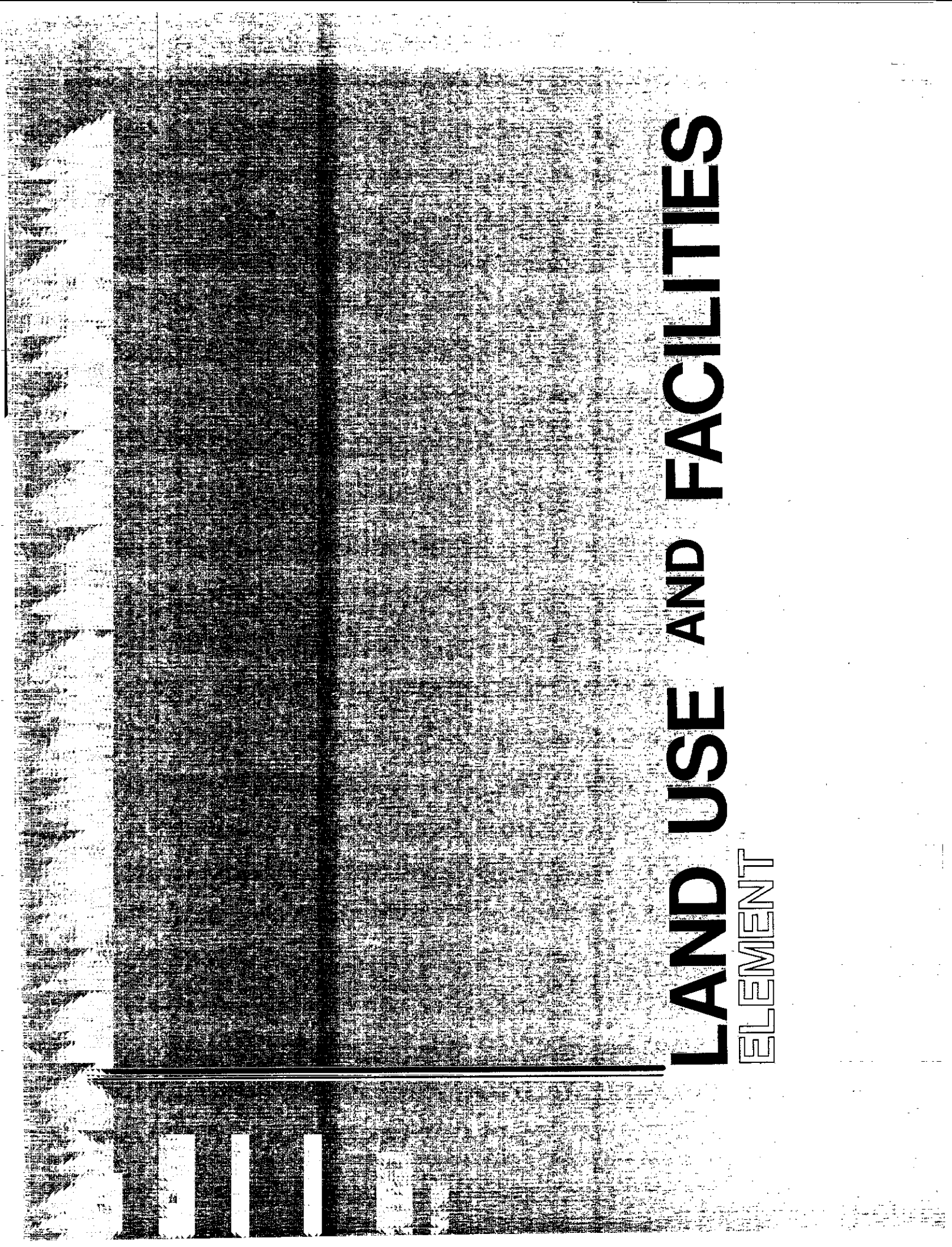


USE INTENSITY

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DRAWN CHECKED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. ALLOWABLE USE INTENSITY	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
				APPROVED	DATE

FIGURE 5
25



LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT



The upland property at Manresa State Beach

LAND USE AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

Existing and Land Use Facilities

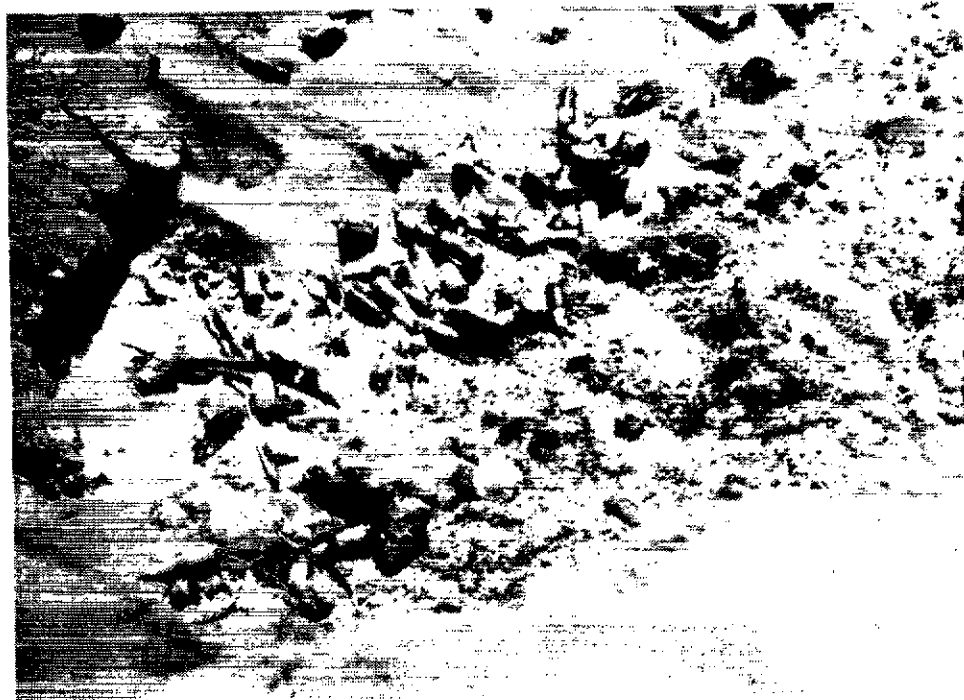
State Properties

Upland Property Land Use

The current upland property land use is characterized by its recent vegetative transition and its existing public use.

The 87-acre marine terrace has recently undergone certain obvious changes. The vegetative character has twice been changed from the original ground-cover, consisting of the coastal scrub plant community. More than 30 years ago, much of the property was affected by commercial agriculture, which completely changed its character. However, during the past ten years, the land has reverted to its present condition as abandoned farmland. Native shrub species, such as baccharis and lupine, are being naturally reestablished.

Because of the ocean's great popularity and increasing use, new coastal access points are continually being sought by a beach-hungry public. In recent years, the Manresa upland area has been "discovered" by an increasing number of people. Local residents have pointed out that this increased popularity has caused the area to become a "de facto park."

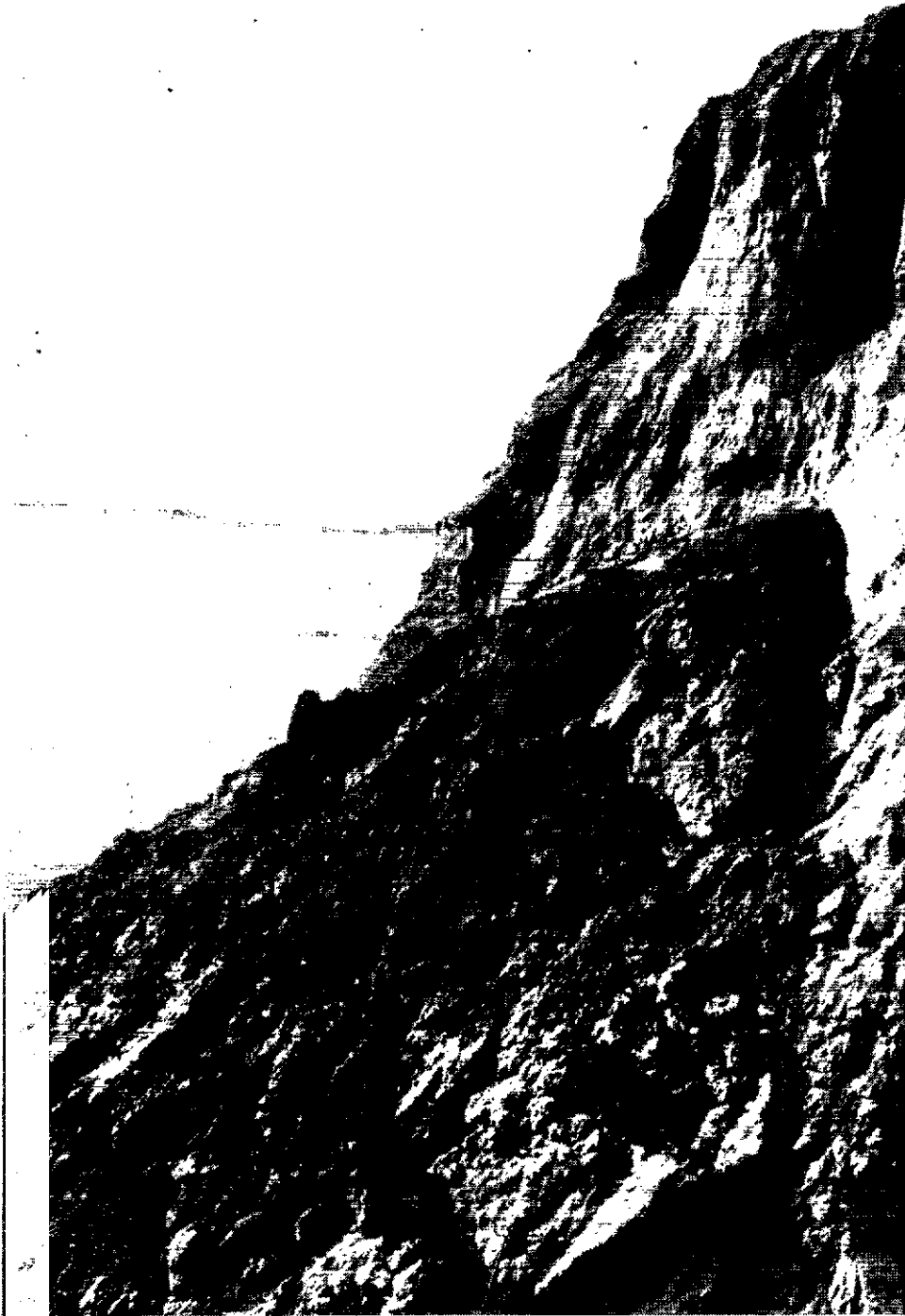


Additional increases in use of the Manresa upland have resulted through newspaper articles that publicize it as a beach access. Recent editions of both the *San Jose Mercury* and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian* provided detailed directions on getting to what they call "Hidden Beach." Preparation of this general plan may have contributed to popularization of the upland property as a beach access.

The increase in public use is causing a number of problems on the upland, as well as on the rest of the state beach.

1. Indiscriminate beach access at varied points over the bluff and through the northern arroyo is accelerating bluff erosion and destroying soil-retaining vegetation.
2. Illegal off-highway vehicle use, particularly motorcycles, is aggravating erosion problems in the interior of the southern arroyo, and is resulting in a noise pollution problem for adjacent residents.
3. Impact on private property is increasing. Beach visitors use condominium breezeways as bathrooms, and searches for firewood have resulted in vandalism of wood stairways and railings.
4. Tin cans and broken bottles litter the beach, arroyos, and bluff.
5. Wild parties in the arroyos and on the bluffs adversely affect the natural environment and disturb neighbors.

Uncontrolled and increased public use poses major threats to the natural resources on the Manresa upland. The current use, without facilities, control, and supervision, will result in further deterioration of the natural beauty and stability of Manresa State Beach.



Uncontrolled public use has caused soil compaction and loss of slope vegetation. This has resulted in the increased undercutting of slopes near the southern arroyo.



Beach Land Use

Access to the beach is at both public and private points. The state owned parking lot at the north of the beach provides access for most of Manresa's visitors. Other popular routes are through the state upland property, and public stairways provided by the Place De Mer and Sand Dollar housing developments. Access is also gained over private property at two other locations: the abandoned begonia gardens, and a small arroyo at the southern edge of the property. These access points provide opportunities for a variety of beach uses.

The wide, sandy beach is excellent for jogging, strolling, and collecting. The ocean here provides a large number of clamshells and sand dollars for amateur collectors, and the finely textured sand makes Manresa a good sunbathing location. This area was once popular for its clamming, but the northern migration of the sea otter population suddenly halted that activity in 1974. Legal-sized clams are nearly impossible to find anywhere along the Santa Cruz coast, because the otters (which thrive on clams) continue their sweep up California. Surf fishing continues to be popular. A variety of fish are caught, including surfperch, surf smelt, and flatfish.

The beach at Manresa enjoys very little public use, compared to some other state beaches along the Santa Cruz coast. According to county figures in August 1976, Manresa's current beach use is 8 percent of the popular Twin Lakes State Beach. An additional 70 persons per acre would increase Manresa to approximately the same degree of density as Twin Lakes.

Since it is an undeveloped state beach, Manresa has no budgeted ranger patrol of its own, and relies on Sunset State Beach to supply part-time ranger and maintenance services. This lack of full-time beach supervision has allowed some activities to occur that are contrary to State Park System regulations. These include, infrequently, horseback riding, nude sunbathing, and raucous late-night parties. More frequently, people camp overnight on the beach, four-wheel-drive vehicles are driven on the beach and upland, unleashed dogs roam free, and thoughtless people litter bottles and cans.

The ocean off Manresa contains ripcurrents and other hazards. Like many California beaches, Manresa can be hazardous. Aside from the colder water, surf conditions at Manresa are similar to those at Huntington State Beach, a popular swimming beach in southern California. A large surf often develops, and it creates strong, long riptides. Manresa beach, unlike Huntington, is unsupervised, without lifeguards or a regular ranger patrol.

In the past, clambers have drowned as they stepped into off-shore holes, or lost their footing in a large wave. With the present decline of clamming, there have been fewer accidents, but off-shore holes continue to be a hazard.

There are two hazardous swimming signs posted on the beach. One is near the existing parking lot, and the other is near the access from the southern arroyo of the upland property.

Manresa continues to be a popular surfing beach. With the use of wetsuits to ward off the cold water and air, surfing has become nearly a year-round pastime. Wading and water play are seasonal, with summer weekends showing heaviest use.





Various beach uses, both legal . . .



. . . and illegal

Existing Day-Use Parking Land Use

The parking area at the northern tip of the state beach is the only location currently signed as "Manresa State Beach." The nonstriped lot allows an indiscriminate arrangement of cars, trucks, and recreational vehicles. Current capacity is estimated at well over 200 vehicles. When the lot becomes full, vehicles also crowd a dirt area just outside the entrance gate, and park along San Andreas Road, making that road more dangerous. Two small restrooms, centrally located on the plateau, are the only structures in this parking area.

Portions of the bluffs are eroding badly, due particularly to inadequate access routes, which promote indiscriminate public access.



Adjacent Properties

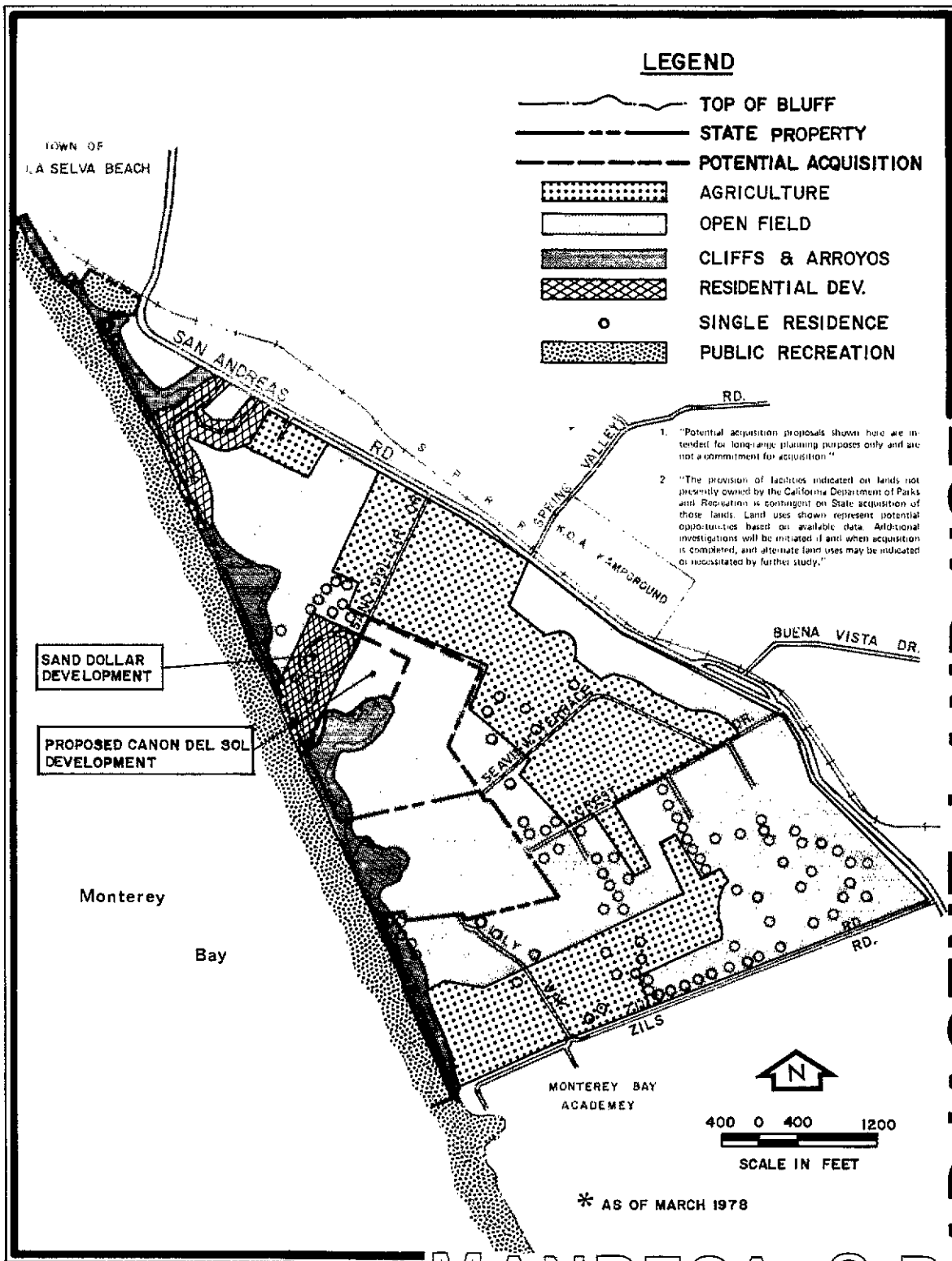
Upland Adjacent Land Use

The upland property shares its inland boundaries with agricultural lands and scattered housing to the south and east, and a housing development to the north.



Agricultural Lands

Soil and climatic conditions of the area provide good environments for various forms of commercial agriculture. Crops grown on agricultural land next to the north bowl include brussel sprouts, leaf lettuce, and squash. Union Carbide has grown celery transplants in greenhouses directly inland from the southern bowl. Additionally, flowers are grown commercially nearby. Large rose greenhouses are operated on the coast between the upland property and Monterey Bay Academy. Other growing fields are found among the scattered housing, between Zills and Crest Roads; these produce daisies, iris, and other cut flowers.



LEGEND

- (wavy line) — TOP OF BLUFF
- (dashed line) — STATE PROPERTY
- (dotted line) — POTENTIAL ACQUISITION
- ▨ (stippled) — AGRICULTURE
- (white) — OPEN FIELD
- ▨ (diagonal lines) — CLIFFS & ARROYOS
- ▨ (cross-hatched) — RESIDENTIAL DEV.
- (circle) — SINGLE RESIDENCE
- ▨ (dotted) — PUBLIC RECREATION

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ADJACENT LAND USE

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DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B ADJACENT LAND USE *	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN				APPROVED _____ DATE _____	SHEET No.
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FIGURE 6

Housing

Single-unit housing has been mushrooming in the study area. In the past two years, the increase in homes has been especially evident between Crest Drive and Zills Road. Some of these houses are immediately adjacent to the southern bowl, but most of the housing is out of view from the upland property.

Constructed in 1969, the Sand Dollar housing development is slowly increasing its density as vacant lots are filled. The development covers 12.6 acres, with a row of condominiums lining the beach, and single-family residences packed tightly throughout. Construction of this project necessitated a drastic change in the natural topography. The cliff was graded off to allow for the row of condominiums, and great amounts of additional soil filled up an entire arm of the adjacent arroyo.



Sand Dollar housing development

On July 5, 1978, the State Coastal Commission granted a coastal permit to Oceanview Investors to build the Canon del Sol condominium development. This proposed development would occupy an 11-acre triangular site in the northern bowl, between the Sand Dollar development and the southern bowl. The project calls for 97 condominium units, tennis courts, and a recreational facility. Conditions of the coastal permit require the developer to dedicate about 29 acres of land to the State Department of Parks and Recreation. Included in this dedication are landscaping, restroom facilities, fencing, a stairway to the beach, access road, and a 40-vehicle parking lot.

Traffic

Regional and local circulation patterns were thoroughly studied in preparation of this general plan. Studies show that San Andreas Road currently provides the most popular access to Manresa State Beach, and will continue to be the best route for visitors to the beach in the foreseeable future. It was also shown that bicyclists, as well as autos, will be traveling San Andreas Road, since it is one leg of the Bicentennial Bike Route.

Through the public involvement program, local residents expressed strong concern over the traffic on San Andreas Road. County figures show that while traffic is indeed increasing, the average daily traffic is half of the road's optimum capacity. The department foresees no major congestion problems in the future.

Access from San Andreas Road to the upland property is best made down Sand Dollar Drive. Site distance at its intersection with San Andreas Road is adequate, and the road's average daily traffic is well below half the optimum traffic flow capacity.

A detailed discussion on access alternatives and traffic statistics can be found in Appendix A.



Bicyclists on San Andreas Road (the Bicentennial Bike Route)

Public Use and Concerns

Existing Recreational Use/Santa Cruz Coast

Visitor Origin

According to the Park and Recreation Information System (PARIS), most people enjoying the Santa Cruz coast, (between Natural Bridges and Sunset state beaches) visit from outside the area. Fifty-eight percent originate from Santa Clara County, the San Francisco Bay Area, or the Central Valley. The remainder come from Santa Cruz County (16 percent), Monterey and San Benito counties (3 percent), Southern California (13 percent) and out of state (10 percent).

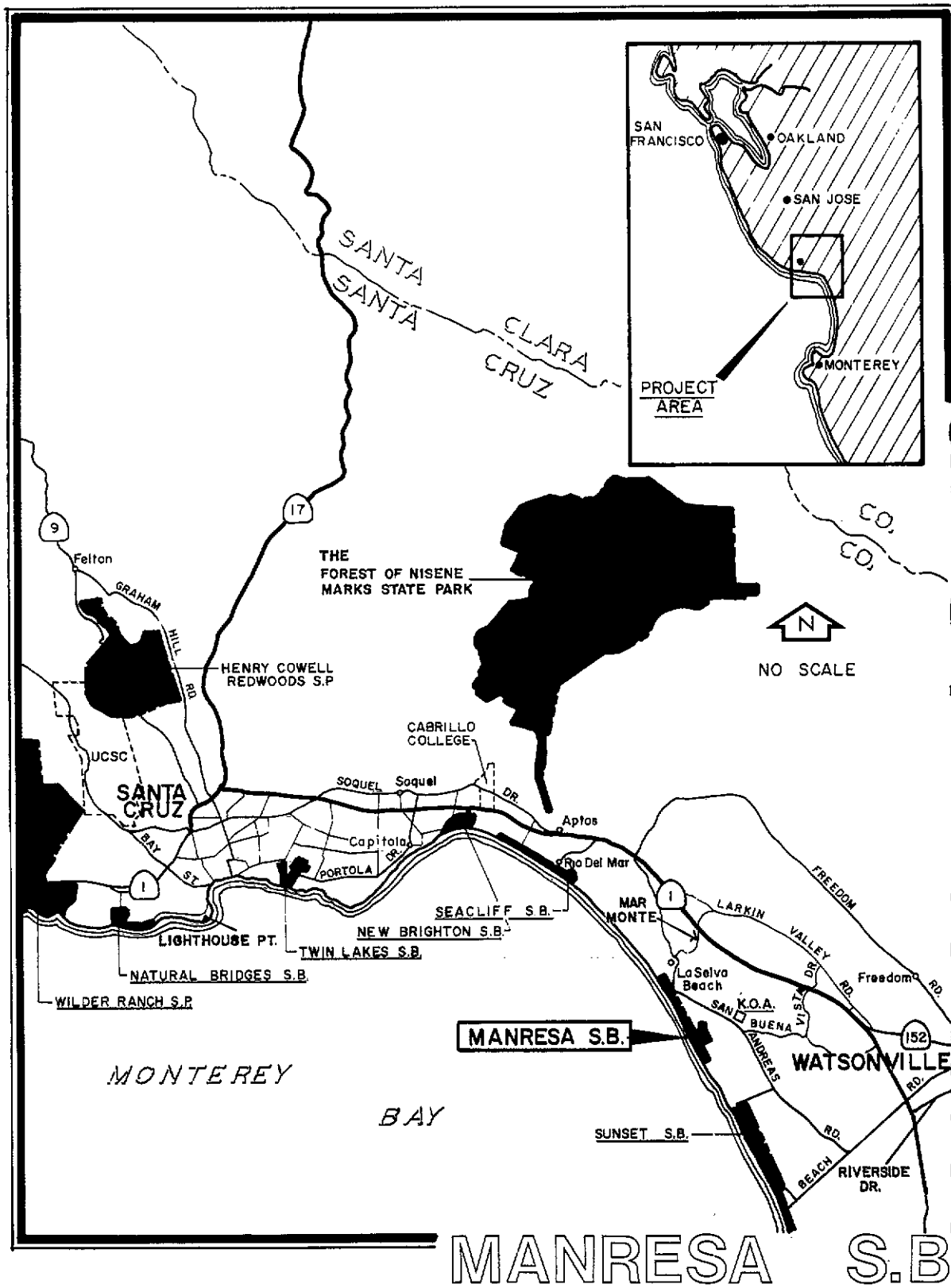
Existing Recreation – Day Use

According to data from Santa Cruz County, the most popular and most heavily used beaches are those lying along the south-facing coast between Lighthouse Point and Seacliff State Beach. During the summer months, the average density between these two points ranges from 75 persons per acre at Santa Cruz Beach to 27 persons per acre at Seacliff State Beach. Further south, Manresa averages about 6 persons per acre. Above Lighthouse Point, the northern beaches average between 1.1 persons per acre at Davenport and 26 persons per acre at "red, white and blue" beach.



In Santa Cruz County, State Park System units that currently provide day beach use include (from north to south): Wilder Ranch State Park, Natural Bridges State Beach, Twin Lakes State Beach, New Brighton State Beach, Seacliff State Beach, Manresa State Beach, and Sunset State Beach.

Attendance is drastically increasing at State Park System units in Santa Cruz County. Between 1966 and 1976, visitor use increased more than 107 percent, while facilities have expanded at a fraction of that rate.

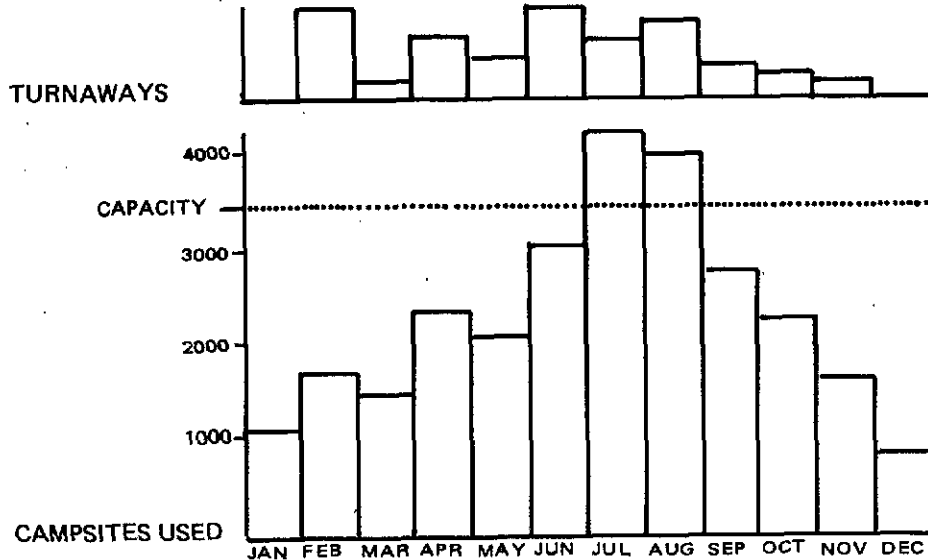


LOCAL COASTAL PARKS

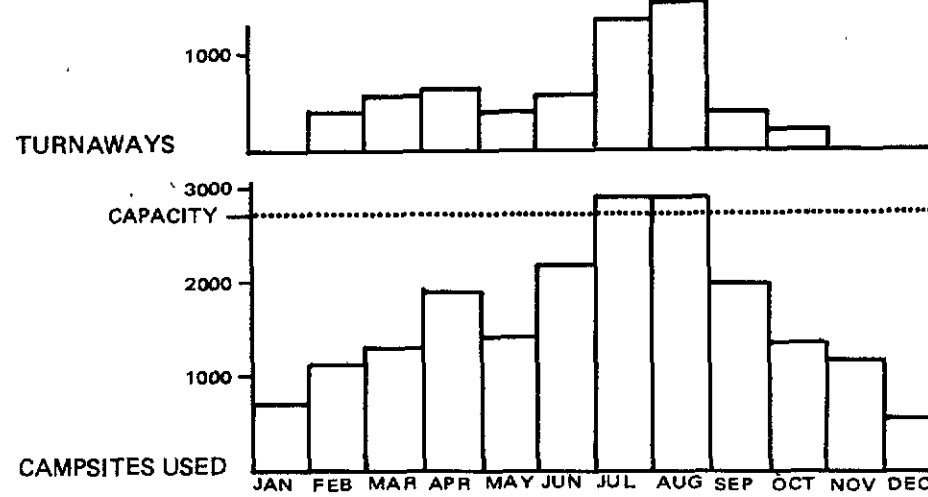
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LOCAL PARK SYSTEM UNITS

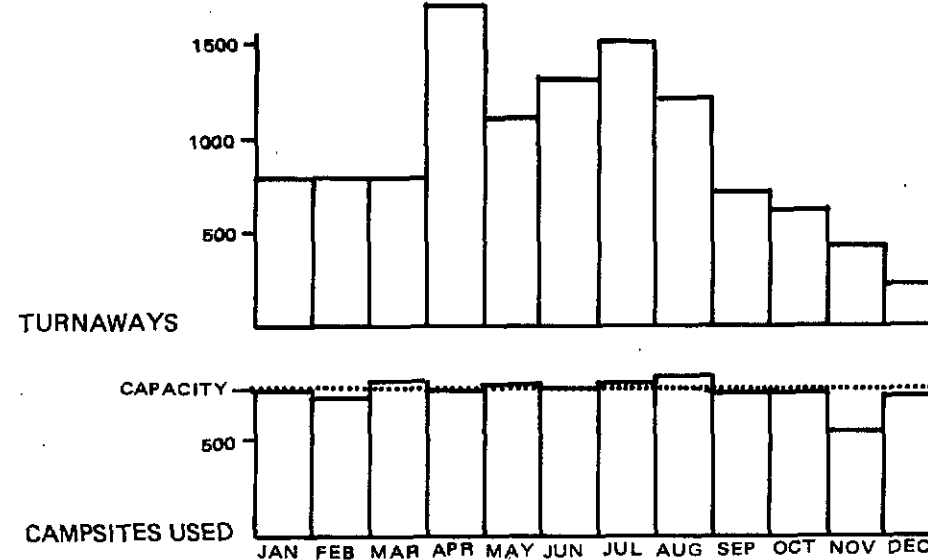
NEW BRIGHTON STATE BEACH

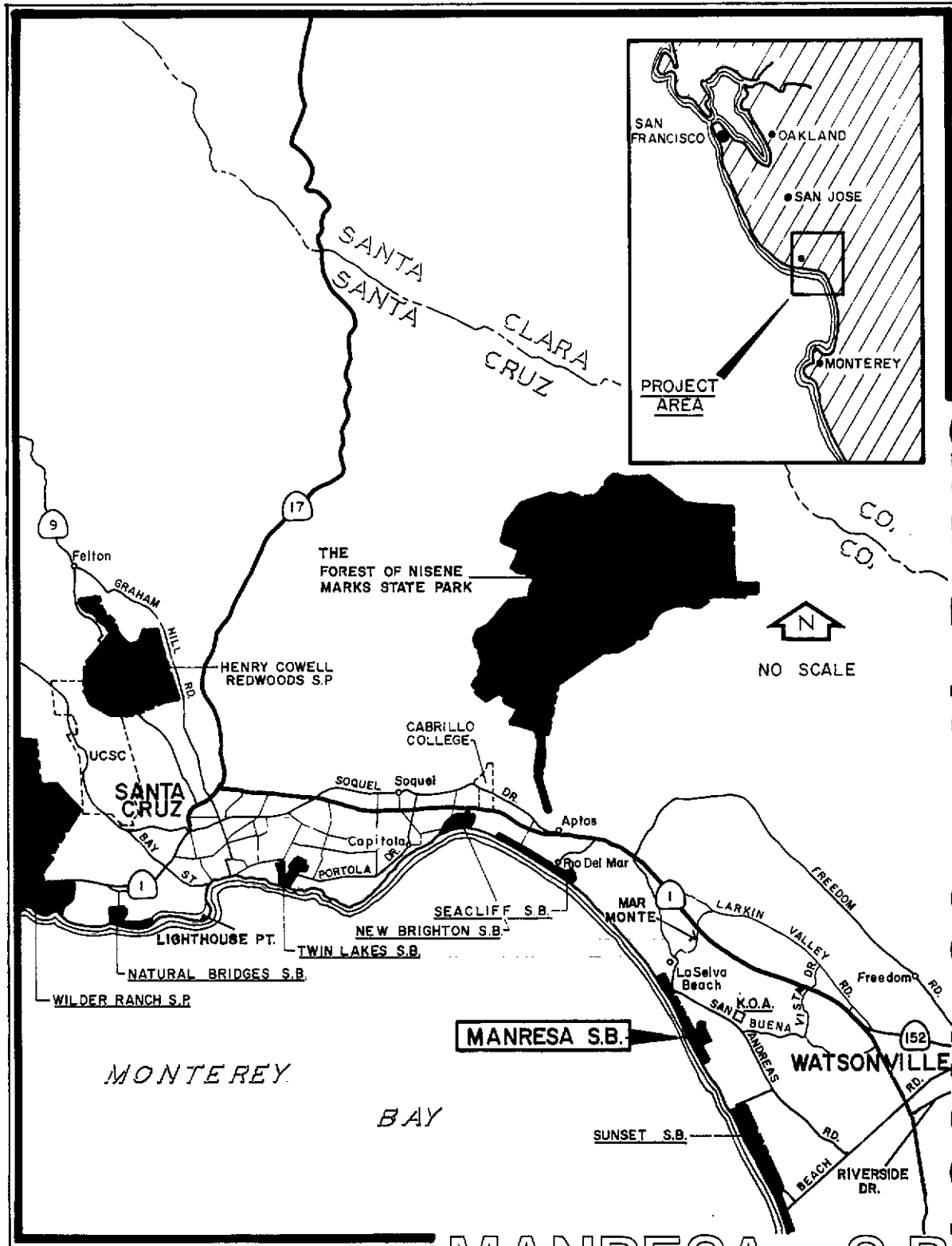


SUNSET STATE BEACH



SEACLIFF STATE BEACH





LOCAL COASTAL PARKS

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MANRESA S.B.
LOCAL PARK SYSTEM UNITS

Existing Recreation — Camping

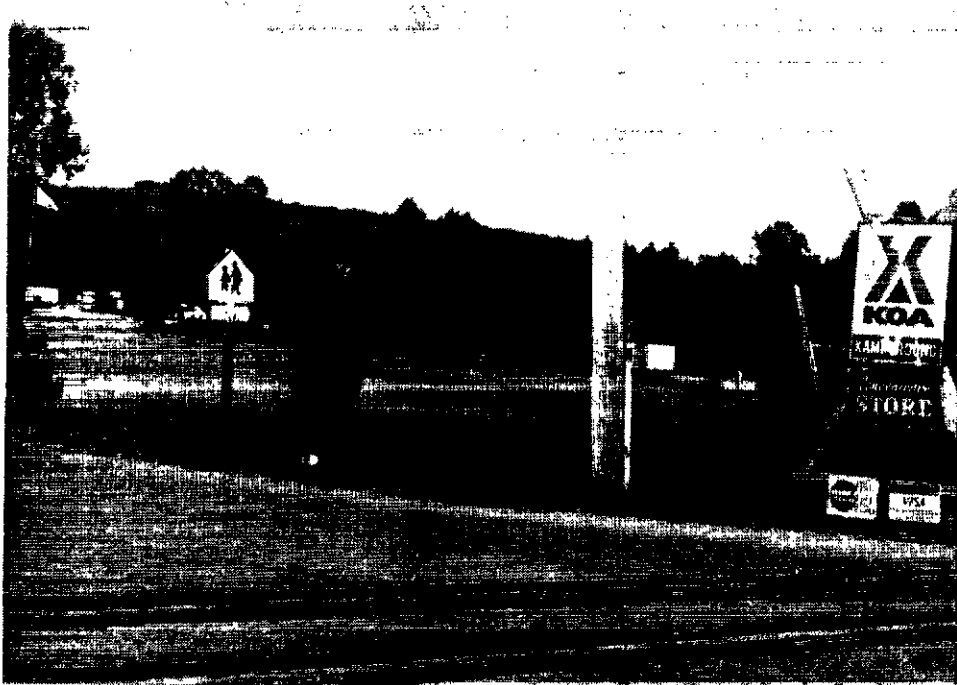
Santa Cruz's favorable climate and resort character make it a popular destination for thousands of tourists each year. Many of these visitors are campers.

Three coastal state beaches serve as the major source of camping units. Seacliff State Beach provides ocean frontage parking stalls, with full utility hookups for 26 recreational vehicles. The densely forested campground at New Brighton State Beach contains a loop/spur layout, with 115 camping units atop the 90-foot-high upland. At Sunset State Beach, south of Manresa, sand dunes separate 90 camping units and one group camp area from the beach. Private campgrounds also provide a portion of the coastal camping. The intensively developed K.O.A. Kampground, which provides 233 RV camping units one-half mile inland from Manresa State Beach, is the largest.

Camping Demand

The 480 camping units on the Santa Cruz Coast are often full. The K.O.A. Kampground is completely full from July to September. Recreational vehicles and tent campers fill Sunset State Beach each weekend from April to October. At New Brighton State Beach, between July 1976 and June 1977, 21,134 families were accommodated, while 8,270 were turned away at the park entrance. In August 1976, an average of 77 families were turned away each day from New Brighton State Beach, and 35 from the camping facilities at Sunset.

In addition to turnaways at the park unit, a substantial number of people are refused camping spaces through the Ticketron Reservation System.



KOA Kampground on San Andreas Road

Public Involvement

History

In early December 1977, the Manresa Planning Team distributed a questionnaire, both statewide and in the local Santa Cruz area. This questionnaire attempted to elicit information on: 1) any recreational needs that might be met by the upcoming plans for the Manresa upland property; 2) specific site constraints; and 3) any public proposals for management of Manresa State Beach. Sample responses and copies of questionnaires can be found in Appendix B.

In addition to the questionnaires, personal contact with local citizens was sought through a series of open meetings. In the initial planning stages, the relationship between the department and local residents was often strained. However, both sides later worked together in a positive, cooperative manner. This General Plan owes much of its content to the hard work of local citizens.



Local design committee confers with Parks Department staff person

The first public meeting was held in Aptos, California, on December 13, 1977. Initially, the people were hostile, demanding to see the state's plan for Manresa State Beach. However, the meeting's purpose was to obtain local public concern regarding the future of the unit; no plan existed at that time. Eventually, many on-site problems and future management desires were voiced, which proved helpful to the planners.

In the months following the first meeting, the department investigated these concerns (e.g., erosion, traffic, and degree of development) and also sought further information. A preliminary design was formulated, based primarily on:

- Statewide recreational needs.
- Local public desires.
- Department policy.
- On-site conditions.



On May 23, 1978, the preliminary design was presented to local residents for their review. Reaction to the plan was strongly negative. Many people had told the planners at the first meeting that they did not want any development on the upland; at the second meeting, they saw a plan with development proposed. Consequently, many felt that none of the concerns from the first meeting had been reflected in the preliminary design. Through the months of studying alternatives, the planners felt a concept of "no development" was not a viable option, because of the department's commitment to be attentive to statewide as well as local recreational needs. Locations for future recreational use on the coast are becoming very limited.

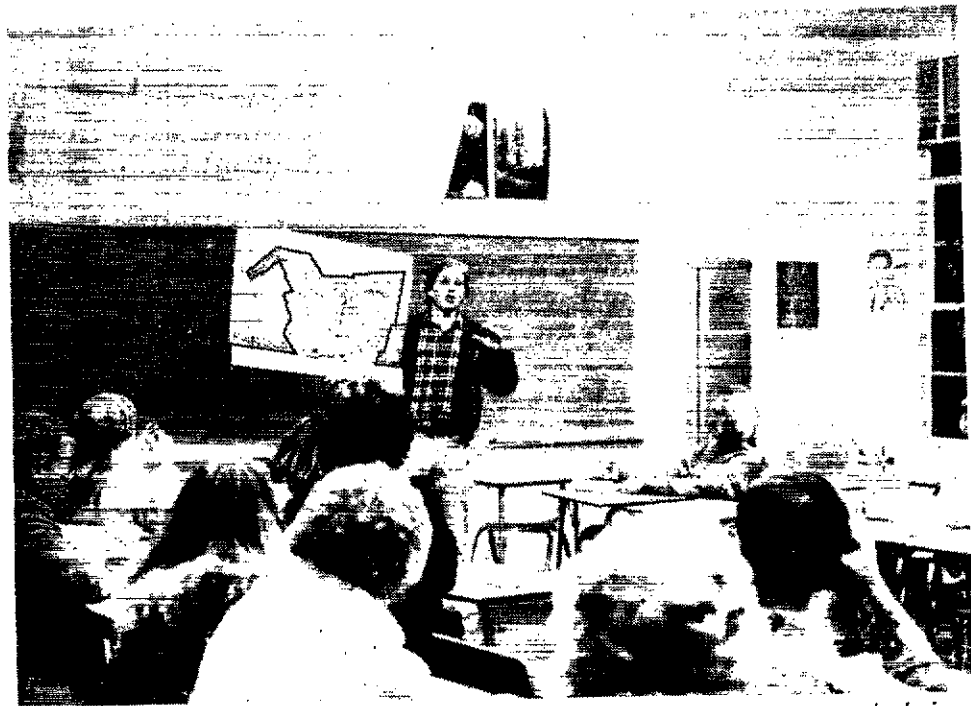
Simultaneous to this series of local public meetings, statewide public interest was also being monitored. Tent campers at New Brighton State Beach and Butano State Park commented favorably on the preliminary plan for the upland property. Various youth service organizations (e.g., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Y.M.C.A.) expressed a strong need for the group facilities shown in the preliminary plan.

In light of the strong opposition encountered at the second meeting, and its conflict with the supportive statewide opinions, the planning team began to reevaluate its direction on this project. Again, the concept of "no development" was studied, along with other design alternatives. The preliminary design, which was strongly criticized at the second meeting, emerged again as the best plan yet proposed for Manresa State Beach.

At the May 23 meeting, the local public had requested that the planners return with alternatives, including one which showed no development on the uplands. This suggestion was considered, but the same preliminary design was presented at a third public meeting on August 21, 1978. This was because:

1. No matter what the planning staff presented, it was anticipated that the local opposition would choose the "no development" alternative.
2. The preliminary design was already scaled down from traditional state beach units to a minimal development based on concerns heard at the December 1977 meeting. (These included retaining the natural beach experience, limiting intrusion into the northern Arroyo, and minimizing impact on upland property.) This design provided a realistic avenue for resource management, with valuable recreational opportunities.

At this point, local residents created a representative design committee to work cooperatively with the state's planning team. This committee began to realize that the upland property, as it was now being used (see Uplands Land Use, p. 29), was a "de facto park," and that some controlled use was a necessary improvement over existing conditions. Through weekly meetings, the design committee and the department planners formulated the plan now supported by both parties and presented in this report.



Local resident explains plan jointly created by Parks Department and design committee



Statewide Concerns

Camping is the major statewide recreational use on the Santa Cruz coast. The great number of turnaways from local campgrounds is an indication of the demand for additional camping facilities. These statistics were further supported during the Manresa public involvement program.

The December 1977 questionnaires were distributed to both statewide and Santa Cruz area residents. The results revealed an equally strong desire for both tent camping and recreational vehicle camping.

In addition, many letters and petitions were sent to the department, requesting more recreational vehicle spaces in the Santa Cruz area. Requested interviews with RV group leaders in Sacramento and Stockton verified this strong demand for additional coastal camping space.

Various youth service groups offered direction regarding their own recreational needs. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, and other groups represent a great number of recreational participants. A strong appeal for additional group camping was expressed by all. YMCA branches throughout the state run "caravans" up and down the coast. Due to lack of accommodations, this coastal experience is often very limited. Church youth groups expressed similar camping needs through letters to the department. Because of rising traveling expenses, local Boy Scout troops expressed their attraction to a group camping facility within a short driving distance.

For the entire state, only six coastal units of the State Park System provide facilities specifically for group camping. On the Santa Cruz coast, only Sunset State Beach contains a group camping area (which is heavily used). Youth groups, like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and YMCA, expressed a high regard for the natural experience in camping, but these groups are unable to fully enjoy many of the state's natural resources, due to the lack of facilities.



Local Concerns

As previously discussed, local residents have been strongly vocal throughout the planning for Manresa State beach.

Through both the questionnaire and the first public meeting, the local public expressed a strong concern that Manresa not be developed, but remain as a long, quiet expanse of beach.

Three thousand people signed petitions which protested any development of Manresa State Beach. These signatures were sent to the Department of Parks and Recreation, along with many letters that protested development of what they termed "the last remaining natural state beach on the Santa Cruz Coast." This local opposition claims that:

1. The quality of the surrounding residential area would be greatly compromised should any development be implemented.
2. Any development would draw more people to the state beach; this would cause worse traffic problems, more rapid deterioration of the landscape, and more drownings due to hazardous swimming conditions.
3. The Department of Parks and Recreation should seek to satisfy other use demands besides camping; there is a need for natural beach experiences.
4. The coastal landscape and its wildlife are valuable and should be preserved for enjoyment, rather than destroyed by development of more campgrounds.

Department Guidelines

Along with state and local public involvement, the Department of Parks and Recreation's regulations and perspective are vital in shaping the master plan for a state beach. As previously stated, the department is committed to protecting California's unique natural and cultural features, as well as providing recreational opportunities that benefit citizens from throughout the state. To that end, the department designates its units for varying types of public use. Some, like Point Lobos, are classified as state reserves, because their natural and scenic resources are of statewide significance. Public use at a state reserve is tightly controlled to protect those sensitive resources. Other units, like New Brighton, are classified as state beaches because of their unique provisions for recreation use.

As a state beach, Manresa has certain guidelines for public use. "State beach" falls under the broader heading of "state recreation unit." As such, Manresa is identified as ". . .selected, developed, and operated to provide outdoor recreation opportunities."

The state upland property at Manresa is being purchased through funds from the 1974 and 1976 State Park Bond Acts. The additional purchase is identified for day use and camping.

Department leadership also shapes the design features of a future unit. The Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking to return to a "camping out" experience for State Park System users. Consequently, low-impact, energy-efficient, walk-in tent camping concepts are being encouraged for future developments, and traditional facilities that cater to recreation vehicles are being discouraged.



Proposed Land Use

Design Criteria

Physical site conditions, statewide recreational needs, public opinion, and department policy have helped shape the concept for Manresa State Beach. Based upon information from these sources, a list of design criteria was formulated:

1. Any development should have a low visual and environmental impact on the uplands and beach, while conforming to other design criteria. Most of the uplands should remain in a natural condition.
2. The project will endeavor to provide a nature-oriented state beach experience. There should be little to interfere with users' relationship with their environment. In fact, this intimate relationship should be encouraged.
3. Manresa State Beach, like the entire California coastline, is a valuable statewide resource. It is meant to be enjoyed by both local and statewide users, with neither use compromising the other. Consequently, the plan should include facilities that allow needed opportunities for statewide use, while being sensitive to local recreation needs.
4. The beach and surf are the major public attractions of Manresa State Beach. Facilities should be oriented accordingly.
5. The Santa Cruz coast is a popular destination for many people. Insofar as it is consistent with other criteria, the plan should consider the recreational needs of a variety of people. At Manresa, these include:

Bicyclists
Day users
Group camping organizations
Handicapped
Hikers
Local homeowners
Surfers
Tent campers
Senior citizens

6. The plan should control the accelerating deterioration of the Manresa environment. Sensitive natural areas should be protected against visitor impact. Methods should be implemented to halt erosion of the cliffs and arroyos.
7. The plan should attempt to rectify existing and potential hazardous conditions.

Design Concepts

Indiscriminate public use is destroying the natural features at Manresa State Beach. Left unchecked, the deterioration will continue. Therefore, some kind of controlled public use of this resource is necessary. Based on the previous design criteria, proposed facilities must have little impact on the beach and upland, while providing recreational use for both statewide and local residents.

Based on the established demand for beachfront camping, overnight facilities will be a major design feature at Manresa State Beach. Day beach access is always popular; it must also be provided at the upland property, and allowed to continue at the existing day-use parking area.

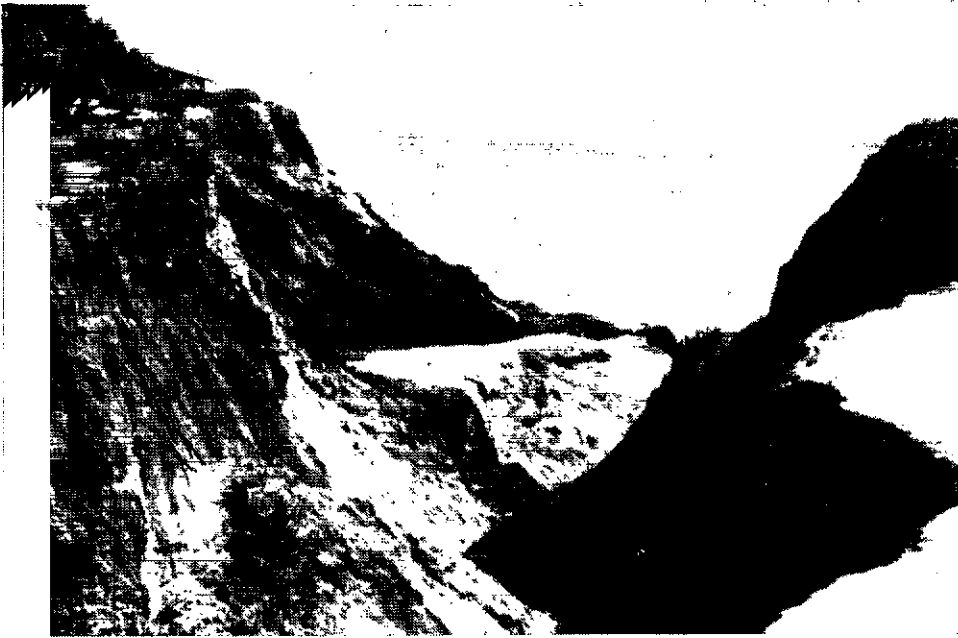
The existing day-use property and the 87-acre upland property will allow two distinct public uses. The existing day-use parking lot will provide for Manresa's day-use visitors (200 vehicles), and the upland property will primarily provide overnight use (65 units). The upland property is separated from the northern day-use parking lot in both distance and type of public use. Consequently, it will be publicized as a separate unit of Manresa State Beach, much as Palm Beach is a unit of Sunset State Beach. This should alleviate unnecessary traffic problems that may result from misdirected visitors.

A portion of the 87-acre upland property will provide a small day-use parking lot (required by the State Coastal Commission), limited in size by topographical constraints. Most of the property, however, will serve: (1) as a plant and wildlife habitat; and (2) for overnight use and appropriate support facilities.

The plant and wildlife habitat will consist of a protected landscape of California native plant materials. The habitat will be an identified area, located away from areas of active public use, and encompassing more than 50 percent of the southern bowl.

The camping layout should be compatible with the plant and wildlife habitat, and should encourage a more natural camping experience, as outlined in the design criteria. Walk-in camping layouts, with minimal roadways and support facilities, will be least obtrusive on the site. What will be lost through inconvenience will be gained through both greater protection of the upland and a more natural camping experience.

The appropriate location of facilities on the upland property will do much to assure minimal impact on the natural resources. The campground complex and operation center will be concentrated in two small areas, rather spread throughout the site. All park roads will be kept to the back of the property, because the ocean and beachfront contain the highest natural resource values, and are also the primary public attraction. Visitors to the state beach should not be separated from the ocean by a roadway. Beach access should be conveniently located near the campground, and all pedestrian traffic should be directed to specific beach access points. This should alleviate problems of arroyo intrusion and indiscriminate access over the bluff.



Accelerating erosion fronting the southern arroyo

Recreational Vehicles

The initial preliminary design included accommodation for recreational vehicles; this use has since been determined as inconsistent with the objectives for Manresa State Beach.

Based on various design constraints, the upland property at Manresa would be best used as a walk-in, low intensity camping facility. This excludes use by recreational vehicles, because they Based on various design constraints, otherwise natural coastal camping experience. In addition, many tent campers have expressed the desire to be segregated from recreational vehicles, claiming these vehicles harshly affect their camping experience.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has taken a policy stand that also may affect recreational vehicle use of State Park System units. According to its policies on appropriate technology, the department hopes "to encourage access to, and circulation within, the park units in a manner reflecting concern for the dwindling petroleum resources."

Proposed Site Development

Upland Property

The detailed features of the Uplands Site Plan will be presented in a geographical progression. The layout will be reviewed in sequence from the San Andreas/Sand Dollar Drive intersection, down Sand Dollar Drive into the northern bowl, and over the ridge into the southern bowl of the upland property.

Vehicular Traffic

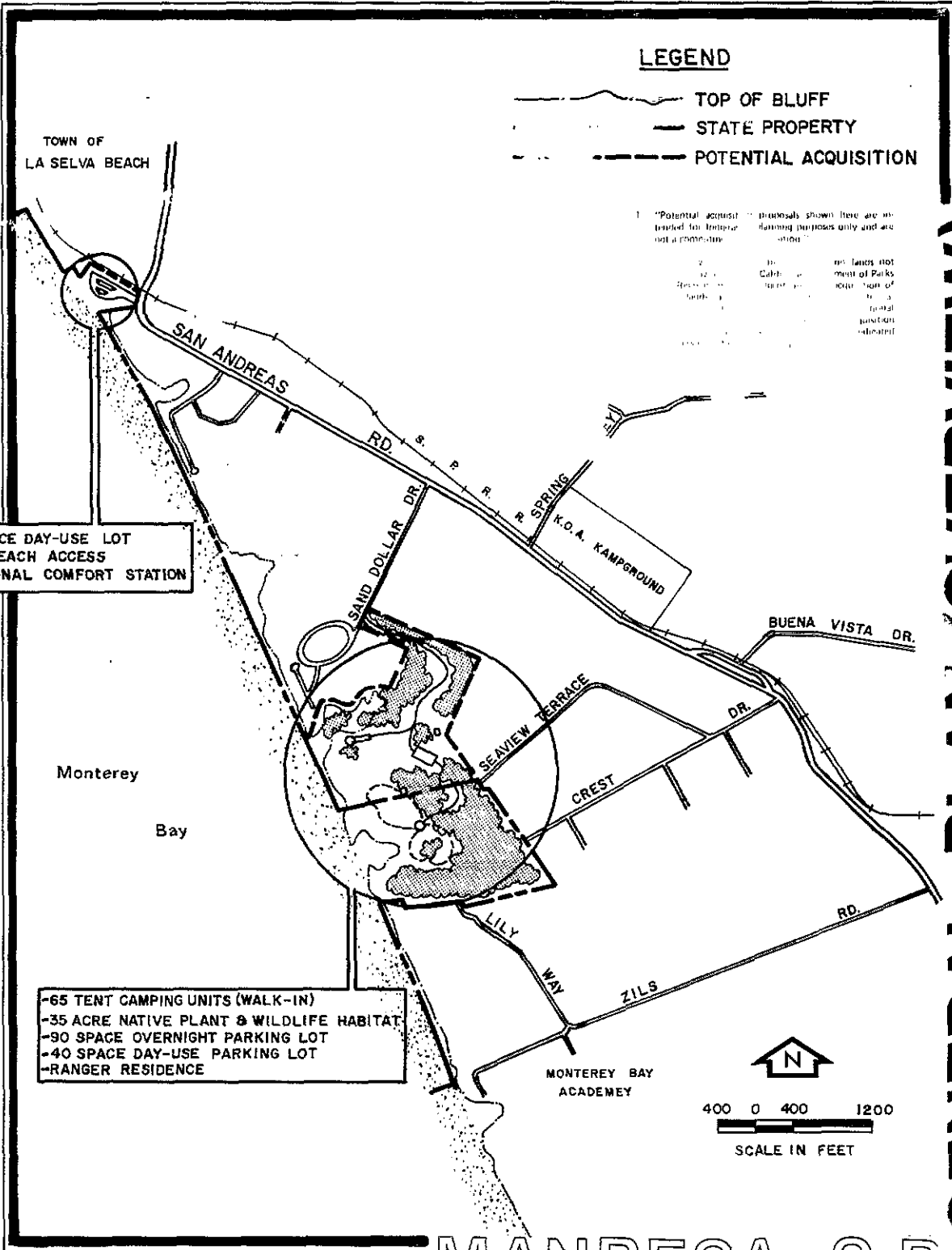
Sand Dollar Drive is the most appropriate access into the upland property. The tree-lined road displays the visual qualities desired for the entrance to the state beach. It is in excellent condition, and its current traffic volume is a small percentage of its optimum traffic capacity. The county has confirmed that sight distance at its intersection with San Andreas Road is adequate, while the sight distance down San Andreas Road from both Crest and Zils roads is severely limited.

Nevertheless, the intersection of San Andreas and Sand Dollar roads will need some safety modification. First, along the county's 60-foot right-of-way on San Andreas Road, slopes on the coastal edge of San Andreas Road should be shaved back to increase sight distance in both directions. Second, traffic islands would be installed on Sand Dollar Drive, to control left and right turns. Third, appropriate signing on San Andreas Road would warn of intersection traffic ahead. Also, to discourage unnecessary traffic down Sand Dollar Drive to the upland property, a camp availability sign should be constructed near the San Andreas/Sand Dollar intersection, to warn of full occupancy in the campground.

Sand Dollar Drive will remain divided by a row of Monterey pine. "No Parking" signs should be posted to discourage on-street parking by beach day users. One-way bike lanes should be designated alongside both lanes, to discourage indiscriminate parking, and to provide safe bicycle access to camping facilities in the southern bowl.



Seaward view down Sand Dollar Drive



GENERAL PLAN (OVERVIEW)

MANRESA S.B.

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE
DRAWN		
CHECKED		

**MANRESA S.B.
GENERAL PLAN**

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
APPROVED _____ DATE _____

SHEET 1 of 3

FIGURE 8

The Uplands Site Plan calls for a curving realignment of Sand Dollar Drive as the road crests and begins to run down toward the Sand Dollar Development. In the first public meeting, Sand Dollar homeowners expressed concern over the possibility of park users accidentally traveling into their housing developments. To discourage this, access into both the Sand Dollar Beach and the Canon del Sol developments will "tee off" the state beach road. The curving entrance road will encourage traffic flow directly into the upland area. Stop signs at this three-way intersection should promote safe traffic movement.

Original plans called for the traffic access into the proposed Canon del Sol development at the end of Sand Dollar Drive, directly across from the Sand Dollar housing development. However, in early 1979, the Sand Dollar Homeowners' Association requested that the access into the proposed development be redesigned to enter from the narrow corridor that connects Sand Dollar Drive to the upland property.

The department has evaluated both alternatives, and feels that either, with *minor modifications*, would be acceptable. This issue is expected to be resolved prior to the State Park and Recreation Commission hearing.

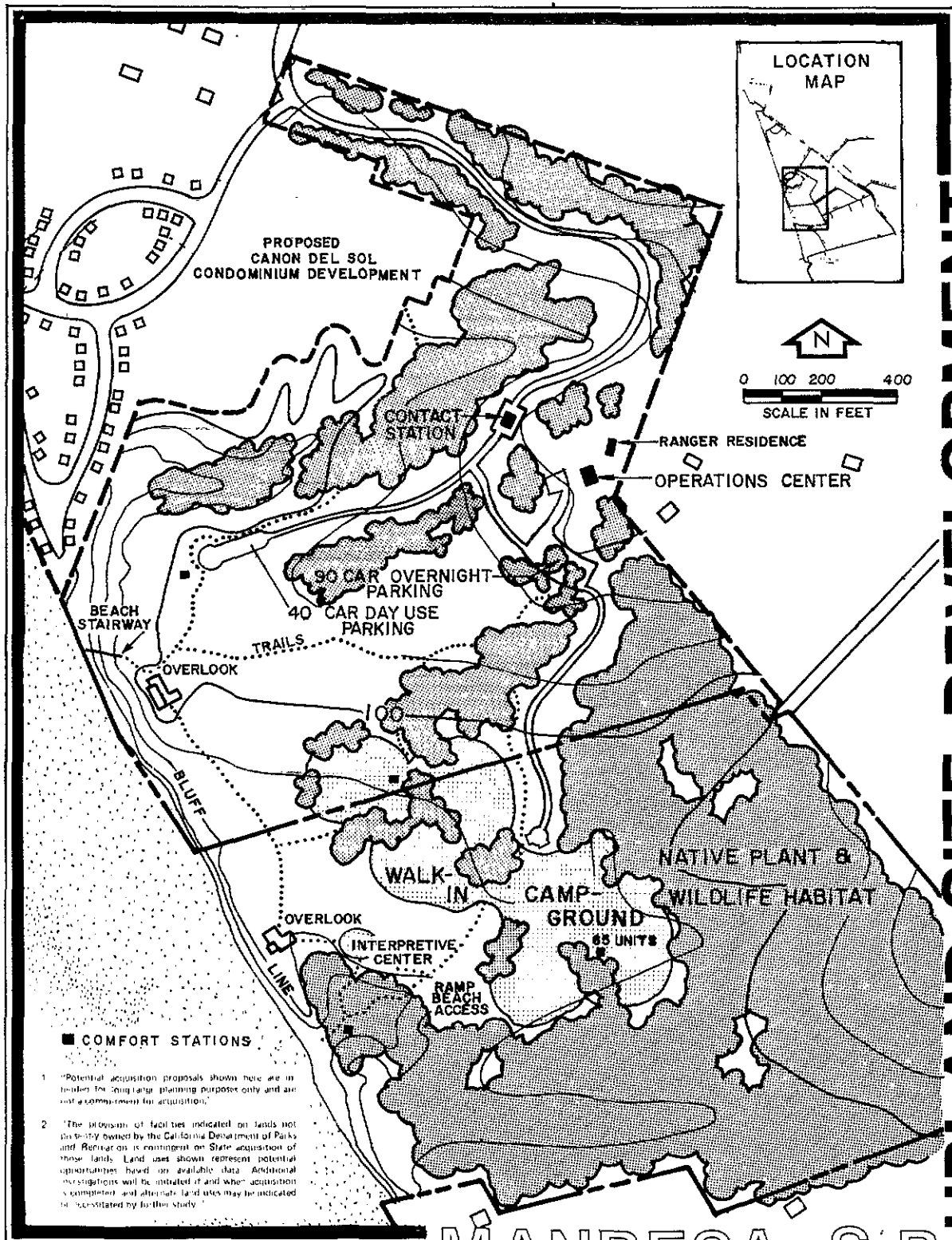
To eliminate parallel parking, the access road should be a minimal width of 24 feet, with curbing and "no parking" signs. An 8-foot-wide path will provide bicycle access into the unit.

Operations Facilities

Operations facilities, including roads, are to be set to the back of the property, to create as little impact on the bluff, arroyo, prairie, and beach as possible. The entrance kiosk, administrative and maintenance offices, and ranger housing will be closely grouped. These facilities will be clustered together for operational convenience, and to limit the extent of impact on the uplands environment.

The kiosk, or contact station, will be situated so it has clear sight distance to the day-use parking area. This will allow easy sight supervision of the lot when the contact station is manned. An entrance gate should be an integral part of this station, to regulate late-night traffic. Two available options are to either close the unit at 10 p.m., or to use a one-way traffic spike system.

The existing house atop the ridge at the back of the property will be renovated to serve initially as a ranger residence, and may later serve as both the administrative and maintenance office. Local residents suggest that a portion of this house could serve as a nature museum, in coordination with the native plant and wildlife habitat. This recommendation should be further explored as full operation begins. Adjacent to the administrative and maintenance office will be the maintenance equipment yard; nearby, one or two trailers may house operations personnel.



UPLAND SITE DEVELOPMENT

MANRESA S.B.

- 1. "Potential acquisition proposals shown here are in order for long range planning purposes only and are not a commitment for acquisition."
- 2. "The program of facilities indicated on lands not presently owned by the California Department of Parks and Recreation is contingent on State acquisition of those lands. Land uses shown represent potential opportunities based on available data. Architectural designs will be modified if and when acquisition is completed, and alternate land uses may be indicated as necessitated by further study."

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. GENERAL PLAN	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION		DRAWING No.
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CHECKED						2 of 3

FIGURE 9



Upper reaches of northern bowl



Existing house to serve initially as a ranger residence

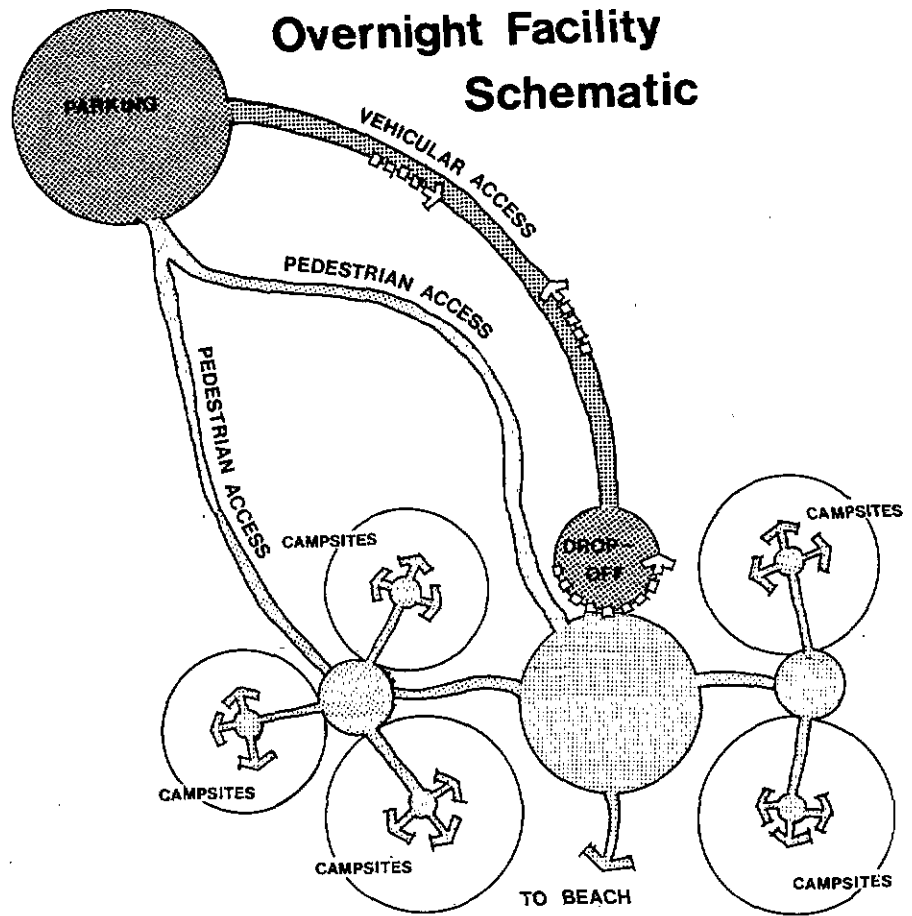
Day-Use Parking Area

Part of the proposed dedication from the Canon Del Sol developer is his construction of a day-use parking area. To minimize the impact on the surrounding property, this parking lot will be secluded between the northern arroyo and the crest of the ridge which separates the two bowls. A landscaped berm will surround the lot, and would further seclude it. Spatial constraints limit parking capacity to 40 cars; a larger parking lot would visually affect the surrounding area.

Portions of the northern arroyo's steep perimeter are highly sensitive. In fact, Sand Dollar residents, who border the canyon, fear that pedestrian traffic eroding the slopes of the arroyo may affect the stability of their homes. Because of the arroyo's sensitive nature, the State Coastal Commission is requiring the Canon Del Sol developer to fence the entire upland perimeter, to prevent public intrusion. The Department of Parks and Recreation will have the responsibility of discouraging public access into the arroyo from the beach.

A key element for protection of the northern arroyo is convenient access to the beach. This would discourage traffic through the arroyo and over the bluffs. Therefore, a multi-platformed stairway will provide beach access from the day-use parking lot. The stairway will be built in an existing swale that ends near the mouth of the arroyo.

Overnight Facility Schematic



The proposed campground will be located in the bottom of southern bowl, as seen

Overnight Facility

The northern bowl will be used for day use and uplands vehicular access. The southern bowl, on the other hand, will contain camping facilities and a plant and wildlife habitat. This will segregate camping use from much of the day-use activity.

The Manresa camping facility will be unique in the State Park System. In providing a more natural camping experience with minimal environmental impact, the facility will also specifically serve the camping needs of many different publics, e.g. tent campers, bicyclists, youth groups, and handicapped people.

The walk-in campground will be located on approximately 10 acres toward the coastal half of the southern bowl. It sets back a minimum of 300 feet from the bluff.

A road will lead down to a loading and unloading zone in the campground. In most cases, this should eliminate both the distance problems of handicapped campers and the inconvenience of hauling equipment to a distant walk-in campsite. Overnight parking will be located uphill from the center of the camping area, about 800 feet away.

The level ridgetop will allow the proposed parking lot to be virtually unseen from the surrounding property. As in the day-use parking area, a landscaped berm will surround the lot.



here from the site of the proposed overnight parking area.

The proposed campground will be laid out to accommodate 65 families, 5 large groups, or any combination of the two. Ten to twelve family and bicycle campsites can also be used as a single group camping area. This will allow flexibility in operation of the facility. It is projected that most campsites will be reserved through the Ticketron System.

Plant materials will play an important role in defining camping space. They will give limits and seclusion to both group camping areas and the individual campsites in each group area. A canopy of trees will be supplemented by dense shrub masses, strategically planted between campsites.

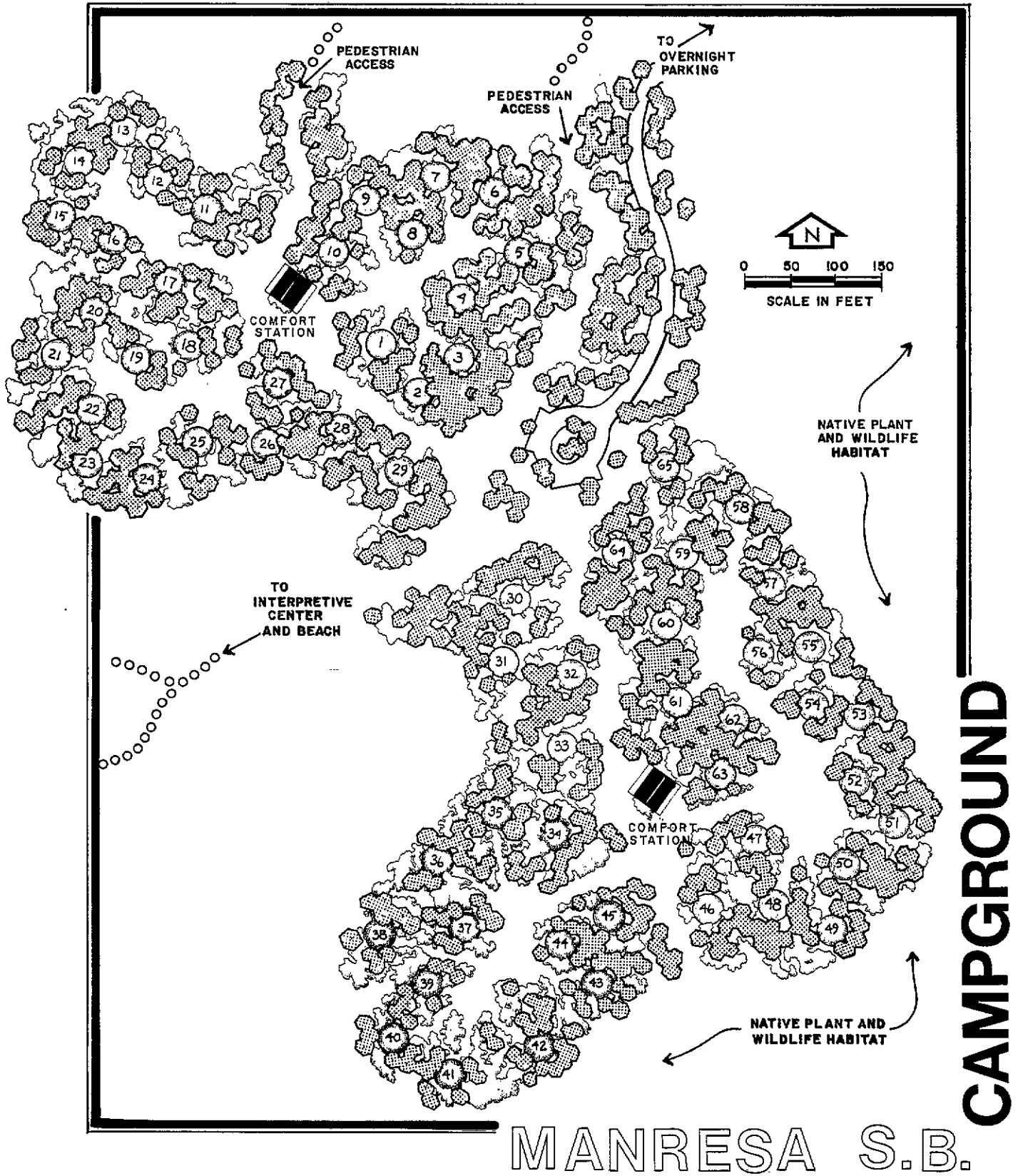
While the entire upland property will be surrounded by fencing, two emergency access gates will be available at both Lily Way and Crest Drive. Next to both of these gates, a narrow gap will allow access to the beach for local residents.

Plant and Wildlife Habitat

The land between the campground and the upland property's inland boundary is to be set aside for revegetation with native plant species, and will also serve as a wildlife habitat. A low single-wire fence, similar to those at Point Lobos State Reserve, will enclose the habitat adjacent to the campground. This protected area will provide an educational experience as a working model of native plant and wildlife establishment, and may serve as a native plant material resource, or gene pool, for the Monterey Bay Area. From this cluster of various native plants, natural transporters, such as wind and birds, should scatter seeds throughout the region. Wildlife will be further supported by inclusion of a small waterhole in the habitat. Plant societies, college classes, and other interested groups will interpret the area by reservation.

As directed in Policy No. 4 of the Resource Element, only plant material that is both native to the Pajaro River Valley and can take coastal conditions will be used in the uplands. Three plant communities will be represented in the southern bowl. The oak woodland community will inhabit the higher elevations of the property, a minimum of five to six hundred feet from the bluffs. Supplemental water will support a riparian woodland in the campground, which will seclude campsites with dense shrub masses, and would promote a pleasant camping experience. Plants of the coastal scrub plant community will be reestablished throughout the upland property.

Because of its value as a wildlife habitat, the existing willow cluster located in the southern bowl will be unaffected by any proposals. A partial listing of suggested native plant materials appears in Appendix C.



MANRESA S.B.
CAMPGROUND SITE LAYOUT

FIGURE 10
63

Trails and Beach Access

Pedestrian travel throughout the uplands and down to the beach will be carefully controlled to preserve the natural character of the uplands and control indiscriminate beach access over the bluffs.

Split rail fencing, 3 feet high, will contain walking trails in the open prairie, near the bluffs, and through the southern arroyo, all of which are sensitive to overuse. Most trails will be a minimum of 5 feet wide, for pedestrian and bicycle use only. The exception will be a 15-foot wide access corridor from the drop-off point, through the southern arroyo to the beach. A ramp will provide ranger patrol, emergency, and handicapped access from the upland property down to the beach. Trails running parallel to the top of the bluff should be laid out no closer than 50 to 100 feet from the cliff top.



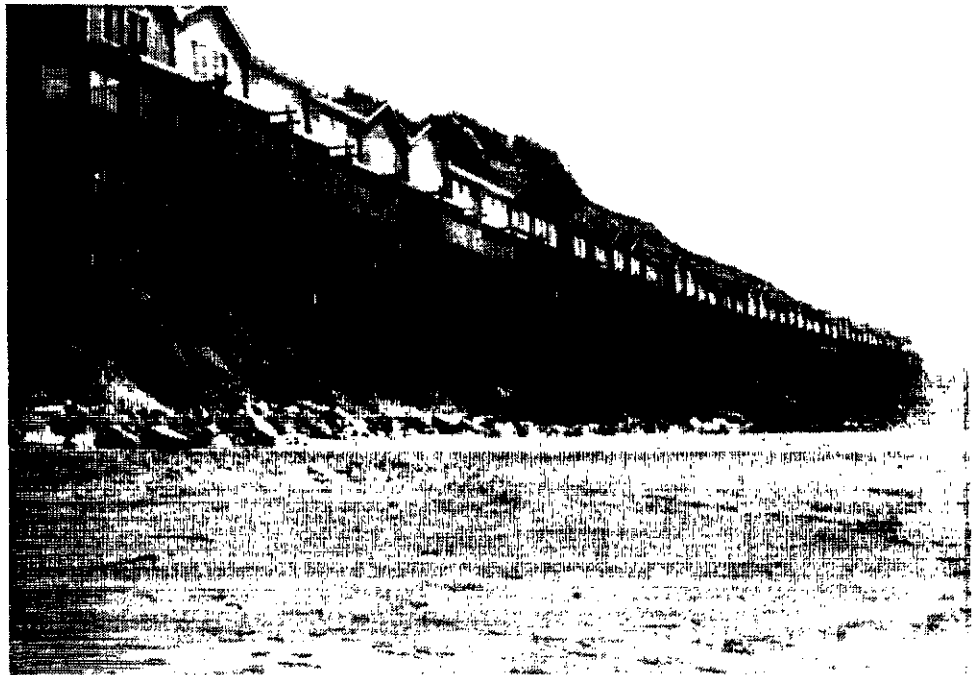
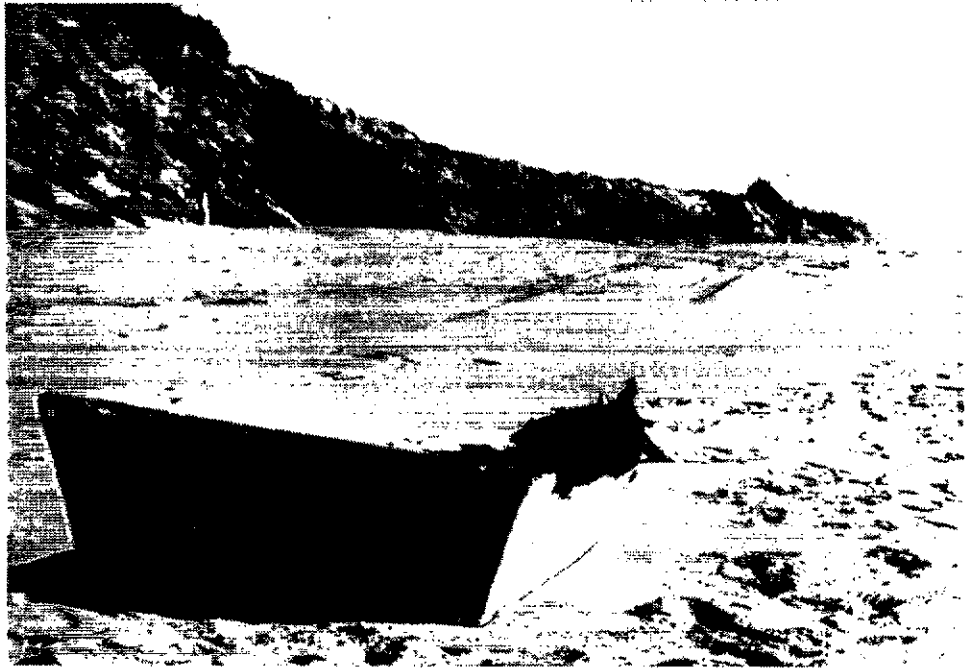
Trail through southern arroyo

All portions of the uplands will be accessible to the physically handicapped. While trails will be porous, the surface is to be appropriate for wheelchairs and crutches. The mouth of the northern arroyo, due to its steepness, is incapable of providing beach access for the handicapped. A stairwell will be used at this location. However, 1,000 feet to the south, ramp beach access will be provided through the more shallow southern arroyo. At the mouth of the arroyo, a concrete apron will be constructed to allow the handicapped a beach-level ocean experience.



Two overlooks will be constructed at the areas of most severe cliff erosion, to control pedestrian traffic. These beach overlooks will be located near the mouth of each arroyo. Both platforms will offer all users, especially senior citizens and handicapped, panoramic views of Monterey Bay and spectacular ocean sunsets.

As previously stated, the cliffs at Manresa are subject to severe erosion. Shrub plantings and other erosion control methods should be implemented as soon as possible, to protect the fragile bluffs from further deterioration.



Place De Mer development

The Beach

Manresa State Beach attracts people primarily because of the wide, unpopulated beach and its pounding surf, rather than the upland property or the northern day-use parking lot. The qualities that now draw people to the beach at Manresa will be retained in this General Plan. The long vista down the beach will remain uninterrupted by any development. Warning signs, which now infringe on the beach's natural character, will be removed and posted at the three beach access points, away from the center of the beach. Visual intrusions will be limited on the beach.

To be functional for beach use, restroom facilities need to be convenient to the people. Restrooms located atop the bluff are sometimes ignored by those on the beach. At the northern day-use parking area, comfort stations will be easily accessible, but set back adjacent to the ravine, halfway up the sloping ramp. At the upland property beach access, restroom facilities will be set back into the southern arroyo to eliminate visual intrusion on the beach, while allowing the facilities to remain functional for beach use.



Water Safety.

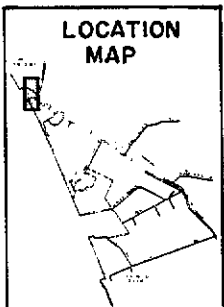
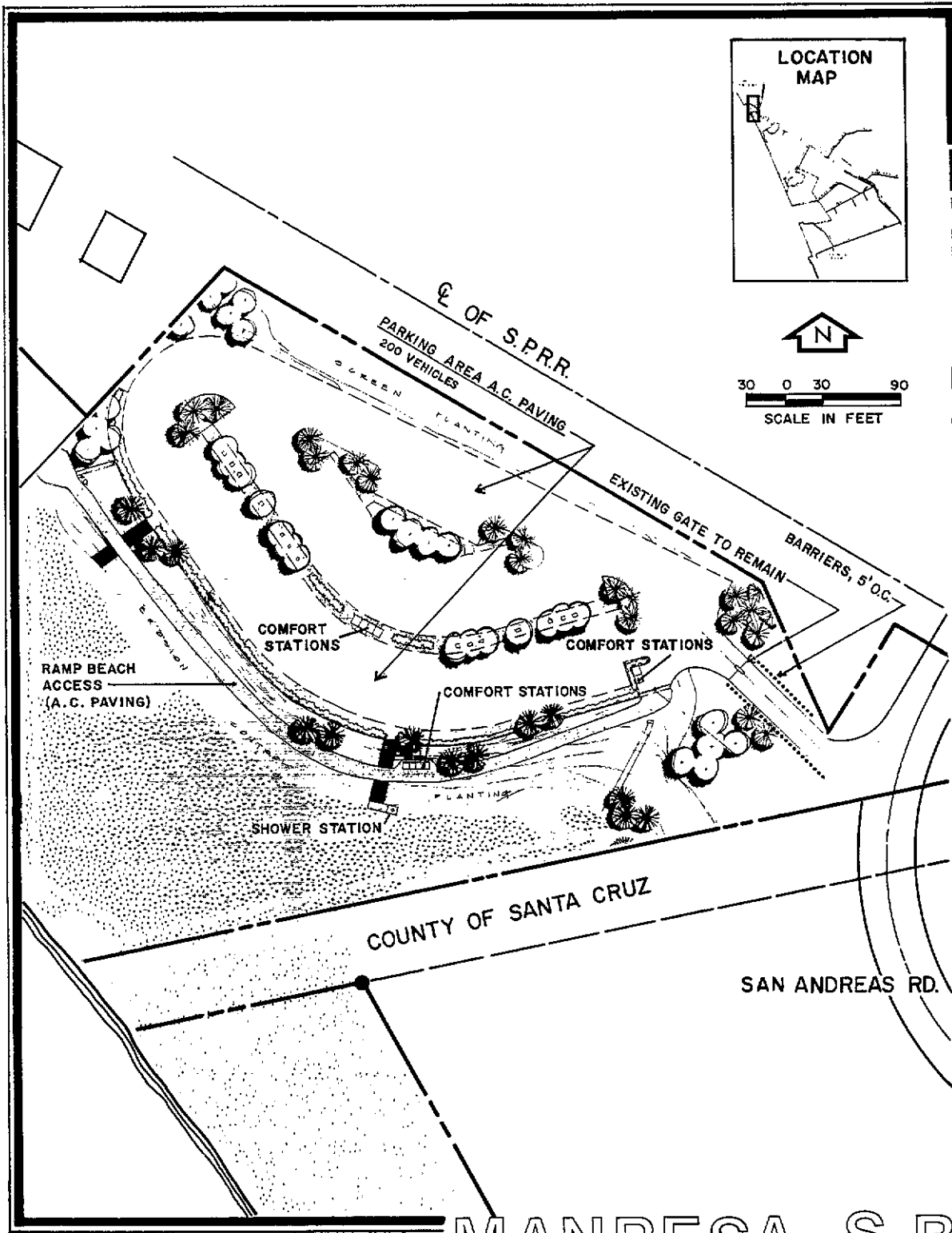
Beach users will be better protected against hazardous surf conditions with introduction of lifeguards. While the interpretive program for Manresa will explain the dangerous surf conditions, the department must, nevertheless, endeavor to protect users who either fail to see or ignore safety warnings. With an ongoing preventive lifesaving program, (along with proper staffing, adequate warning, and interpretive displays), the wading and water play that now occurs will be made safer.



Existing Day-Use Parking Area

Detailed plans for the existing day-use parking lot call for upgrading that will help eliminate the inadequate conditions that now exist. These improvements will include: (1) paved parking for approximately 210 vehicles; (2) comfort stations (some easily accessible from the beach); (3) stairways; (4) ramp beach access (for emergency situations, ranger vehicle patrol, and handicapped people); and (5) landscaping.





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SCALE IN FEET

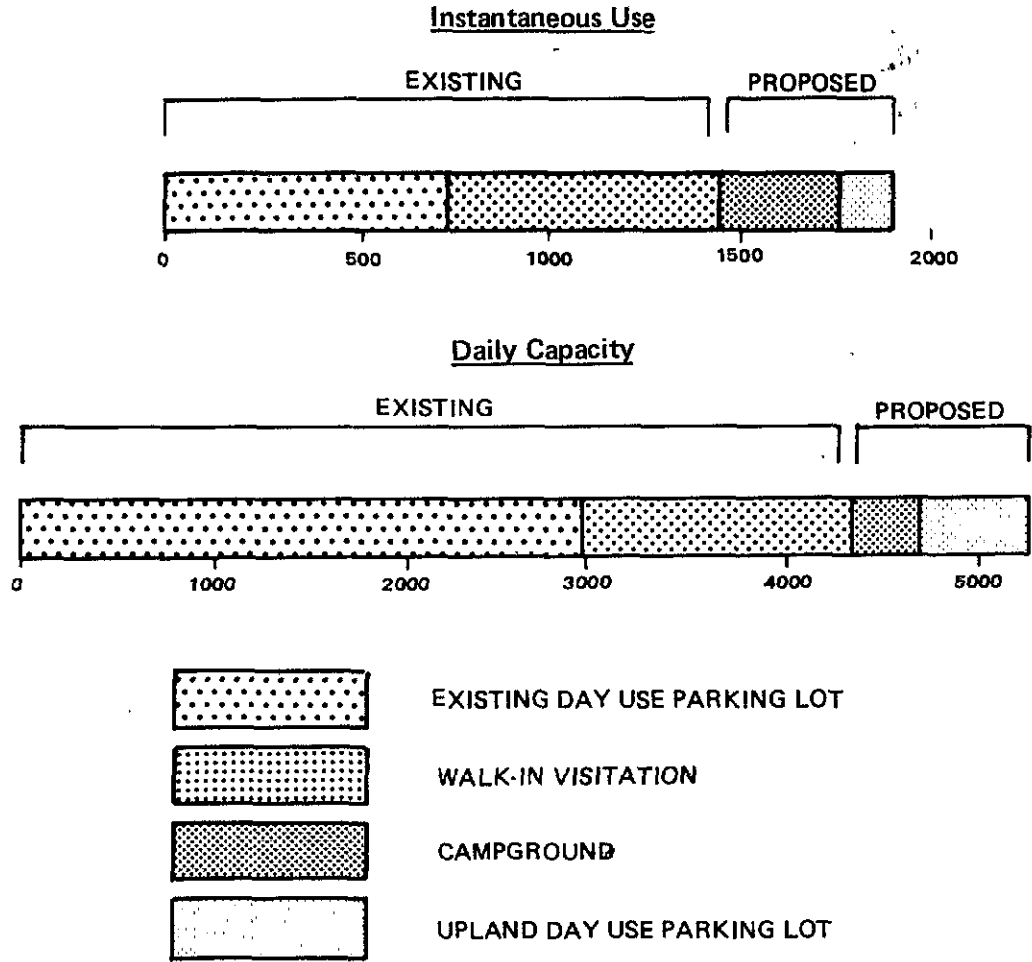
DAY USE SITE DEVELOPMENT

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FIGURE 11
69

CARRYING CAPACITY



Carrying Capacity

Carrying capacity is based on the capacity of unit resources to withstand public use, and on the design capacity of visitor facilities. The design capacity refers to the maximum number of visitors that can be accommodated at the unit, at a given time. For example, a 250-vehicle parking lot has an instantaneous design capacity of 250 vehicles, or 750 people (3/car). At any single moment, the maximum use at the state beach unit is not expected to exceed 1,900 visitors. This is the instantaneous capacity.

The projected maximum carrying capacity for any single day will be 5,225 park visitors.

Utilities

The proposed upland development will require full utility service, including electricity, gas, telephone, water, and sewage disposal. No major problems are anticipated in providing these utilities.

Electricity and gas service is currently available to the property from Pacific Gas and Electric Company. A 4,000-volt overhead electric distribution line runs along the property's inland boundary. A 3-inch gas main runs north and south up to the Sand Dollar development.

Underground water may be a water source for the property. The Sand Dollar development and other private residences depend on wells, and a nearby nursery currently operates a well located in the state-owned southern bowl. The County of Santa Cruz completed a water quality study of the Pajaro Valley in 1976; it included a report on the water resources underlying the state's upland property. The study showed that in this area, there had been: (1) a minor decrease in water level changes; (2) minor salt water intrusion; (3) a water surface elevation between 4.8 and 8.8 feet; and (4) good water quality.

The comfort stations at the northern parking area currently dispose of sewage through leach lines. An expanded version of this type of sewage system will be implemented in the parking lot's future construction. Near the upland property, the Sand Dollar development relies on its own sewage treatment plant, but a combination of septic tank and leach fields appears to be a good sewage alternative for the upland property. This type of system has proven itself at other state park units along the coast. Because of their excellent drainage, the Elder sandy loam of the uplands will provide a good leaching media.

On the 87-acre upland property, a comfort station will be constructed next to the day-use parking area, while two comfort stations with showers will be located in the walk-in campground. These comfort stations will be the only locations with lighting; campers are expected to rely on personal flashlights and lanterns. Telephone service is available to surrounding residents from Pacific Telephone Company. A public pay telephone should be installed in the campground for park users.

Proposed Interpretive Facilities

Interpretation of the resources at Manresa will enhance visitors' recreational experiences, encourage protection of the resources through education, and improve the safety of public use areas. Five methods of interpretation will be used at Manresa State Beach: a campfire center, brochures, outdoor panels, vista points, and interpretive walks.

An informal primitive campfire center will be next to the southern arroyo. This facility can be used by camping groups, or for special ranger-led programs. Campfire discussions might range from water safety to a discussion on the natural resources of the Santa Cruz Coast.

Brochures distributed at the entrance kiosk for a small fee will orient visitors to the state beach. They will map out the location of facilities, and will also discuss the native plant and wildlife habitat and explain its purpose. In addition, these brochures will warn visitors of hazardous surf conditions and steep coastal cliffs.

Outdoor panels will be strategically located to blend into the natural setting, while remaining readily visible to park users. They will announce future campfire programs, reiterate the safety precautions found in the brochure, and/or interpret the natural resources at Manresa. In discussing the hazardous surf, the panels will warn of offshore holes, and will clearly explain the dynamics (wave action) of riptides and undertows. The sensitivity of the bluff area will be expressed, to deter indiscriminate access down the bluffs to the beach. The panels will also explain the importance of not intruding on the upland wildlife habitat, and will encourage users to stay on designated

The overlooks atop the bluff near each arroyo and the hard-surfaced apron at the mouth of the southern arroyo will provide scenic vistas of Monterey Bay from both the upland and beach level. Both locations will have appropriate interpretive panels.



Bluff fronting the southern arroyo

Implementation Sequence

Some phases of development of this General Plan are not contingent on one another; the Canon Del Sol Dedication, tree planting, and northern day-use parking lot are independent of any sequence of development.

- o The day use parking lot development dedication from the Canon Del Sol developer will be constructed at the same time as the condominium development. The developer hopes to complete the facilities as soon as possible.

- o Landscaping should begin as soon as possible. Planting should adhere to the scheme depicted in the upland site development plan, and be supervised by a professional who is knowledgeable in native plant materials. The California Native Plant Society is available for consultation. Erosion control methods should be implemented along the cliffs and in the arroyo as soon as possible. These methods will be determined by department engineers.

- o Resident ranger supervision should also begin as soon as possible. Initially, the existing house will be renovated to serve as a ranger residence. In the final phase of development, this house may serve as the unit's administrative offices, and a trailer may be used for a ranger residence.

- o The existing day-use parking lot is tentatively scheduled for upgrading in the 1983-84 fiscal year.

- o Lifeguard supervision should coincide with completion of day-use development at either the northern parking lot or the day-use parking in the northern bowl.

- o Development of the uplands campground and its supporting facilities will be the final phase in the Manresa General Plan. Construction will include the camp parking lot, campsites, trails, restrooms, and operational facilities. This phase of development should be contingent on establishment of the native landscaping.

- o As previously stated, San Andreas Road currently provides the best access from Highway 1 to Manresa State Beach. However, in coming years, county road improvements may make some other highway more appropriate for access to Manresa. Before development of the proposed facilities, a study should be undertaken to identify the most appropriate access to the state beach, and to determine if a change in highway signing should be made.



Appropriate Future Land Acquisition

All discussions regarding land acquisition are intended for long-range planning purposes only, and are not a commitment for acquisition.

The most urgent land acquisition involves two residences next to the state property. Other properties discussed would make good additions to Manresa, but are not as urgent.

Two parcels have been identified that should be considered for addition to the state beach. The residence immediately north of the existing day-use parking lot and the residence immediately east of the proposed maintenance/operation center, on the upland property, will both be strongly affected by future public use of Manresa State Beach. Additionally, the parking lot residence would provide needed resident security of the heavily used parking area. The residence east of the proposed maintenance/operation center could supplement or serve as the proposed ranger residence for the upland property, as well as providing needed additional maintenance space.

Other properties in the study area should be considered for acquisition when they become available. Properties within the immediate viewshed of the campground would be desirable to acquire when they become available. While the unit only slightly affects properties within its viewshed, in some cases advantageously, the presence of residences significantly detracts from the camping experience.

In the long run, acquiring these properties would significantly improve the camping experience at the uplands.

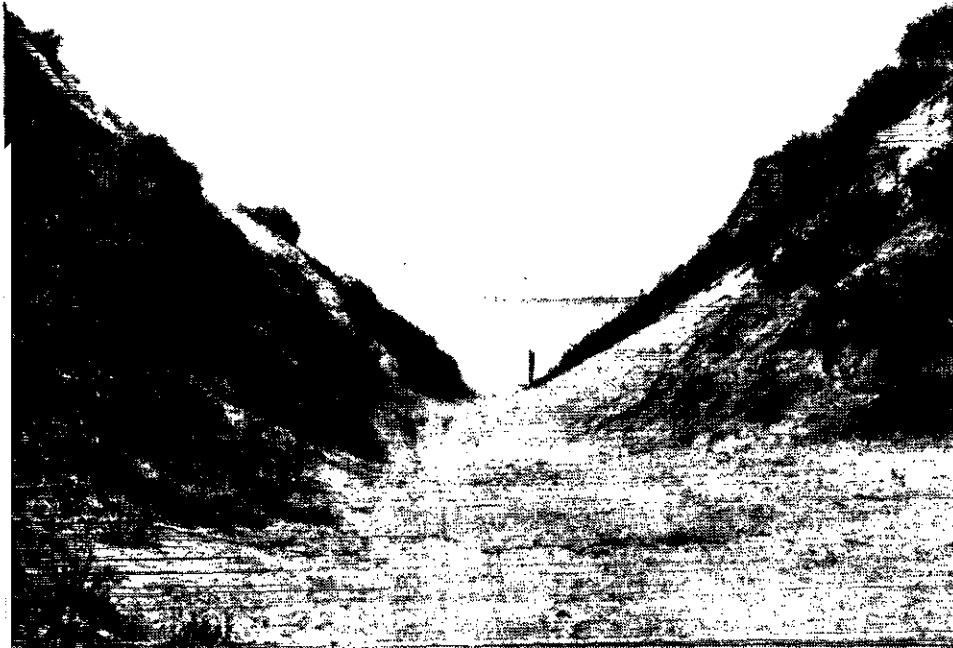
It would be in the best interest of the public if the lands between Zils Road and the proposed campground remained in agriculture. These small parcels now contain greenhouses, flower fields, and a few scattered single-family houses. In the future however, if agricultural use of these oceanfront parcels becomes infeasible, the property should be reserved for public recreation.

Conformance to Coastal Act

Public Access

The Coastal Act requires new development to provide public access to the shoreline, except where it is inconsistent with the protection of fragile resources, where adequate access exists nearby, or where agriculture would be adversely affected.

This plan identifies three points of public beach access at Manresa State Beach. The northern day-use parking lot's existing access will be upgraded for safety and resource protection. Two additional access routes will be introduced at the upland property to the south.



Access to beach from southern arroyo

Recreation

Article 3 of the Coastal Act requires that: "coastal areas suitable for water-oriented recreational activities that cannot readily be provided at inland water areas shall be protected for such uses."

The stretch of state beach will remain in virtually the same condition as it is now. This plan provides for continuance of quiet strolling, fishing, sunning, and surfing.

Land Resources

Article 5 of the Coastal Act requires environmentally sensitive areas to be protected from visitor use and park development.

Such sensitive areas at Manresa include, primarily, the arroyos, bluffs, and cliff faces.

No public or private intrusion will be allowed in the northern arroyo, and only a fenced trail will be provided through the southern arroyo. A stairway will control beach access over the bluff near the northern arroyo. Visitor use atop the bluffs will be limited to two wood-deck overlooks, with trails set back 50 to 100 feet from the cliff top. In addition, erosion control methods will be implemented on the face of the cliff.

Development

According to Article 6, new development should: (1) be located near existing development to preserve open space; (2) be sited to protect coastal views and minimize the alteration of the natural landscape; (3) maintain and enhance public access; (4) provide nonautomobile circulation within the property; (5) provide parking facilities that could be served by public transit; and (6) minimize energy consumption and vehicle miles travelled.

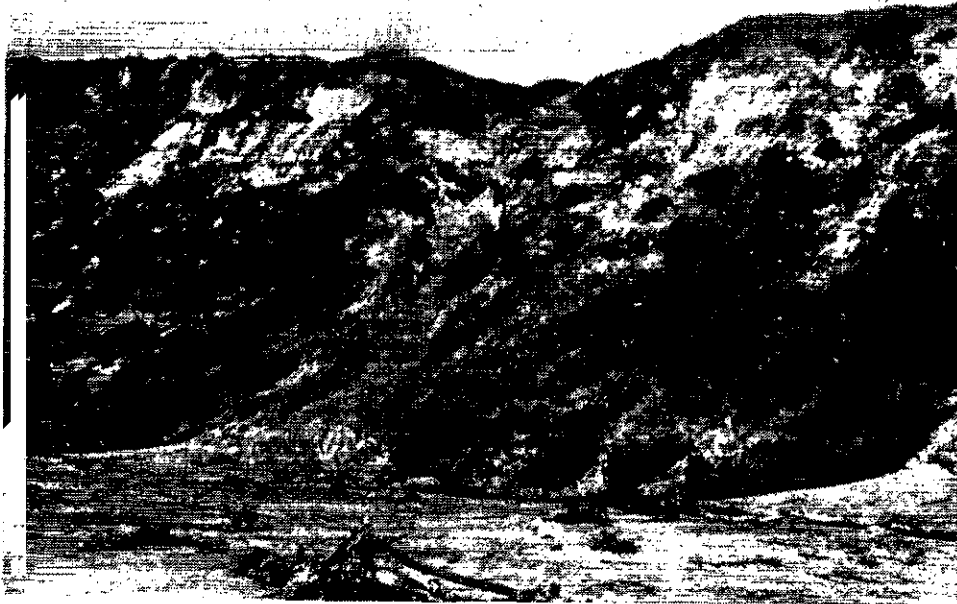
The development proposed by this plan complies with each of the above design criteria. Buildings and roadways will be located on the perimeter of the state property. This will preserve a large open space of native plant material adjacent to the coast. A 35-acre portion of the southern bowl will be set aside as a native plant and wildlife habitat. This area may act as a gene pool; it may distribute native plant seeds throughout the area, thereby encouraging a return of natural plant communities to the vicinity. Parking lots will be well screened from both the beach and surrounding upland. In addition, automobile impacts on the site will be kept at a minimum, with use of the walk-in camping concept, supplemented by a trails system throughout. Bicycle access and use of the facilities will be encouraged, because the California Bicentennial Bike Route runs nearby, on San Andreas Road. If, in the future, public transit extends out to Manresa State Beach, all three parking lots will be capable of accommodating bus traffic.

OPERATIONS

ELEMENT

OPERATIONS ELEMENT

The proposal for Manresa State Beach, and specifically the 87-acre upland property, is unique within the State Park System. Consequently, this facility would demand an operation not typical to other similarly sized State Park System units. These special requirements would be seen mostly in the use of personnel.



Indiscriminate beach access

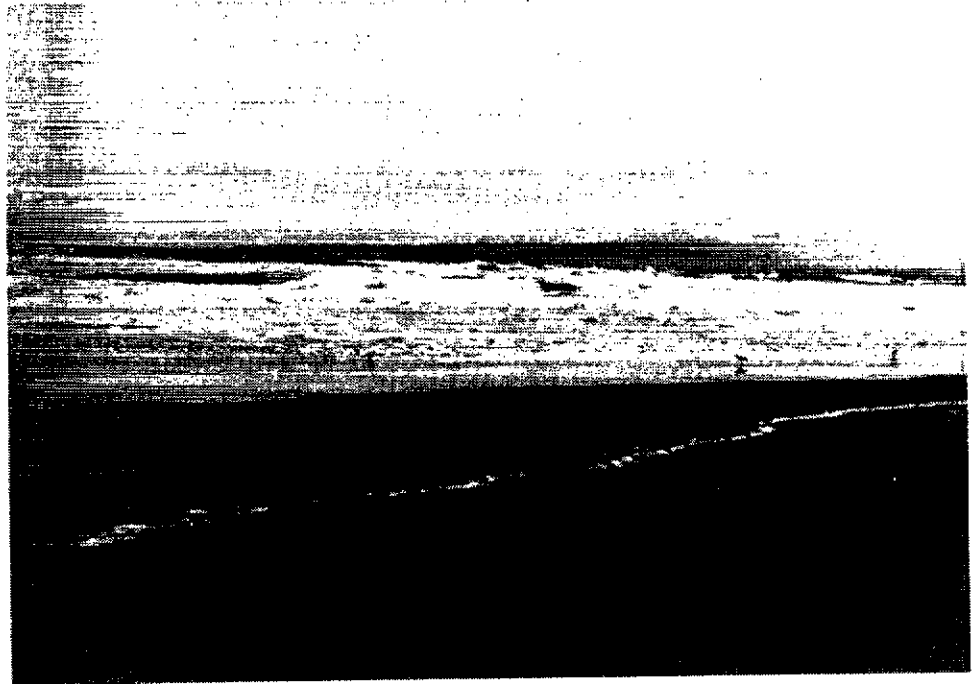
Supervision

Erosion control and reestablishment of native plant material are two important early development stages of the project. Each is highly sensitive to indiscriminate public use. Operations personnel should be responsible for supervision through these initial stages. They will protect against overflow at the day-use parking lot, and against indiscriminate traffic throughout the upland property. Their supervision will also limit upland traffic access to a single route from Sand Dollar Drive, discouraging access via Lily Way and Crest Drive.

Attempts to revegetate the upland property and control the bluff erosion will be futile without full-time supervision of the site. Some type of housing will be made available on the property, either through refurbishment of the existing house, or addition of a properly sited and screened mobile home. Staff, therefore, is desirable to ensure protection of the department's interests in the initial stages of revegetation and cliff control.

Water Safety

As previously discussed, lifeguards should be stationed at Manresa State Beach. Minimum staffing requirements consist of: one (1) person-year lifeguard (permanent), plus one (1) person-year lifeguard (seasonal). Transportable lifeguard stations should be located near each major access to the beach. One of these should stand directly below the existing day-use parking lot. The other should be located halfway between the northern and southern arroyos. Additionally, a 4-wheel-drive vehicle should be available to travel between the two lifeguard stations. This will benefit the ongoing preventive lifesaving program by advising visitors and identifying potentially endangered surf players.



Concessions Feasibility

Concessions operations were considered for Manresa, but were found to be infeasible. First, concessionaire support facilities are not compatible with the desired character of the proposed campground. Secondly, the costs involved in privately operating such a small campground (65 units) are prohibitive.

General Staffing

Full-time operations personnel are desirable, based on their participation in the following:

Beach Supervision	Law Enforcement
Erosion Control	Maintenance
Groundskeeping	Public Safety
Housekeeping	Reservations Coordination
Implementing Planting Program	Resource Management
Interpretation	Vandalism Prevention

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ELEMENT

The Environmental Impact Element (Draft Environmental Impact Report or EIR) reflects the general nature of the project. The general plan for Manresa State Beach is broad in scope; therefore, the EIR is also a broad assessment of the potential impacts. Whenever a specific phase of the overall plan is budgeted and proposed for implementation, a specific environmental assessment will be prepared for the particular project as part of the budget package.

The Manresa State Beach General Plan is intended to function as a decision-making guide which will clarify and direct the ongoing processes of the development and maintenance of the recreational potential of Manresa State Beach. The plan is composed of goals and objectives, policy positions, and planning actions which interrelate to achieve the function described. The analysis of environmental impact here focuses on the planning actions, since they provide the most detailed and therefore the most measurable aspects of the project.

Project Description

The planning actions include the following considerations:

- Establishment of recreational zones, each of which would have a different level and type of development allowed.
- Provisions to improve access, including signing on State Highway 1, on local streets, and eventual development of new roads and parking.
- Provisions for various recreational opportunities including walk-in and bike-oriented camping, restroom facilities, parking facilities, bluff-to-beach access stairways, scenic overlooks, and fencing.
- Landscaping of parking lots and facilities on the bluffs and along the beach.

For a detailed description of the project, see page 4 .

Description of Environmental Setting

See Resource Summary and Evaluation, page 16.

Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action

The greatest adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed project would be caused by construction activities, physical alteration of the land, and increased concentration of people and activities within certain areas of the project.

Short-term impacts are centered primarily around the construction of facilities such as parking areas, roads, trails, sanitary facilities, day-use areas and camping areas. Impacts would be associated with increased noise, dust, vehicular traffic, and activities.

Following is a summary of possible long-range impacts on the existing *natural environment, private and public services, and community health and safety.*

Effects on Geology and/or Soils

The cuts and fills likely to occur in grading for proposed developments, along with increased visitor use of the area, will cause soil erosion. The bluff areas are especially susceptible to erosion, landslide, and subsidence.

The proposed project site may be subjected to one or more damaging earthquakes during the life of the planned development. "Earthquakes are a common phenomena in the Santa Cruz-Monterey Bay Area. Over the years, loss of life has been small, but property damage has been considerable. The pattern of tremors has been present through the recorded history of the area and all evidence indicates that it will continue into the future." (Griggs 1973). Because the project proposes development of only a few minor structures, it is probable that it will not incur loss of life associated with an earthquake, and therefore, seismic activity will most likely have an insignificant effect on the proposed project.

Effects of Hydrology/Water Quality

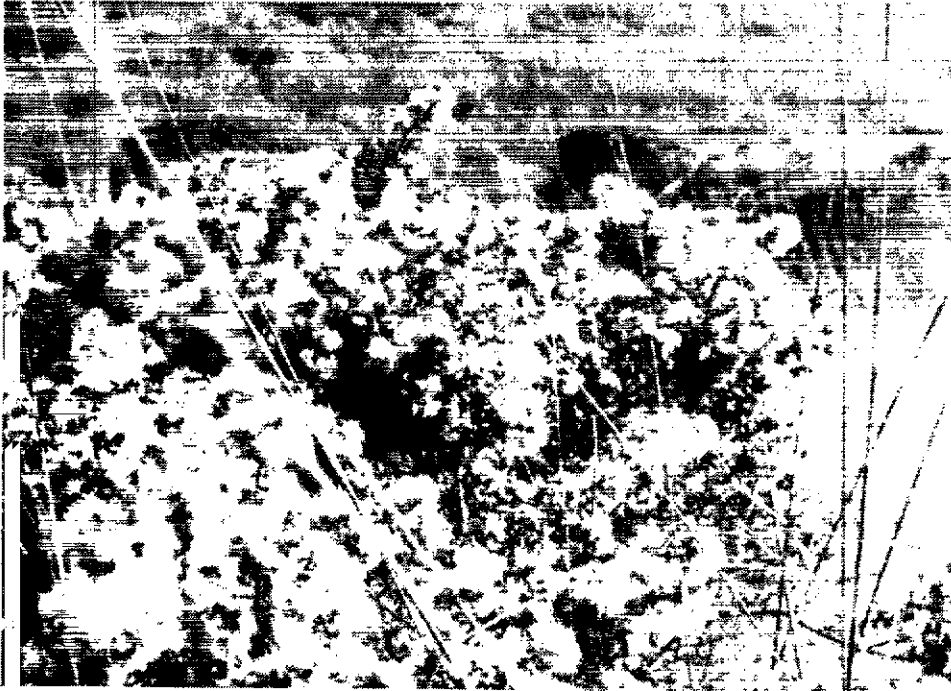
Runoff from roads, parking areas, and trails may cause accelerated erosion and associated sedimentation and turbidity. Flow patterns of other natural drainage channels could also be altered by grading or human-made drainage devices, such as ditches and culverts.

There will be a minimal reduction of the amount of water absorbed into the water table by the addition of impervious surfaces to the site in the form of roads, trails, parking areas, etc. There could also be minimal degradation of water quality due to increased use of motor vehicles on the site, and associated petrochemicals, that might be assimilated into the hydrologic system via runoff from parking areas and roadways.

Since paved areas occupy a small portion of the site, additional runoff as a result of these paved sections will be minimal.

Effects on Vegetation

Implementation of the proposed plan would lead to removal of some existing ground cover during construction; it would also result in soil compaction from concentration of visitors in specific areas. Due to the highly modified condition of vegetation at the project site, damage to native vegetation will be minimal. No rare or endangered plant species have been identified in the unit.



Baccharis pilularis

Effects on Wildlife

Development of facilities such as parking areas, trails, roads, etc. may affect established habitats of some animals. Increased visitor use associated with facilities could result in increased effect on wildlife habitat, as it relates to loss of vegetation.

Marine animal species could be affected by increased surf fishing and increased use of the beach. No rare or endangered animal species have been reported on the site. However, the endangered long-toed salamander occurs less than half a mile to the northeast. This species may migrate into the unit infrequently, although the site does not support its preferred habitat. Wildlife-related impacts associated with the project will be minimal.

Effects of Scenic/Visual Quality

The intrusion of visitors into some previously undisturbed natural areas, the anticipated increase in visitation, the removal of vegetation, and the construction of facilities would have negative impacts on the visual quality of the unit.

Effects on Neighboring Landowners/Human Community

There will be a considerable increase in vehicular traffic along Sand Dollar Drive associated with development of facilities, presenting some inconvenience to neighboring landowners. Increased visitor use of the unit may increase the potential for vandalism and other crimes in the area. Nearby housing developments and proposed developments will have a deleterious aesthetic impact, and will reduce future acquisition possibilities.

Effects on Water and Sanitation

The development proposes adequate sanitary facilities. No significant impact on community health and safety is expected. Increased visitation will increase the need for water. New wells constructed could affect groundwater supplies. This effect is expected to be minimal.

Effects on Service Demands

Increased fuel demands by visitors could decrease local supplies. On-site construction could require local labor and supplies, temporarily increasing local employment. The sale of incidentals, food, and beverages in local communities could increase. These increases are considered to be insignificant.

Modest increases in electrical service, telephone service, fire and police protection, medical needs, and emergency needs will result from project implementation. The increased demands for these services will not be significant.

Effects on Energy Consumption

The project will require increased energy consumption, both for transporting visitors to and from the unit and in development, operation, and maintenance of facilities.

Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize the Significant Effects

1. Enforcement of State Park System rules and regulations by a staff committed to protection of the natural and cultural resources will decrease the potential for misuse of these resources by visitors to the state beach.
2. Trails will be constructed to minimize the effects of increased visitation, and to minimize potential erosion. These trails will be maintained by the operations staff.
3. Adequate fencing, signing, and surveillance by unit staff will discourage visitors from disturbing neighboring landowners.
4. The entrances to the unit from San Andreas Road and Sand Dollar Drive will be designed for safety, and will be appropriately signed.
5. Effluent will be disposed of according to public health standards. A determination of the disposal systems design will be made when the particular projects are budgeted. Development of a septic tank and leach field system is anticipated, and will be coordinated so as not to conflict with the primary recreational and natural resources.

6. Implementation of the Declaration of Resource Management Policy as described on page 22 will protect the natural resources in the unit.
7. An investigation of possible cultural sites will be conducted before any development. This investigation will determine what actions should be taken.
8. Developments proposed for the unit will be sited to reduce the amount of grading needed. Exposed slopes remaining after construction will be landscaped with vegetation that will blend into the natural setting.
9. If rare or endangered plant or animal species are found to exist on the site, measures will be taken to prevent loss of significant habitat.
10. Erosion control and drainage structures will be installed in trails, parking lots, and roads to dissipate the force of runoff, and to reduce sediment load. When use areas become denuded from overuse, revegetation and restoration measures will be implemented.
11. Establishment of roads and parking areas will eliminate haphazard use of the area.
12. Benefits to surrounding communities include assured preservation of the unit for open space and recreation.
13. Energy conservation will be encouraged by development plans that support bike-in and walk-in camping.
14. Native plants will be reestablished in the department landscaping program, which will provide increased wildlife habitat.
15. The willows on the site will be retained for their value as a wildlife habitat.

Significant Environment Effects That Cannot be Avoided If the Proposal is Implemented

All of the effects outlined in this report are considered to be environmental effects that cannot be avoided if the project is implemented as proposed. Most of these impacts should be reduced through mitigation measures which will ameliorate these effects to a level of insignificance. However, it is highly unlikely that any of the impacts will be totally eliminated.

Having inventoried and analyzed the existing resources and determined present and future recreational needs in this General Plan, and having studied various alternatives, the department feels that the benefits to be gained from the proposed project outweigh the minor environmental impacts that would result from implementing the proposed development plan.

The Relationship between Local Short-Term Uses and the Maintenance and Enforcement of Long-Term Productivity

The current short-term use of the site is for open space enjoyment and low-intensity recreational activity. There is limited protection of the natural and cultural resources of the site. Additional short-term use, which could occur on the site if it were not a State Park System unit, might include intensive agricultural production, subdivision and development, residential or commercial uses, or uncontrolled off-highway vehicle use.

The current low-intensity use will be expanded by this General Plan. Short-term uses will include day-use facilities, parking, walk-in camping, beach access, and sanitary facilities. This intensified use and development will not deteriorate the unit's long-term productivity, because development is based upon design criteria that enhance this productivity and a resource management element that will protect it. The facilities will be developed to maximize user enjoyment, while minimizing deterioration of the resources.

The short-term use of the land for state recreational uses will protect its natural characteristics and, therefore, its long-term productivity. Project implementation will eliminate all other unrelated uses on the site. The relationship between short-term uses and long-term productivity at Manresa State Beach is complementary; one in which the short-term use retains and expands the environment's long-term productivity.

Alternatives to the Proposed Development

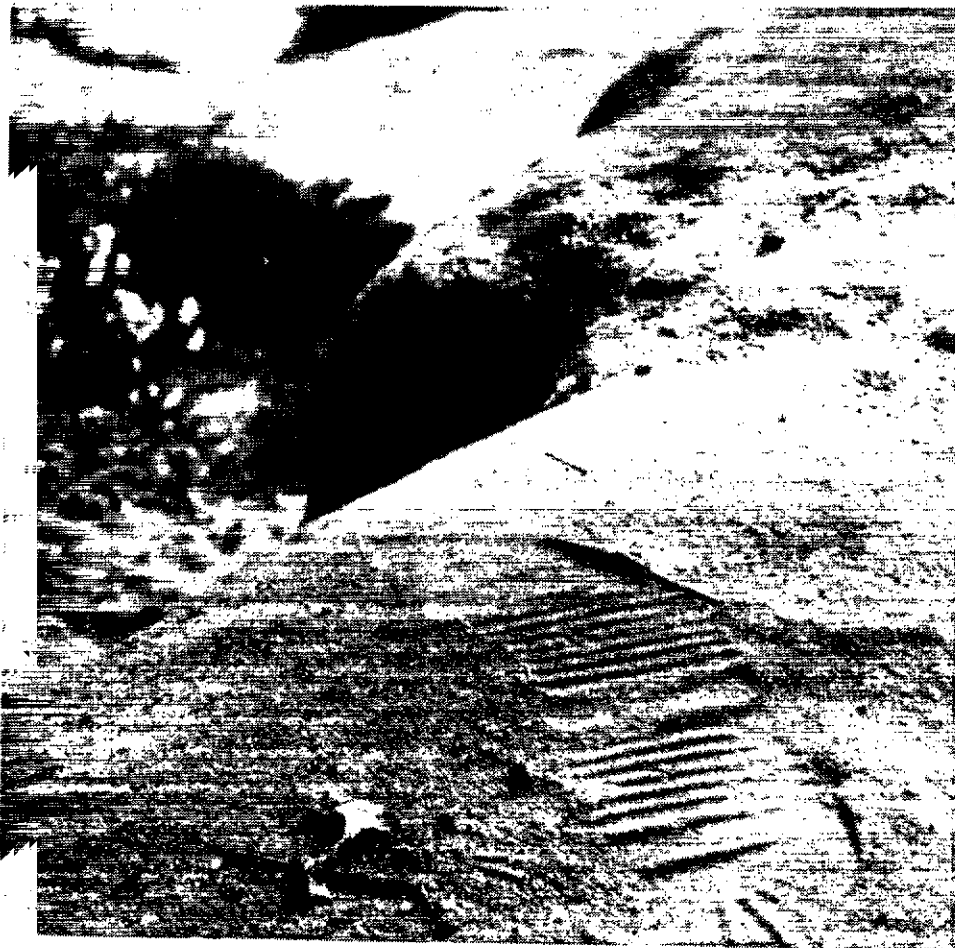
No Development

No development would allow continuation of current use. It would allow for uncontrolled access to the site with no designated roads, parking areas, or sanitary facilities. These factors, along with access problems from the bluff to the beach, would lead to continued degradation of the area and accelerated erosion, associated with indiscriminate access to the beach.

Increased or Decreased Development

The state beach classification regulates the intensity and diversity of development allowed in this State Park System Unit. This General Plan recommends the degree of development deemed appropriate for public access and enjoyment of the site, while allowing for protection of the resources.

Alternatives related to intensity of development are on a spectrum beginning with minimum day-use facilities only, all the way to a high-density loop system of recreation vehicle camping sites. The proposed General Plan is based both on demand for more camping and day-use facilities in the Monterey Bay area and an extensive planning process used to incorporate the needs and desires of local residents.



Location of Facilities

The arrangement of day-use and camping facilities could vary from the proposed plan. All potential sites, however, have been considered for each proposed land use. Site selection was based on maximizing benefits for unit visitors, while minimizing effects on the existing natural and human environment.

Irreversible Changes and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources Which Would Be Involved Should the Project Be Implemented

If future demands or environmental priorities change, and this site is deemed more appropriate for some other use, the area will not have been altered enough by project implementation to preclude changes in use. The proposed development will lead to conversion of some undeveloped land into land sustaining minimal recreation facilities. It is probable that some wildlife and vegetation resources will be lost or displaced, due to development and increased visitation of the site. Some nonrenewable resources will be lost, in the form of oil, gasoline, gravel, and products required for the production of energy necessary to complete the proposed developments, and in the form of materials for proposed constructions.

Growth-Inducing Impacts

There will be minimal growth-inducing impacts associated with development of Manresa State Beach. It is possible that the local economy in the vicinity of the beach might be slightly stimulated by the influx of visitors, initial construction activities associated with development of the unit and addition of park system employees into the community. Due to the size and nature of the unit, growth-inducing impacts are considered to be insignificant.

Summary

The following is a summary of the significant environmental effects of the proposed project, and a summary of related mitigation measures.

Significant Environmental Effects of the Proposed Action

- A. Grading for proposed development and increased visitor use will lead to increased erosion and soil compaction.
- B. Runoff from paved surfaces may lead to sedimentation and turbidity. Natural drainage channels may be altered. There may be a reduction in the amount of water absorbed into the water table.
- C. Effects on vegetation include removal of existing ground cover during construction.
- D. Development and increased visitor use will affect established habitat of some animals.
- E. Increased visitation, removal of vegetation, and construction of facilities could have a negative impact on visual quality.
- F. Increased vehicular traffic on Sand Dollar Drive and increased visitor use could affect neighboring landowners.
- G. There will be a slight increase in demands for water, utilities, and incidentals associated with proposed development and increased use.

Mitigation Measures

- A. Trails to minimize indiscriminate use, enforcement, fencing and signing, planting on graded surfaces, careful site selection, installation of erosion control and drainage structures.
- B. See A above; drainage structures will be installed in or along parking lots, roads, and trails to dissipate the force of runoff and reduce sediment load.
- C. Exposed slopes remaining after construction will be landscaped with native vegetation.
- D. Effects on wildlife are not expected to be significant. No rare or endangered species are on the site.
- E. Revegetation, screening, and control of use through enforcement of rules and regulations will reduce impacts on visual quality. See A and C above.
- F. The unit entrance will be designed for safety and signed accordingly, and parking will be controlled.
- G. These increases are expected to be minimal, with no significant effect on the environment.

Selected References

- California Department of Parks and Recreation. "Inventory of Features: Manresa State Beach." Ms. on file, California Department of Parks and Recreation. Sacramento, 1978.
- County of Santa Cruz. "Santa Cruz County Summer Beach Use." Ms. on file, Santa Cruz County Planning Department. Santa Cruz, 1976.
- Dwer, Jennifer. "Manresa State Beach Interpretive Prospectus." Ms. on file, California Department of Parks and Recreation. Sacramento, 1976.
- Griggs, G.B. and R.L. Farnington. "Earthquake Activity between Monterey and Half Moon Bay, California." In *California Geology*. California Division of Mines and Geology, 1973.
- Krantz, Bruce. "Manresa State Beach Aquatic Safety Problems." Ms. on file, California Department of Parks and Recreation. Sacramento, 1978.
- Marquez, Ron. "Estimating Road Capacities in Santa Cruz County." Ms. on file, Santa Cruz County Planning Department. Santa Cruz, 1977.
- Stammerjohan, George R. "An Historical Sketch of Manresa State Beach." Ms. on file, California Department of Parks and Recreation, 1976.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

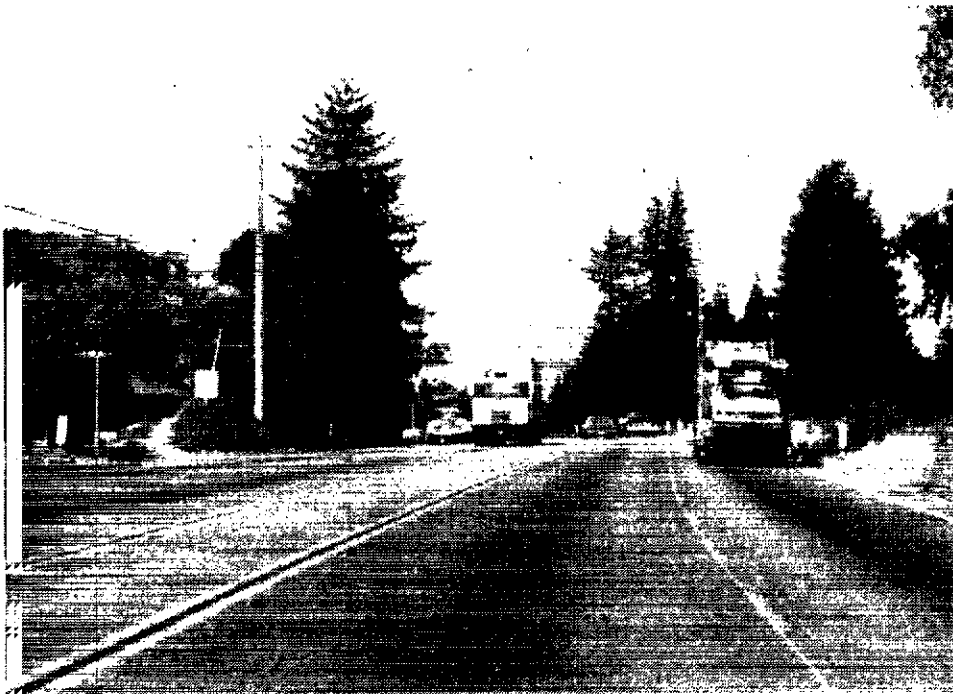
A More Detailed Look at Traffic

Statewide Traffic

There are two major routes used in reaching the Santa Cruz Coast: Highway 17 from San Jose, and Highway 1 (providing access from both north and south along the coast).

Highway 17, winding through the Santa Cruz Mountains, is often congested beyond its peak capacity, particularly during the summer months, on weekends and holidays. According to the California Division of Highways, proposed modification of Highway 17 will provide for safety improvement alone. No construction is scheduled that will increase the highway's capacity.

Highway 1, though often crowded, is less frequently beyond its peak capacity. This freeway also is not scheduled for construction to increase its capacity.



Highway 17

Local Traffic

Traveling from the north, Highway 1 turns inland at Seacliff State Beach. This necessitates a 3 to 4-mile drive to Manresa from the freeway. While the most popular exit is San Andreas Road, Manresa can be reached by three other roads.

Mar Monte Drive

This road, which intersects San Andreas Road in the town of La Selva Beach, is 0.7 miles south of the San Andreas exit. Mar Monte Drive is similar to San Andreas Road, but winds through a more residential area.

Buena Vista Drive

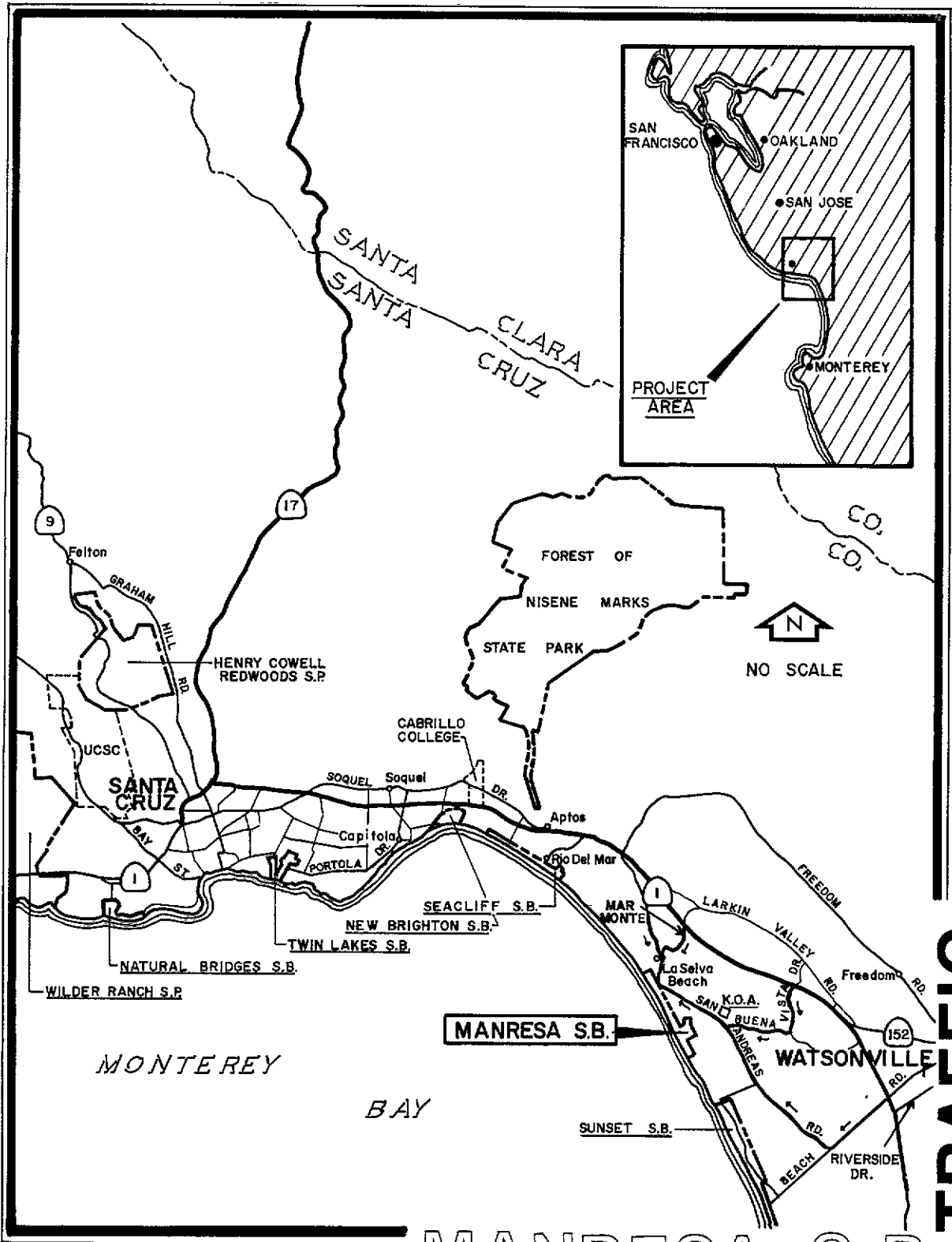
The Buena Vista off ramp lies about 2.2 miles further south on Highway 1. This road runs through much less residential area than both San Andreas Road and Mar Monte Drive, but it also borders a Santa Cruz garbage dump, and therefore, is traveled by many garbage trucks. Buena Vista Drive's narrow, winding character has resulted in many serious accidents. In addition, its intersection with San Andreas Road, toward the southern portion of the park unit, demands reconstruction before major public use can be allowed. Buena Vista Drive's freeway intersection is approximately 4.4 miles from the existing day-use parking lot.

Riverside/Beach Boulevard

The fourth access off Highway 1 is also the furthest from Manresa. The Riverside Drive off-ramp leads to Beach Boulevard, which is the primary access for Sunset State Beach. It intersects San Andreas Road nearby. A 6.7-mile drive will take visitors from the Beach Boulevard off-ramp, in Watsonville, to the existing day-use parking lot at Manresa.

San Andreas Road

San Andreas Road is the only one of the four roads scheduled for improvement in the next five years. The road will be widened for bicycle use from Highway 1 to Oceanview Drive (just past the existing day-use parking lot). San Andreas Road is one leg of the California Bicentennial Bike Route; using this route, visitors travel 1.9 miles to reach the existing day-use parking lot.



TRAFFIC

MANRESA S.B.

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. TRAFFIC	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN				APPROVED	SHEET NO.
CHECKED					DATE

FIGURE 12
97

Upland Property Access

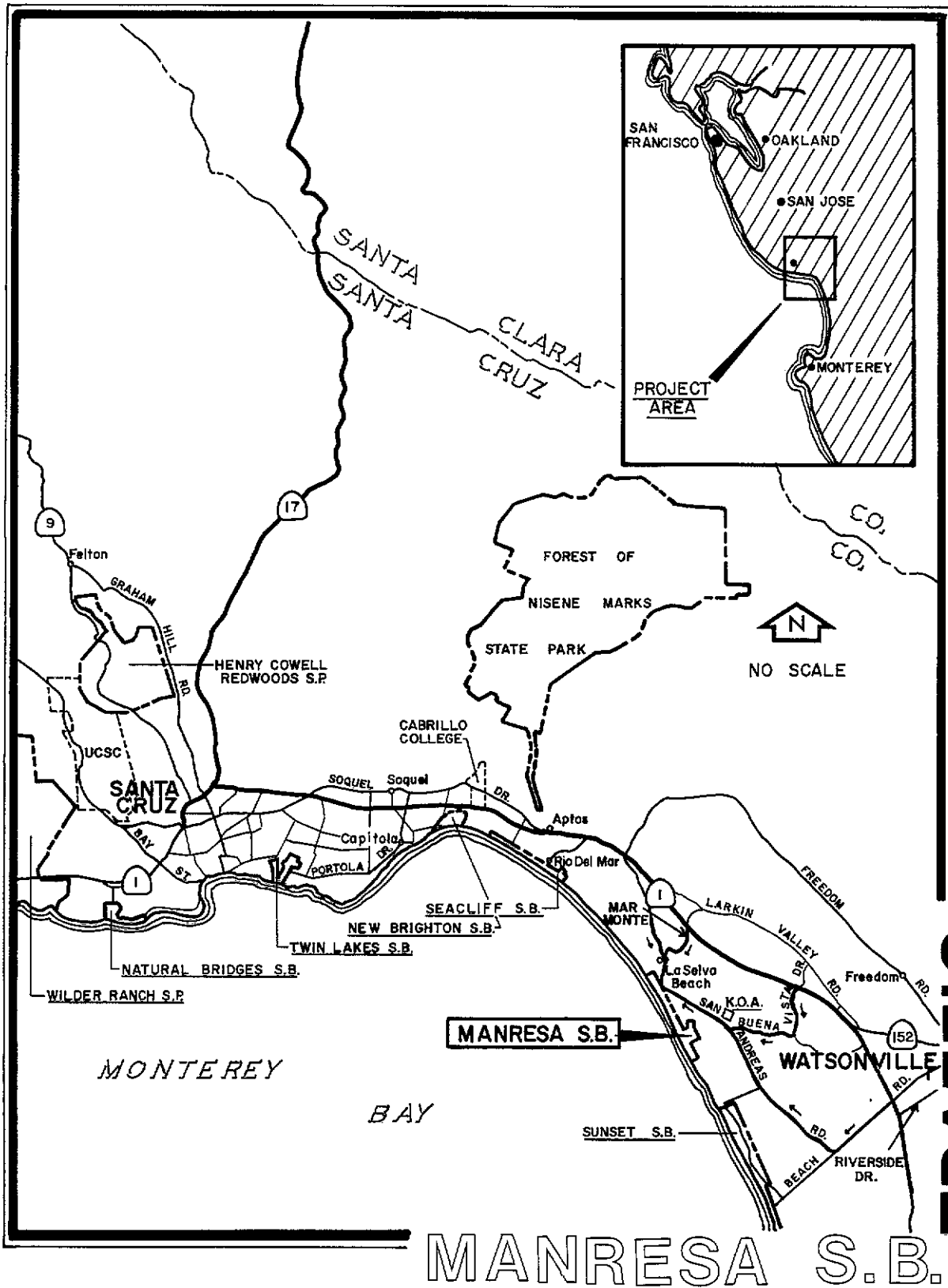
Access to the upland area is achieved by three roads that intersect with San Andreas Road.

Sand Dollar Drive. Tree-lined Sand Dollar Drive, with two single lanes separated by a line of mature Monterey pine, travels 0.3 miles to reach the northern bowl of the upland property. This road is in excellent shape, and is far below its optimum capacity of 5,000 vehicle average daily traffic. Sight distance at the intersection with San Andreas Road is good, and can be improved; the county controls a 60' right-of-way over San Andreas Road. The intersection paving is much too wide, and can cause multiple car problems. This problem can be mitigated by construction of traffic islands.

Crest Drive. The next access to the south, Crest Drive, is badly in need of repair, and has dangerously short sight distance onto San Andreas Road.

Because it travels 0.6 miles to the top of the southern bowl, this access route travels through more residential area than does Sand Dollar Drive.

Zils Road. The southernmost route is also the longest (1.1 miles). Access to the uplands property from Zils Road includes a drive over Lily Way, a private dirt road, to which the state shares right-of-way with a number of nearby homeowners. Zils Road is in excellent condition, but its sight distance onto San Andreas Road is even more dangerous than that of Crest Drive.



TRAFFIC

MANRESA S.B.

DESIGNED	REVISIONS	DATE	MANRESA S.B. TRAFFIC	RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	DRAWING NO.
DRAWN				APPROVED	SHEET NO.
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FIGURE 12
97

Upland Property Access

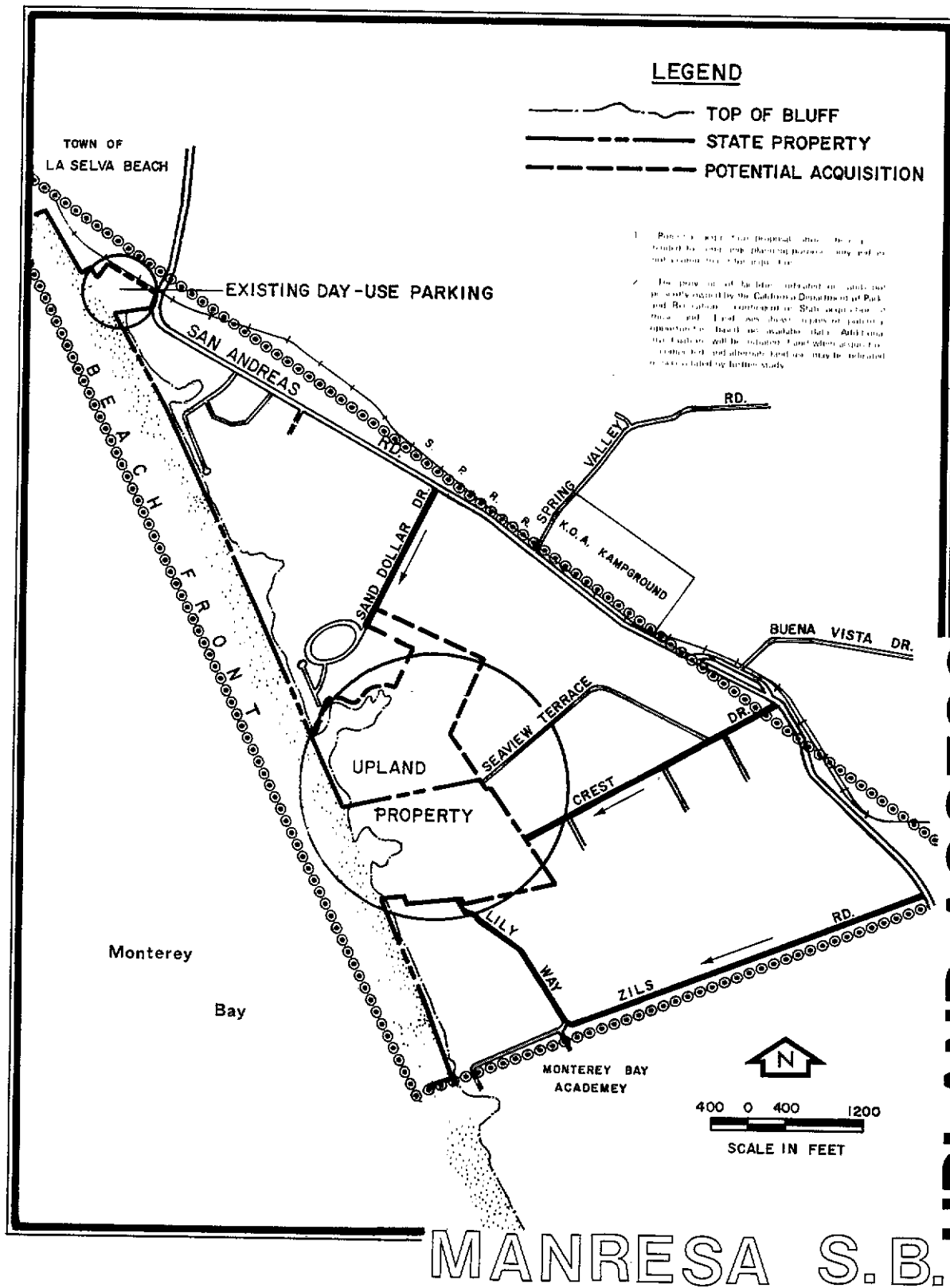
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MANRESA S.B.
STUDY AREA

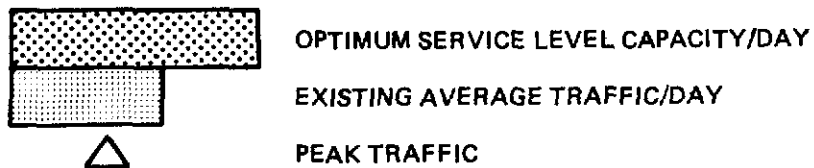
RENDERED BY THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

DRAWING NO.
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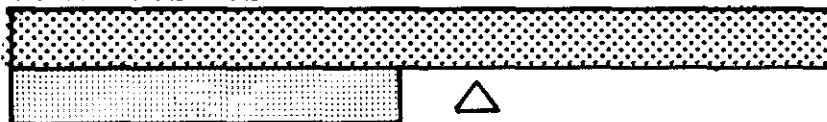
FIGURE 13
99

ROAD CAPACITY vs. EXISTING USE

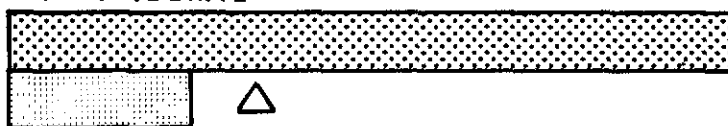
AUGUST 1977



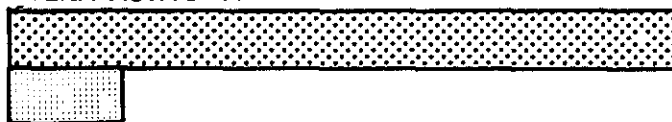
SAN ANDREAS ROAD



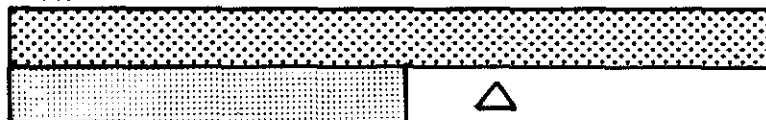
MAR MONTE DRIVE



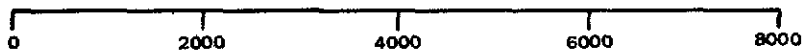
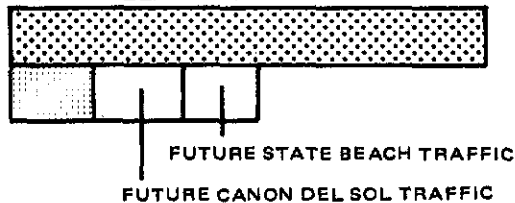
BUENA VISTA DRIVE



BEACH BOULEVARD



SAND DOLLAR DRIVE



APPENDIX B

Summary of Public Involvement

THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT. IS PLANNING FOR

Manresa STATE BEACH

MONTEREY PENINSULA
 ○ SANTA CRUZ
 ○ MONTEREY
 ○ MANRESA

POINT US IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

YOUR INPUT (CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY)

WHAT SORT OF ACTIVITIES DO YOU GET INVOLVED IN AT THE OCEAN?

<input type="checkbox"/> CAMP	<input type="checkbox"/> SURF	<input type="checkbox"/> LOOK	<input type="checkbox"/> THINK	<input type="checkbox"/> RELAX	<input type="checkbox"/> SANDCASTLES
<input type="checkbox"/> PICNIC	<input type="checkbox"/> JOG	<input type="checkbox"/> PAINT	<input type="checkbox"/> TAN	<input type="checkbox"/> PLAY	<input type="checkbox"/> THROW FRISBEES
<input type="checkbox"/> STROLL	<input type="checkbox"/> SWIM	<input type="checkbox"/> READ	<input type="checkbox"/> SUNB	<input type="checkbox"/> BE ALONE	

HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU GO TO THE BEACH WITH? _____

HOW OFTEN DO YOU GO TO THE BEACH? _____

HOW LONG DO YOU STAY? _____

WHEN DO YOU GO TO THE BEACH?

<input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER	<input type="checkbox"/> SPRING	<input type="checkbox"/> EVENING	<input type="checkbox"/> MIDDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> WEEKENDS	<input type="checkbox"/> WEEKDAYS
<input type="checkbox"/> WINTER	<input type="checkbox"/> AUTUMN	<input type="checkbox"/> MORNING	<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL DAYS		

WHEN "CHARLIE'S ANGELS" ISN'T ON T.V. WHEN "CHARLIE'S ANGELS" IS ON T.V.

WHAT BEACHES DO YOU LIKE TO GO TO? WHY? _____

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF MANRESA STATE BEACH?

YES, I'VE BEEN THERE YES, BUT WHERE IS IT? NO

WHY DO YOU GO TO THE SANTA CRUZ AREA? (OR SPECIFICALLY MANRESA) _____

WHAT TYPE OF FACILITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT MANRESA?

<input type="checkbox"/> SNACK STALL	<input type="checkbox"/> CONDOMINIUMS	<input type="checkbox"/> VOLLEYBALL
<input type="checkbox"/> RESTAURANT	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> BIKE TRAILS
<input type="checkbox"/> BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/> PICNIC TABLES	<input type="checkbox"/> JOGGING TRAILS
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE PITS	<input type="checkbox"/> MEETING AREAS	<input type="checkbox"/> SKATEBOARDING

<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATIONAL VEHICLES	<input type="checkbox"/> CAMP UNDER THE STARS
<input type="checkbox"/> SELF CONTAINED R.V.	<input type="checkbox"/> TENT CAMPING
<input type="checkbox"/> GROUP R.V.	<input type="checkbox"/> GROUP CAMPING
<input type="checkbox"/> HILTON HOTEL RESORT	<input type="checkbox"/> BIKE HOSTEL

DO YOU SEE ANY PROBLEMS AT STATE BEACHES? (OR SPECIFICALLY MANRESA)

<input type="checkbox"/> LITTER	<input type="checkbox"/> PARKING	<input type="checkbox"/> EROSION	<input type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED PEOPLE
<input type="checkbox"/> SAFETY	<input type="checkbox"/> RESTROOMS	<input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED DOGS	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHERS
<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATIONAL VEHICLES	<input type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED DOGS	<input type="checkbox"/> HORSES	

EXPLANATIONS _____

GENERAL COMMENTS? _____

OPEN MEETING
 FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MANRESA
 GIVE US YOUR IDEAS

TELEPHONE, DECEMBER 15
 7:00 PM. APTOS HIGH SCHOOL
 CAFETERIA THEATER

The initial project questionnaire generated public interest in the planning project, indicated public recreational needs, and announced the first public meeting.

RESPONSE SHEET

This "Response Sheet" was made available to interested citizens following the second public meeting. Its purpose was to gain additional public evaluation of the preliminary plan (previous to redesign). The responses varied from *very supportive* to *very much opposed*. Some examples of each follow on the next page.

RESPONSE SHEET

This Response Sheet Will Be Used to Supplement Comments Already Received by Mail and at Public Meetings. We Strongly Urge You to Emphasize the "Why" Behind Your Comments.



* What recreational needs do you have on the Santa Cruz coast? _____

* What do you think of the plan? Advantages? Disadvantages? The camping concept? _____

* Do you have any recommendations for solutions to Manresa's existing problems? _____

* Do you have any concerns about public input to date? _____

* Further comments _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 Group _____

(Use other side for additional comments)

Questions With Sample Responses

What recreational needs do you have on the Santa Cruz Coast?

- o "We have group camping needs all up and down the coast – just try to get in!!!"
- o "Camping, hiking, viewing this land and sea – all passive kinds of recreation."
- o "None other than is already provided."
- o "An untouched beach without modern facilities!"
- o "I have a motorhome and would love to come down to the Santa Cruz area for a few days."

What do you think of the plan?

- o "The plan sounds sensible."
- o "I think this development proposal is quite unnecessary."
- o "Excellent plan."
- o "I can't see any advantages to your plan."

Do you have any concerns about public input to date?

- o "I think you would do well to listen to local people and take what they say as good advice. They live there. They are aware of the situation there, and also of what the problems are in further development. Besides, they are going to have to live with whatever you decide to do, not you."
- o "Although all of us like to vacation in hideaway places with few others sharing space with us, this is a luxury for a few that should not be allowed to shape public policy. The proposed plan will serve only a small number of persons, is respectful of the environment and should be adopted. Future users cannot speak for themselves as clearly in support as neighbors already in residence speak in opposition. The intent of Prop. 20 was to raise the level of planning for the coast beyond local considerations. The State Department of Parks and Recreation must also continue to look at the needs of all the people of the State while designing projects to mitigate adverse effects on existing property."

CONTACT LIST

The following people have provided valuable assistance in creating the General Plan for Manresa State Beach. This contact list serves to acknowledge their help, and to identify each of them as a resource for future implementation of this plan.

Government Contacts

Tom Burns (Geology, Santa Cruz County)

Gene Delucchi (Sewage, Santa Cruz County)

Roy Gorman (Coastal Commission)

Carl McGuire (Regional Traffic, CALTRANS)

Ron Marquez (Traffic, Santa Cruz County)

Michael Miller (Coastal Commission)

John Warren (Senior Planner, Santa Cruz County)

Public Contacts

California Native Plant Society

"Save Manresa Uplands" Design Committee

Jacqueline Christeve, Chairperson

Dan Doyle

Barbara Drisoll

Roy Folger

Paula Porter

William Woolsey

J. Daniel Young

Amador Galvez, Jr. (Utilities, Pacific Gas & Electric)

Victor Lauderbach (Canon Del Sol)

William H. Plageman Jr. (Canon Del Sol)

Taylor Nursery

APPENDIX C

Partial Listing of California Native Plants

Trees

<i>Common Name</i>	<i>Botanical Name</i>
Bigleaf maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>
Box elder	<i>Acer negundo</i> ssp. <i>californicum</i>
California sycamore	<i>Platanus racemosa</i>
Coast live oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>
Monterey cypress	<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>
Monterey pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>
Red alder	<i>Alnus rubra</i>

Shrubs

Beach lupine	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>
Blue beach lupine	<i>Lupinus chamissonis</i>
Coast sagebrush	<i>Artemisia californica</i>
Coffeeberry	<i>Rhamnus californica</i>
Coyote brush	<i>Baccharis pilularis</i> ssp. <i>consanguinea</i>
Lizard tail	<i>Eriophyllum staechadifolium</i>
Toyon	<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>
Wax-myrtle	<i>Myrica californica</i>