



Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District

R-16-59
Meeting 16-09
April 27, 2016

SPECIAL MEETING

AGENDA ITEM

Final Interpretive Design and Content for the Mount Umunhum Summit Project

GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATIONS *SM*

1. Approve the proposed interpretive design and content for the Mount Umunhum Summit Project (Summit Project) with any final adjustments, as directed by the full Board.
2. Direct the General Manager to proceed with the production of interpretive signs, which will form the basis for a Request for Bids package for fabrication.

SUMMARY

In December 2015, the Board of Directors (Board) selected an interpretive design option for the Summit Project in an amount not-to-exceed \$212,000 (R-15-166) to provide visitors with a broad understanding of the site. Interpretive subject matter will cover the full arc of history that includes the cultural and natural history and the cold war strategy, and be generally equal in amount of coverage among these three topics. The proposed interpretive content has been previously reviewed by external partners and key stakeholders. Interpretive signs will be integrated as part of the built structures, primarily within the weather shelters with only two standalone signs proposed for other summit locations. The funding allocation for interpretive design and deliverables represents approximately 3% of the estimated total cost of the Summit Project. Both the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 and proposed FY2016-17 Budgets include sufficient funds for this work.

MEASURE AA

The 5-year Measure AA Project List approved by the Board at their October 29, 2014 meeting includes the Summit Project and Interpretive Elements. These projects are part of Measure AA Portfolio #23, Mt. Umunhum Public Access and Interpretation Projects, with a total funding allocation of \$27.972 Million.

DISCUSSION

Design of interpretive elements is being carried out by Leslie Stone Associates (LSA), one of eight sub-consultants to Restoration Design Group (RDG), who is the prime landscape architecture consulting firm for the Summit Project. On August 26, 2015, the Board approved a final design for the summit (R-15-126), and at the November 18, 2015 meeting, the Board approved a contract amendment for RDG, which included a placeholder for interpretive design and fabrication oversight (R-15-160) for both the summit and the Guadalupe Creek Overlook on

the Mount Umunhum Trail. An interpretive design option for the Summit Project was selected by the Board in an amount not-to-exceed \$212,000 (R-15-166). The General Manager is now seeking the Board's input and approval of the graphic design and content to finalize construction documents for fabrication this summer. Funding partners for the Summit Project (State Coastal Conservancy) will be recognized with separate signage on the standard District signboards thanking them for their support of the project.

The Board approved a higher-than-minimal level of site amenities and improvements for both the Summit Project and Guadalupe Creek Overlook; the Preferred Option for interpretation selected by the Board aligns well with this elevated vision that has been set for Mount Umunhum. The Board also requested that the Summit Project strike a balance between providing interpretation and preserving the natural environment.

A total of twelve interpretive signs are proposed for the summit and Mount Umunhum Trail (see Attachment 1). Among the twelve signs, five free-standing signs are proposed (#6, #8, #10, #11, and #12); of these only one free-standing sign, #8, is not associated with or describing an adjacent structure. This is a view locator pointing out places of interest on the horizon and thanking our land preservation and stewardship partners in the region.

The remaining interpretive signs are proposed to be part of or refer to a nearby "built" structure, where their siting and location would be complementary to the restored landscape (see Attachments 2 and 3). Attachment 2 includes representative samples of graphics to depict the look and feel of the proposed signage. Actual graphics may change, and the text is represented in latin, but the content will remain consistent with the content shown in Attachment 3. The table below summarizes the location and general topic of all twelve signs:

Sign #	Location	General topic
1- 5	Turnaround shelter	Natural history; Native American history and creation story; military history; habitat restoration story; viewshed
6	Ceremonial circle	Local Native American creation story and ceremonial practices
7-8	West summit	Dedication plaque to the public; viewfinder; recognition to partners
9	Trailhead shelter	Natural history
10	Swimming pool remnant	Military life
11	Mt. Umunhum Trail: cabin ruins	People of Mount Umunhum
12	Mt. Umunhum Trail: Guadalupe Creek Overlook	Guadalupe Creek watershed / drinking water source

Prior to finalizing the draft interpretive content, staff reached out to the following external partners/collaborators/stakeholders to review the proposed interpretive content, and their requested changes have been incorporated. Any final content changes approved by the Board on April 27, 2016 would be communicated to the group:

1. Valentin Lopez, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
2. Francis McVey, President of the United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County
3. Basim Jaber, volunteer military historian
4. Mark Hylkema, Archaeologist, Ohlone representative

5. Ken Hickman, naturalist and wildlife researcher
6. Stewardship Awareness Impact Team, Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds for this work are included in the FY2015-16 Budget through June 2016. Funds for fabrication and installation of interpretive materials will be included in the proposed FY2016-17 Budget. All expenses are eligible for Measure AA reimbursement.

BOARD COMMITTEE REVIEW

Given the high level of Board interest in the interpretive components of the Project, and the current timeline to open the summit to the public on October 22, 2016, this item is being brought directly forward to the full Board for expediency. This approach also aligns with the Planning and Natural Resource Committee's desire to have the full Board review and confirm the summit area final design (R-15-126).

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice was provided as required by the Brown Act. Additional public notice was provided to the Mount Umunhum Summit Project interested parties.

CEQA COMPLIANCE

Construction of the Mount Umunhum Summit Area, including interpretive elements, was included in the Mount Umunhum Environmental Restoration and Public Access Plan EIR, which was certified by the Board on October 17, 2012 (R-12-91).

NEXT STEPS

Pending Board approval of the interpretive content and graphics, the General Manager will authorize staff to work with RDG and their sub-consultant LSA to finalize the interpretive content and then proceed with graphic production, which will be managed by RDG. Installation of interpretive elements is expected to be included in the larger, overall Request for Bids for construction of the summit area amenities, currently scheduled for release on May 10.

Attachments

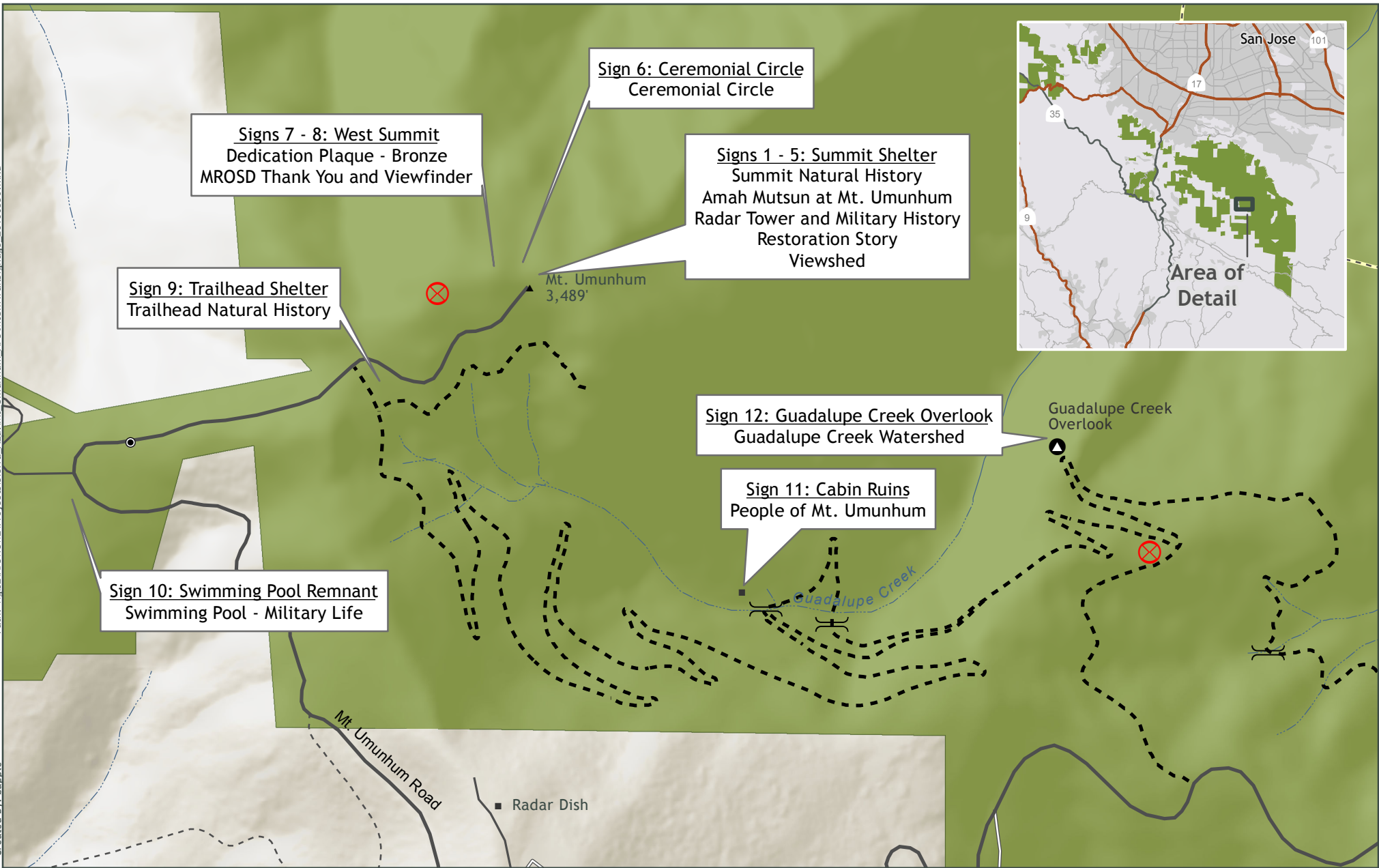
1. Map of proposed interpretive sign locations
2. Mount Umunhum Conceptual Interpretive Graphic Designs
3. Mount Umunhum Interpretive Content

Responsible Department Head:

Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Manager, Planning Department

Prepared by:

Meredith Manning, Senior Planner, Planning Department



Attachment 1: Mt. Umunhum Summit Project: Interpretive Sign Locations

- MROSD Preserves
- Private Property
- Mt. Umunhum Trail
- Bridge
- Vista Point
- Landing Zone
- Gate

Midpeninsula Regional
Open Space District
(MROSD)



April, 2016





Positioning of logos on interpretive panels



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Tel 415 332 3306

client

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Restoration Design Group

project

Mount Umunhum
Summit Project

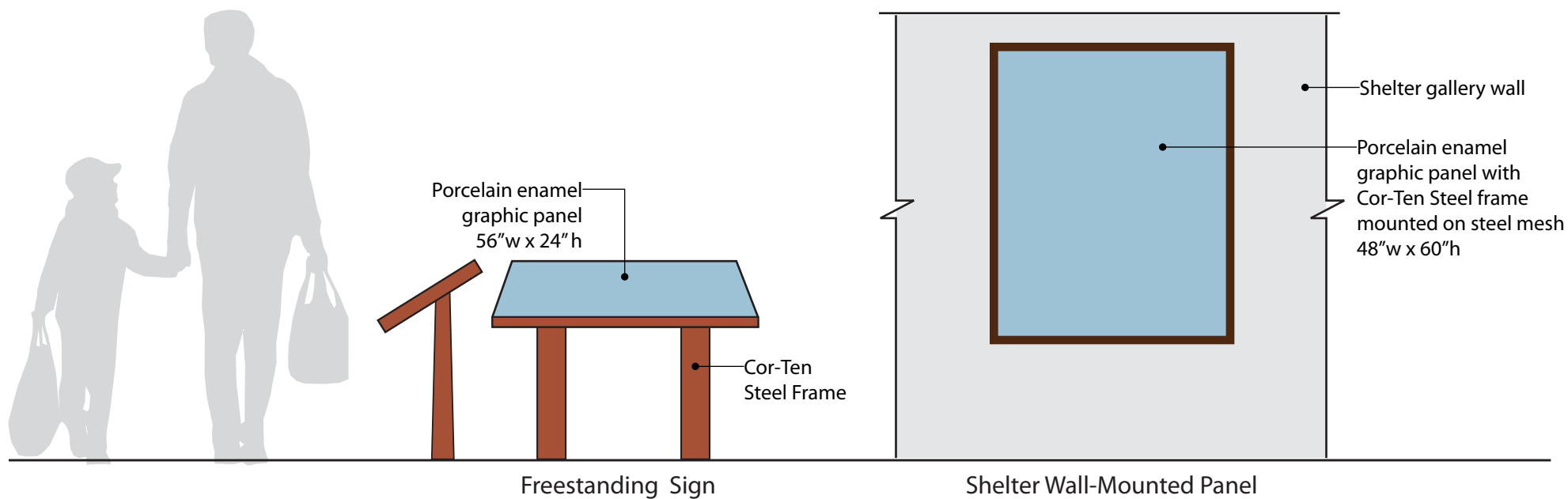
description

Preliminary Graphic
Design Concepts

date

4/11/16

1.0



Interpretive Signs and Frames



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client

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
 Restoration Design Group

project

Mount Umunhum
 Summit Project

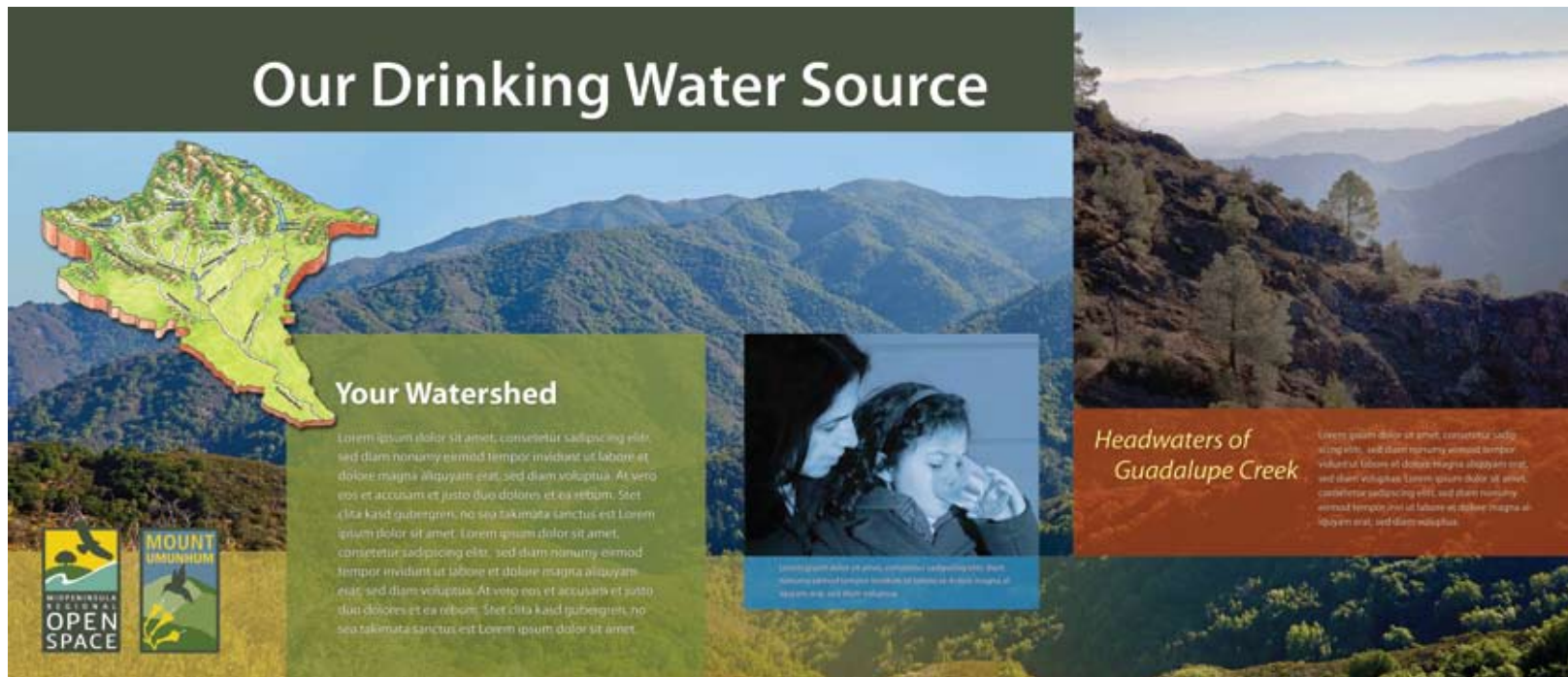
description

Preliminary Graphic
 Design Concepts

date

4/11/16

2.0



Example of free-standing interpretive sign panel

<p>client Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Restoration Design Group</p>	<p>project Mount Umunhum Summit Project</p>	<p>description Preliminary Graphic Design Concepts</p>	<p>date 4/11/16</p>	<p>3.0</p>
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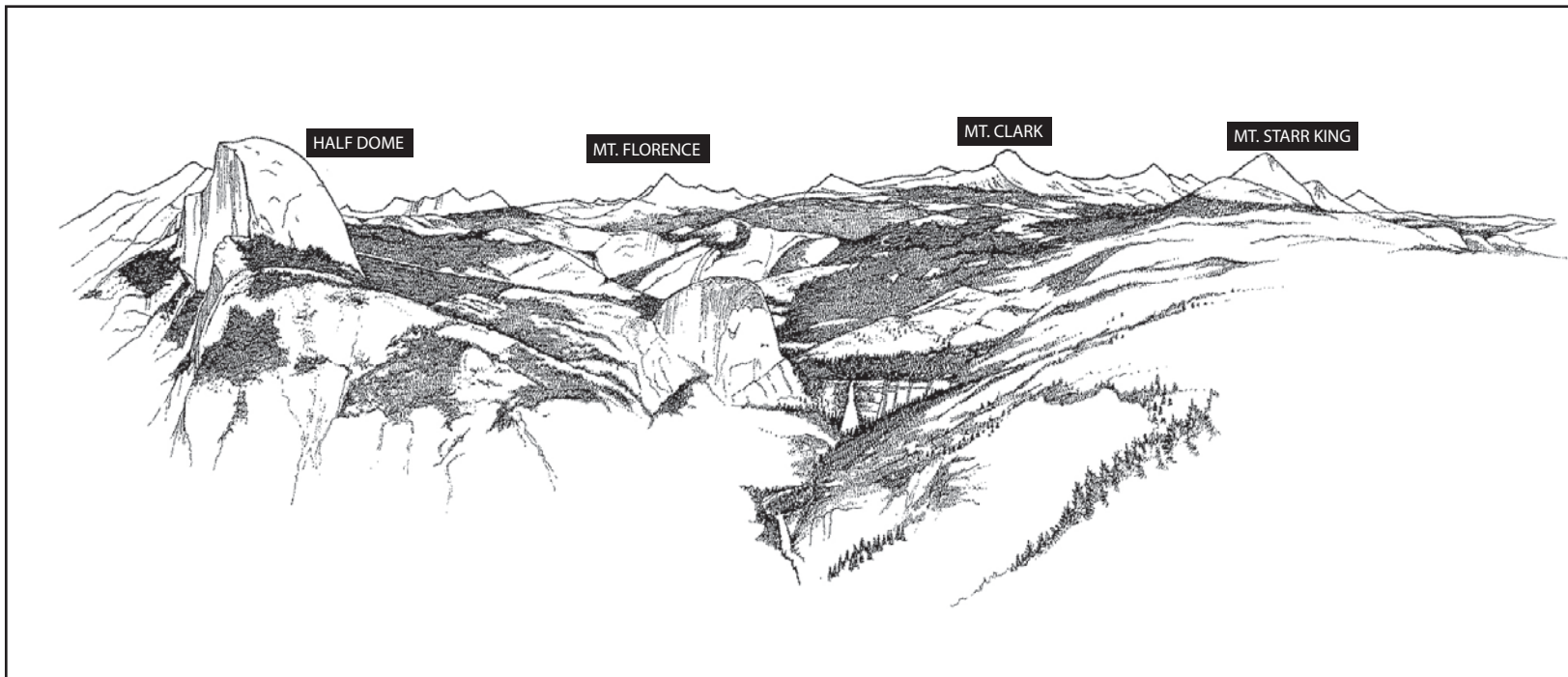


Example of shelter wall-mounted panel



Leslie Stone Associates
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 Tel 415 332 3306

client Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Restoration Design Group	project Mount Umunhum Summit Project	description Preliminary Graphic Design Concepts	date 4/11/16	4.0
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Sample illustration style for view finder sign



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client

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Restoration Design Group

project

Mount Umunhum
Summit Project

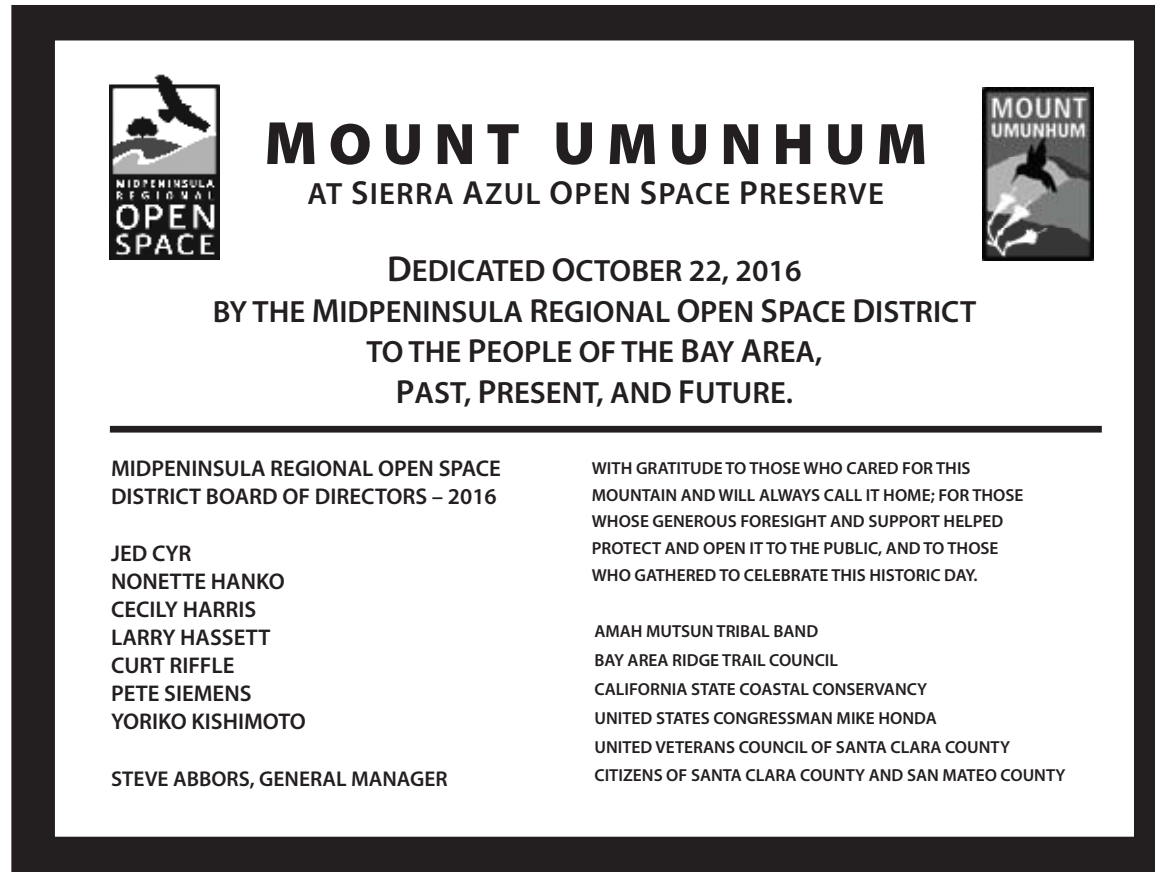
description

Preliminary Graphic
Design Concepts

date

4/11/16

5.0



Thank you plaque - Text

client Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Restoration Design Group	project Mount Umunhum Summit Project	description Preliminary Graphic Design Concepts	date 4/11/16	6.0
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Sample thank you plaque - bronze mockup



Leslie Stone Associates
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client

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
 Restoration Design Group

project

Mount Umunhum
 Summit Project

description

Preliminary Graphic
 Design Concepts

date

4/11/16

7.0

Mount Umunhum Summit Project

Interpretive Content

*Planning for interpretive signage
at the summit of Mount Umunhum*

*Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Prepared by Leslie Stone Associates [LSA]
April 27, 2016*

Introduction

The following outline of the Interpretive Content Plan reflects the decisions made at the Interpretive Study Session with the Board of Directors at Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District on Wednesday, Dec 9, 2015.

This outline contains a draft of the sign content reflected in the Interpretive Concept Site Plan presented at that Study Session. These content elements will serve as the foundation to write the final text for each sign panel. The following elements are listed for each sign:

Sign Number and Description of Sign

Each sign has a unique number and description.

Location

Locations are generally established but may shift slightly as the project progresses. The location is important to the story because the interpretive sign usually reflects and tells a story about something the visitor can see.

Working Title

This is just what it sounds like. As the content is refined, the title will be crafted to reflect the content and approach to the subject matter

Draft Text

Once the draft text is approved, it will be crafted into final text for each interpretive sign. The optimal amount of text for each sign is 150-200 words. We have provided more draft text here than will fit on each individual sign. We will edit it to fit and to appeal to visitors who may only spend 30-seconds looking at each sign. Some portions of the text may be used as a sidebar story or for image captions.

Images

In this section, we list the images (photos, maps, illustrations) that we recommend. Some we will have in our collection. Some images will need to be purchased and others acquired in higher resolution. We will need assistance to acquire certain images.

Overarching Theme

The overarching theme statement will serve as the story arc through which all the interpretive content will filter.

Umunhum in the Ohlone language is the root word for “hummingbird”, and is an onomatopoeia for the sound a hummingbird makes in hover. (Onomatopoeia is the formation of words such as “buzz” that mimic the sound associated with the object it refers to; in this case, it is the sound of the hummingbird when it hovers.) Hummingbird in the Ohlone world represented trust and innocence, and figured into their origin legends. In the spirit of hummingbird, welcome back to your land. Enjoy it and discover its many stories.

Interpretive Signs – Draft Content

1.0 Summit Natural History

Location

Summit Shelter

Working Title

Life on the Summit

Welcome to the summit of Mount Umunhum. The mountain's summit has been modified repeatedly over the past century to suit the ever-changing needs of the people who live below it. But for millions of years, the summit has been shaped by the powerful forces of geology and climate.

Between here and the ocean, the Pacific Plate grinds into the North American Plate along the San Andreas Fault. The 800-mile long fault bends nearby increasing uplift in an area already prone to upward tectonic thrusts. The highest peaks in the Santa Cruz Mountains, including Mount Umunhum, are all in close proximity to this bend. It is why these mountains are so high and so beautiful, lined with sharp ridges and extremely deep valleys.

Severe weather impacts this high summit of Mount Umunhum. Winds can reach over 100 miles an hour. Ten inches of rain can fall in a single day. The climate can be excruciatingly hot or bitterly cold.

These conditions and the rocky, low-nutrient and serpentine soils make it difficult for most plants to endure. Some small and hearty species have adapted to find a home within the shaded, protected cracks of the rocky summit. Red bush beardtongue, canyon liveforever, spikemoss, rock buckwheat, Brewer's clarkia, coast lipfern, and Lindley's blazing star, have found ways to flourish in this harsh environment. Because conditions here are so unique, many of the plants are rare and not found in many other places.

Together, these rocks and plants form "rock gardens." These rock gardens host busy lizards, ants, grasshoppers, and beautiful displays of butterflies including callippe and unsilvered fritillaries, gray hairstreaks and checkered skippers. Birds from the nearby forests and chaparral come to feed on the plants and insects. Despite the apparently harsh conditions there is a surprising variety of thriving plant and animal life found at this summit.

Images

Rock garden plants, reptiles, butter flies, geologic map/San Andreas fault.

2.0 Amah Mutsun at Mount Umunhum

Location

Summit Shelter

Working Title

Mount Umunhum: Root Word for Hummingbird

Umunhum is the root word for hummingbird in five different Ohlone languages, including the Mutsun dialect of the Monterey bay and southern Santa Clara Valley region. The word sounds like the noise a hummingbird makes while hovering.

Mount Umunhum is a sacred site for today's Amah Mutsun and Muwekma people— tribal bands composed of the formerly many different ancestral Ohlone tribes that once surrounded the mountain. Along with the eagle, the hawk, and the raven, the hummingbird plays an important role in their creation story.

Umunhum contains the root word for hummingbird in five different Ohlone languages, including Mutsun. The word sounds like the noise a hummingbird makes while hovering.

Mount Umunhum is the most sacred site for the Amah Mutsun as it is the site of their creation. Along with the eagle, the hawk, and the raven, the hummingbird plays an important role in the Amah Mutsun creation story.

In the beginning the world was covered with water. Eagle gave hawk, probably a peregrin falcon, a feather from the top of his head to give him the strength to dive to the bottom of the ocean so he could grab the seafloor with his talons and bring it up to the surface to shape the special clay into the finned, winged, and four-legged animals. Later, eagle directed hummingbird to retrieve fire from the badger people who did not want to share their fire. Hummingbird used his bravery, quickness, and intelligence, to bring fire to the world. When hummingbird was returning the fire to the top of Mt. Umunhum the fire ignited in Hummingbird's throat and turned it red.

The Amah Mutsun, as many Ohlone people, believe that Creator gave humans higher intelligence and the obligation to solve problems and care for all living things. Traditionally the Amah Mutsun believe that true wealth is the ability to carry indigenous knowledge forward to provide for all people, animals, plants, Mother Earth, wind, water and shadows. Decisions are to be made only if they will be good for the next seven generations.

Images

Hummingbird, acorn, deer, elk, eagle, basketry, basket pattern. Some words in Mutsun and Muwekma language.

3.0 Radar Tower and Military History

Location**Summit Shelter****Working Title****Scanning the Skies**

In the 1950s, the U. S. Air Force transformed Mount Umunhum into the Almaden Air Force Station, an early warning radar station. The 88-foot tall concrete tower that remains was the foundation for what was one of the largest rotating military radars ever built. It was one of twelve similar radar units and part of a larger network of hundreds of radar stations all over the country. For a generation, the radar here scanned 250 miles out over the Pacific Ocean in search of Soviet bombers to protect the United States from an airborne nuclear attack.

As many as 125 military personnel and their families lived and worked on Mount Umunhum. Dozens of structures housed equipment, a commissary, a mess hall, homes, and recreational facilities.

Technological advancements in both missile delivery systems and satellites made the radar at Almaden Air Force Station obsolete. In 1980, the base closed permanently.

Almaden Air Force Station and other military bases in the Bay Area had a profound impact on the region. The bases and stations attracted technologically inclined people from all over to fight the Cold War. While new technologies that led to better means for detecting incoming missiles and bombers eventually led to the closure of Almaden Air Force Station, many of the people who came here stayed and applied their skills and knowledge to the young Silicon Valley, helping establish it as a world leader in technology and innovation.

Images

Radar on tower, other buildings on the site (aerial), map showing location of other stations on the west coast, photos of the station (particularly the summit) while operational or under construction.

4.0 Restoration Story

Location

Summit Shelter

Working Title

New Life for an Old Mountain

“To acquire and preserve a regional greenbelt of open space land in perpetuity, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education.” -Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Mission Statement

When the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District acquired Mount Umunhum in 1986, nearly 60 buildings and other structures remained on the former Almaden Air Force Station. The Air Force had lowered and flattened much of the summit to accommodate these structures. The mountain top no longer looked like a mountain top.

In 2013, the District began the restoration of Mount Umunhum. The District deconstructed 13,680 tons of concrete, asphalt, wood and other materials. It removed 3,000 cubic yards of lead-based paint, asbestos, fuel storage containers, PCB transformers, and other hazardous materials. The District recycled 97% of the non-hazardous materials such as wood and concrete and incorporated much of the material onsite to help reshape the mountain.

In 2015 and 2016, the District moved over 8,000 cubic yards of earth to sculpt the east and west summits of Mount Umunhum. To do the resculpting, the District recovered rock and soil that had been cast down the side of the mountain when the summit was flattened sixty years earlier. The summit is now taller and narrower and has begun to look like a mountain top again.

To accelerate the restoration of native plant communities at the summit, the District collected thousands of seeds from native plants growing on Mount Umunhum, germinated and propagated them in nearby greenhouses, and returned plants to the mountain a year later.

While the District naturalized the summit and restored mountain-top plant communities, it also built staging areas, trails, stairways, and shelters to provide for safe and enjoyable visits for the public.

The Mount Umunhum Summit Project is one of the first mountain-top restoration projects in the Bay Area and serves as a model for other summits that have been impacted over the past century.

SIDEBAR showing photos of plants grown for summit restoration (list below should be shortened)

Trees: mountain mahogany, grey pine, holly leaf cherry, leather oak

Shrubs: California sagebrush, showy rabbitbrush, red rock penstemon

Perennials: deerweed, California fuchsia, golden yarrow, silver bush lupine, foothill penstemon, coyote mint, rock phacelia

Grasses: junegrass, California melic

Images

Before and after photographs, construction photos, plants

5.0 Viewshed

Location

Summit Shelter

Working Title

Summits of the Bay Area

Four great peaks ring the San Francisco Bay: Mount Tamalpais to the north, Mount Diablo to the northwest, Mount Hamilton to the east, and Mount Umunhum to the west. Weather permitting, all can be seen from this vantage point.

Like Mount Umunhum, each peak holds spiritual value for the people living below it and were places where the human spirit interacted with the universe. The Coast Miwok consider Mount Tamalpais both a sacred mother who provides food and water and also a guardian who protected the Bay. Bay Miwok and eastern Ohlone tribes hold that Mount Diablo is the origin of creation. Similarly, Mount Hamilton is held in high regard by its surrounding population.

More recently, each of the peaks have served other purposes. Since 1851, because of its prominence over the surrounding landscape, Mount Diablo has served as the “initial point” - the main surveying reference point - for much of Northern California and Nevada. The Diablo Meridian, the longitudinal line which runs due north and south from the peak of Mount Diablo, runs approximately three-quarters of a mile to the west of the summit of Mount Umunhum.

In 1876, construction of the Lick Observatory at the summit of Mount Hamilton began. When completed in 1887, it was the first permanently occupied mountain-top observatory. The white structures visible from Mount Umunhum house several telescopes and approximately a dozen full-time residents. The observatory has been the site of many astronomical discoveries including six of Jupiter’s moons.

In 1950, the Air Force built a radar station at the summit of Mount Tamalpais to detect incoming aircraft and missiles. The facility covered 100 acres and housed hundreds of military personnel. Much like at the Almaden Air Force Station on Mount Umunhum, advances in technology led to the eventual abandonment of the station at Mount Tamalpais.

Images

Aerial view showing meridian lines, representation of the panoramic view with summits and elevations called out, Mount Diablo locator profile, historic map of the meridian lines.

6.0 Ceremonial Circle

Location **Near the Ceremonial Circle**

Working Title **A Sacred Site**

Mount Umunhum holds great spiritual value for local tribal bands such as the Amah Mutsun and Muwekma. It was where visions were sought and communion with the spiritual world was made. It is also where our relationships with our ancestors and future descendants were their strongest. It is where hummingbird serves to remind those who see the mountain of the old teachings. It is a place of ceremony and prayer. The Amah Mutsun hold ceremonies here because it is close to their Creator, because of its resonance to the spiritual self, and where the children of their ancestors continue to reach out for balance and harmony.

The Amah Mutsun pray to the four compass directions for balance. They consider the number four to be a sacred number as it provides balance to the world and to individual lives. There are four seasons and four directions. Good decisions are made when four elements align: heart, mind, body and soul.

Ohlone descendants invite all people to this destination for healing and prayer, to pray for past generations, future descendants, for healing, and for renewal of the environment. The sun comes from the east and represents a new day, a new opportunity, a new birth, hope and optimism, opportunity, future generations, and the continuation of the descendants of our ancestors. When the sun sets in the west it reminds us of our ancestors who have passed.

Images *Illustrations of dancers in regalia (see Ann Thiermann, muralist for Oakland Museum and Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History) four directions graphic, Illustration of the ceremonial circle – creation story.*

7.0 Dedication Plaque - Bronze

Location **West Summit, on bench looking at View Locator (#8)**

Working Title Mount Umunhum at Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve

Refer to Attachment 2, Graphics 6 and 7

Alternate text suggestion:

“With gratitude to those who cared for this mountain and will always call it home; for those whose generous foresight and support helped protect and open it to the public, and to those who gathered to celebrate this historic day – October 22, 2016”

Images *MROSD logo, Mount Umunhum logo*

8.0 MROSD Thank You / View Locator

Location ***West summit, looking WNW over MROSD lands at bench with plaque***

Working Title ***West side of summit***

Over one million acres in the Bay Area are protected as open space. The Santa Cruz Bioregion over which you are looking contains about 268,000 acres of land protected from development (CPAD 2015). All of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's 63,000-acre preserve system is included in this Bioregion, much of which is visible here. These preserves create linkages to open space and park lands owned and managed by other forward-thinking land preservation and stewardship partners. Together, these conserved and protected areas create a regional greenbelt of open space that provide clean air, drinking water, habitat, agricultural and timber lands, and recreational opportunities for over seven million Bay Area residents.

The District was formed in 1972, after forward-thinking citizens envisioned, and voters approved, a regional greenbelt to preserve foothill and bayland natural resources on the Peninsula. Since preserving its first land in 1974, the Foothills Open Space Preserve, the District has grown to serve a greater extent of San Mateo, Santa Clara, and a small portion of Santa Cruz counties. Over time, this support has continued to allow the District to acquire more open space, open more preserves to the public, build new trails, and restore streams, forests, grasslands, and baylands.

Thanks to the vision and support of advocates and voters since 1972, the District and its partners has been able to provide this amazing network of open space for the public good. The District acknowledges its regional partners for their tremendous contributions and active collaboration to steward this open space greenbelt that helps make the Santa Cruz Mountains region such a special place to live.

Images ***Panorama calling out MROSD preserve lands visible from Mount Umunhum, map of MROSD preserve network***

9.0 Trailhead Natural History

Location **Trailhead Shelter**
Working Title **Life Around the Mountain**

Welcome to Mount Umunhum. The top of this mountain, shaped by geology, fire, rainfall, intense sunlight, and shade, offers a diverse canvas to many types of plants and animals. Attentive visitors may notice a bounty of wildlife living among the many plant community and habitat types here.

The chaparral zones on Mount Umunhum are characterized by dense, impenetrable scrub and dominated by chamise, big berry manzanita, birch leafed mountain mahogany, and poison oak. Chaparral is usually found on the dry, southern-facing slopes that endure long periods of desiccating heat from the sun.

Gray pine woodlands grow nearby - particularly along the northeast ridge of the mountain - and are sometimes mixed in with the chaparral. Gray pines and knobcone pines offer limited shade to many plants including golden fleece, venus thistle, and oak violet beneath their sparse canopy.

Mixed evergreen forests grow on the cooler, moister north-facing slopes. Respite from the elements can be found in the deep tree shade beneath canyon live oaks, leather oaks, bay laurel, and madrone. The shade attracts nutmeg, hazelnut, elk clover, ground rose, and many other smaller plants. Oak woodlands such as these can support over 60 species of mammals and over 100 species of birds.

Small to mid-sized mammals and birds make up the majority of the animals that live on Mount Umunhum. Gray foxes, bobcats, brush rabbits, western gray squirrels, Merriam's chipmunks, San Francisco dusky footed woodrats, and brush mice scurry about seeking food and protection among the vegetation on the mountain. The occasional mountain lion lopes across the ridge sending smaller animals into hiding.

Bird life is abundant on Mount Umunhum. California quail, California thrashers, spotted towhees, fox sparrows, wrentits and blue-gray gnatcatchers forage in the chaparral for their meals. Scrub and Steller's jays, flickers, juncos, varied and hermit thrushes, band-tailed pigeons, western screech owls and Cooper's hawks fly through the mixed evergreen forests. Golden eagles and ravens soar high above the summit.

Images *Habitat types, plants, and animals noted in text (Ken Hickman source)*

10.0 Swimming Pool / Military Life

Location **By Swimming Pool Remnant**

Working Title **Living the Life**

Draft Text

These swimming pool tiles are the last remnant of a thriving community of military families that lived at the Almaden Air Force Station between 1956 and 1980. Hundreds of people lived in military housing near this spot over the span of nearly a quarter century.

People recreated and entertained themselves on top of Mount Umunhum in the pool, the bowling alley, the mess hall, the officers' club, and the outdoors. Military families who lived here appreciated the remote feeling and the magnificent views. Many frequently drove down to the valley below while others found all the community and recreation they needed right here at "home."

Children took the Air Force bus down to schools in the valley. There, they would tell their classmates tales of a rarified atmosphere on the mountain. Since the mountain is so high sometimes they would come down from a snow-covered mountain to a warm schoolyard below.

This rich, thriving community forever shaped people's lives, as heard in the unique stories told by those who called this mountain "home". .

Images *People in/near pool, apartment buildings, bowling alley, officers' club*

11.0 People of Mount Umunhum

Location **Cabin Ruins**

Working Title ***Living on the Mountain***

The early 1900s was a boisterous time of miners, canneries, railroads, and other activity in Santa Clara County. Nearby farms, cities, and mines attracted people from all over to settle in the area. Most people chose to live in the valley near jobs and amenities. Some chose to live up here. By reputation, they were recluses, moon shiners, and other hardy folk who lived among the rugged terrain of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

One such woman lived near this spot. Gwendolyn Alice Boyer lived in a cabin here in the first half of the 20th century. She was born in 1880 and died in San Jose just short of her 100th birthday. Little is known definitively about her, but Gwendolyn was described by those who knew her as resourceful, fiercely independent, and quite social. She worked as a teacher in town, and also worked in a cannery during fruit-packing season. These remains of her well-equipped home exist as evidence of her full and resourceful life in these mountains.

Images *Illustration of what the cabin may have looked like, and the artifacts that were found there.*

12.0 Guadalupe Creek Watershed

Location ***Guadalupe Creek Overlook***

Working Title ***Open Space and Clean Water***

Drinking water for the Santa Clara Valley and the Peninsula comes from the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, groundwater beneath the Valley, and right here. Rain that falls in this canyon flows into Guadalupe Creek. The creek joins several other waterways cascading out of the Santa Cruz Mountains and forms the Guadalupe River flowing through downtown San Jose. Nearly 30 miles from here, water from this canyon empties into the San Francisco Bay. All the land that drains into the Bay by way of the Guadalupe River is called the Guadalupe Watershed. The watershed covers 170 square miles of mountains, valleys, and baylands.

Three miles downstream from here, Guadalupe Creek flows into the Guadalupe Reservoir. Water is taken from the reservoir and several others to be cleaned and filtered for use in homes, schools, and businesses. Having the Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve at the headwaters of the Guadalupe Creek Watershed helps to ensure that drinking water in the Santa Clara Valley and on the Peninsula is healthy to use and drink.

Every autumn, salmon and steelhead trout return from the ocean and swim up the Guadalupe River to spawn. Every spring, new salmon and steelhead trout hatch, grow, and swim out to the ocean. Efforts to clean up hazardous materials left behind by the former Air Force Station at the summit, combined with efforts to preserve open space in the Santa Cruz Mountains, provides cleaner water for these fish during their incredible life journey.

Images ***Guadalupe Creek Watershed Map, wildlife (salmon, steelhead), plants, trail map***