

**NAVAL FUEL DEPOT, POINT MOLATE
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
04 May 2000**

Location: Point Molate
Building 6
Administration Building
Richmond, CA

Purpose: To: 1) provide a site tour, 2) discuss and finalize last month's meeting minutes, 3) provide a presentation on the pipeline removal at Point Molate, 4) provide a presentation on Native American artifacts, 5) discuss the archaeological finds at Point Molate, 6) provide a regulatory agency's perspective on cleanup issues at Pt. Molate, 7) discuss the progress of the community outreach subcommittee, and 8) provide for community input and discuss suggested topics for the next meeting.

These minutes summarize the items discussed during the RAB meeting. They are not a verbatim transcript. Attachment A provides the attendance list.

RAB community members present: Shirley Butt, Elizabeth Dunn, Sarah Eeles, Gaye Eisenlord, Bunny Ford, Don Gosney, Adrienne Harris, Jil Kiernan, Stephen Linsley, Elinor Strauss, Terry Swartz, and Eileen Whitty.

Government agencies present: Marianna Potacka, Navy Co-chair BRAC Environmental Coordinator (BEC); Linda Dorn, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB); Patricia Duff, EFA West; Michelle Gallice-Sondrup, John Kowalczyk, and Izzat Ahmadiyya, EFD SW.

I. Welcome and Meeting Minutes Approval

Don Gosney, Community Co-chair, commenced the meeting at 7:15 p.m. and welcomed the attendees. He introduced himself and Marianna Potacka, Navy Co-chair and BRAC Environmental Coordinator. Mr. Gosney encouraged the attendees to sign the attendance sheet and directed them to the copies of the minutes and the agenda. He called for comments on the minutes. He stated that as Bruce Beyaert was unable to attend the meeting, he sent the following change. On page 6, in the fifth paragraph, the first sentence should be amended to read: "Mr. Beyaert commented that the rapid progress in cleaning up the shoreline should make it possible to build the Bay Trail soon." Stephen Linsley noted that on page 11, the first sentence ends with a blank. Linda Dorn, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), explained that the last sentence should end with "10 parts per million (ppm)." She added that on page 10, in the last paragraph, the first sentence should end with "50 parts per billion (ppb)." She explained that the changes were incorporated in the final draft of the minutes. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

II. Pipeline Removal

Dennis Julio, IT Corporation (IT Corp.) distributed a handout which will be included in the monthly mailing. Mr. Julio stated that the contract for the pipeline removal was awarded in September 1999 and is expected to be completed in June. Originally, the scope pertained to the removal of fuel lines in the flat-lying areas. The contract was modified to remove fuel lines from select hillside portions of the base. The removal action involves about 35,000 linear feet of fuel lines that range from two to 18 inches in diameter. Jet fuel lines, which contain JP5, range from 16 to 18 inches in diameter. All excavated areas will be backfilled; steam lines and other utilities will be restored. With respect to the asbestos-coated fuel lines and adjacent steam lines, a separate crew is working to abate the asbestos and transport it off site.

Mr. Julio noted some of the challenges involved. There are unpredictable underground conditions resulting from modifications done by the Navy, as well as inaccurate information on various drawings. These issues resulted in additional investigation. Another substantial task is the removal of about 750,000 gallons of residual petroleum-water mixture from fuel lines and valve boxes. The winter rainy season was also a challenge to the construction project, especially in January and February. He noted that February had 21 rainy days. There are also areas wherein Native American artifacts were found. Mr. Julio commended Andrew Galvan, Native American Indian Consultant, for his informative presentation to the construction crew prior to excavation of the sensitive areas.

Mr. Julio explained that IT Corp. hopes to recycle the pipes that are not coated with asbestos, which amount to about half of the pipes to be removed. About 60 tons of asbestos-coated pipes and an estimated 7,000 to 8,000 tons (3,000 to 4,000 cubic yards) of contaminated soil will be disposed off-site at a Class 2 landfill. The petroleum-water product will be treated on-site; the majority of this mixture is water. Ms. Dorn asked as to the amount of free product, and Maynard Geisler replied that it is about 15 percent.

Kent Kitchingman asked if the asbestos coating is friable, and Mr. Julio replied that it is mastic, which is non-friable. This is sent to the same landfill as the friable asbestos from the steam lines. Mr. Kitchingman asked if the pipes coated with mastic are recyclable, and Mr. Julio replied that local recyclers have indicated that it is not cost-effective to remove the mastic.

Jill Kiernan asked as to the lines that are two inches in diameter. Mr. Julio explained that these smaller lines lead to the smaller tanks and contain diesel. The majority of the lines range from 16 to 18 inches in diameter and carry jet fuel.

Mr. Julio stated that about 15 to 25 employees work on site, in addition to about 15 specialty subcontractors who deal with underground utility locations and geotechnical testing. There is also a full-time exterminator. Local subcontractors from the City of Richmond are handling the electrical services, pipe cleaning, and transportation and disposal.

Mr. Julio stated that IT Corp. intends to recycle as much steel, asphalt, and concrete as possible, which include at least half of the fuel lines, three underground storage tanks, and other structures. Ms. Kiernan asked where the materials will be sent, and Mr. Julio replied that they will be sent to Costa, a disposal company located in San Francisco.

Mr. Julio noted that IT Corp. has been working with Navy archaeologist Patricia Duff, Mr. Galvan, and Tetra Tech EM, Inc. (TtEMI) with respect to the three significant sites of archaeological and Native American concern. Some artifacts have been discovered which are now in the Navy's custody; Ms. Duff will speak on this later in the meeting.

III. Artifact Presentation

Mr. Galvan stated that he will share the Stone Age culture of the residents of the shellmounds through show-and-tell, historical background, and deductive reasoning. He explained that he serves as the Indian (Native American) monitor. He explained that to his knowledge, there are no full-blooded Ohlones; he is one-eighth Ohlone, one-eighth Sicilian, and three-fourths Mexican. His upbringing in the 1960s contributed to his positive attitude with respect to being a member of minority groups. He is a history major and has a master's degree in California Indian Life in the Missions, at California State University, Hayward. His focus is on Mission San Jose which is located in Fremont; his great-grandfather laid the cornerstone for this mission in 1805.

Mr. Galvan stated that his presentation usually includes walking tours in two Fremont locations. A recreated village in Coyote Hills, Fremont shows what the Native American lifestyle might have been like from 250 to 2,500 years ago. Mission San Jose shows how the missions did away with the traditional lifestyle of the Indians. However, he stated that he is proud of the fact that his family became Christians at Mission San Jose, and he added that his older brother is a Catholic priest.

Mr. Galvan stated that in order to study the Indians at the California Missions, it is important to study their culture before the missions. The first documented European encounters in the Bay Area are the expeditions in 1770, 1772, and 1774. These expeditions constitute the first undocumented aliens who were mainly from Spain. A written commentary makes reference to the size and beauty of San Francisco Bay, traits which Father Junipero Serra saw as an obstacle to his conquest. Another written commentary makes reference to the area's potential as a rival to the cities of Europe. Mr. Galvan noted that these commentaries foresaw the Bay Area's present status.

Mr. Galvan explained that there was no written language as recently as 250 years ago. He used the Flintstones cartoon to demonstrate that the absence of written language did not preclude a developed culture that included economic, governmental, legal, and religious institutions, as well as family units, cuisine, education, entertainment, laughter, and use of the animal world.

Mr. Galvan explained that stratigraphy, or the layering of time, shows the cultural history of a people. As recently as 250 years ago, the main means of transportation were by foot and by boat. As a result, garbage was disposed somewhere in the vicinity of the village. Stone Age Indians ate a rich natural diet that included shellfish, mussels, lobster, crab, shrimp, and berries. He noted that the European diet, which included high amounts of starches and sugars, disrupted the Indians' digestive system.

Mr. Galvan explained that shellmounds were developed as shellfish remnants were tossed outside the village. The mounds created a slope that, in conjunction with the rains, resulted in washing away the village. Earth would be placed on top of the shellmounds where a new village would be erected. Shells would then be thrown on the previous location of the village. This process continued for thousands of years and resulted in over 400 documented shellmounds in the Carquinez Straits, Richmond, Emeryville, Alameda, Fremont, Newark, Moffett Field, and China Basin. Shellmounds are found all over the world.

Mr. Galvan stated that graves were maintained near the village, where offerings, flowers, and religious items were placed. Because deer antlers or sticks were used as digging implements, the softest areas were chosen for grave sites. Over thousands of years, shellmounds rotated from garbage mounds, village sites, and then mortuary complexes. Stratigraphy involves digging down through the mounds to obtain the cultural history over time.

Mr. Galvan stated that the graves provide evidence that helps to disseminate false myths, such as that of the "peace-loving Indians." He noted that violence existed prior to the arrival of the missionaries; it resulted from accidents, vendettas, warfare, or one-on-one combat. Human remains also show that some people lived until they were in their 70s or 80s, although the average life span was between 40 to 50 years old. Infant remains show that 90 percent of the time, children died between the ages of two to three years old. Mr. Galvan noted that, as in the present day, the most dangerous time for children is between the ages of two to three, during which they are being weaned from mother's milk to regular food.

Another myth pertains to cremation. In California, cremations were generally reserved for the wealthy, given that the wood used for cremation (oak, willow and sycamore) were valuable resources. The oak tree was a source of grain, and willow and sycamore were used for building materials. Therefore, ground burial was the common method, while cremation was reserved for the elite. Also, feathers were ornate, as opposed to Hollywood's version of one feather worn on the head. Headdresses were worn during special occasions, and not as daily practice. Feathers have a religious connotation and are special in many ways, given their relationship to flying and spiritual uplift.

Another misconception pertains to the Indians as environmentalists. He explained that Ohlones used slash-and-burn methods to regenerate the seeds. Old houses were also burned to address insect infestations, and at times, the fire went out of control and burned down the whole village. During rabbit hunts, a fire was started at one end of the meadow, which caused the rabbits to run to the other

end, where Indians would be waiting with clubs. The fire from these various activities resulted in smog that affected the environment. Indians hunted wildlife for food, clothing and tools. They also dropped California buckeye in the water in order to suffocate the fish and cause them to percolate to the surface. This equates to adding toxic waste to the water. He explained that the Indians were indeed altering the environment, although not to the extent seen today.

Mr. Galvan stated that human height also varies with respect to stratigraphy, as both reflect different periods of intrusions into the area. Although the average height is five feet two inches, some residents were six feet tall. The latter were buried in an extended and face-down manner, which is much different from the standard, flexed fetal position of the Ohlones. Mr. Galvan explained that the Meganos intrusion, or the windmill period, goes back to about 3,000 years ago. The Meganos are believed to have originated from the Stockton area; they were subsequently overtaken by the Ohlones in 400 A.D. A burial site in the vicinity of the Fremont BART station has about 68 burials, of which half are in extended positions. This indicates that the burial site dates back about 3,000 years. In comparison, the Pt. Molate and Coyote Hills sites are about 2,000 years old. Human remains also reflected caste systems. Upper-class women were petite and did not have the muscle development that worker women did, given that they were not required to work as hard.

Mr. Galvan stated that in addition to human remains, items left behind are used to study the Stone Age Indians. He discussed the artifacts found in the Bay Area. Stick dice was used in gambling. Deer antlers and hooves were used to make rattles for music. Drums were small in the San Francisco Bay region, as there were no buffalos whose skins can be used to make big drums. Deer and elk were used for clothing and other materials. Makeup was created from chiseling the color off a rock and adding animal fat or vegetable oils. He noted that in this manner, Indians applied makeup, as women do today; they did not necessarily "paint" their face. Natural crystals were used for fortune-telling. Mr. Galvan acknowledged that the crystals had no inherent power, and that the actual power belonged to the person who can convince others of the power of the crystals. He compared this phenomenon with contemporary adherence to the horoscope. Just as people today sport a lucky rabbit's foot, the Star of David, or the crucifix, charm stones were used for good luck and to induce fertility. Other artifacts included pipes, brooms, net sinkers, knives, a bow and arrow, and mortar and pestle.

Mr. Galvan stated that the missionaries impacted Indian tradition in many ways. Arrowheads were made from glass material available in the mission, rather than from obsidian, which originates from volcanoes. Beads were drilled with European metals, rather than with wood.

Mr. Galvan explained that Mission San Jose was not created for the sole purpose of converting the Indians to Catholicism or to maintain the workforce. Rather, it was founded in June 11, 1797 to contain the Indians who ran away from Mission Dolores in San Francisco; this mission experienced an epidemic. The Spanish priests faced a theological problem in that a missionary who baptized a convert could not be admitted to heaven if the convert failed to practice the Catholic faith.

Mission San Jose was built 13 miles from Mission Santa Clara so that a mounted horseman could bring military reinforcements in half a day.

Adrienne Harris thanked Mr. Galvan for his presentation. She asked as to the extent of his support for including some artifacts at the Richmond Museum. Mr. Galvan replied that he supports the idea, but its implementation may be problematic with respect to finances and whether originals or replicas should be used. Ms. Harris asked him to address the issues surrounding whether originals or replicas can be used, and the associated regulations. Ms. Potacka stated that Ms. Duff will address these issues later on in the meeting.

Mr. Galvan stated that there is a question regarding ownership and curation of prehistoric (pre-1810), as well as historic (1810 to the present) materials. If the materials are graves, they are not displayed. With regard to the disposition of artifacts, the Indian community should have some input with regard to the appropriate interpretation and also with respect to how they are displayed, if applicable. For example, he noted that Kachinas, or dolls from the Southwest, were not displayed because they are religious items. He is supportive of items remaining at the local level. He mentioned the possible use of a "permanent loan," wherein an institution displays artifacts until it is dissolved, after which the items are permanently returned from whence they came.

Mr. Galvan stated that to whom the items should be returned is another problematic issue. He noted that on one hand, the Indians may claim ownership by heritage, but that the City of Richmond may also claim ownership given that it will own the land on which the artifacts were found. The general public may also claim ownership.

Geoff Chandler asked as to the presence of bears in the area. Mr. Galvan replied that bears were present in the area, and their skins were used for clothing. They were also involved in bullfights in Mission San Jose. He explained that bear doctors were involved in contract situations as part of psychological warfare. An individual would approach a bear doctor, who in turn would encourage the community to cause another individual to fear that the bears were pursuing him or her. The efforts of the community to ostracize and create stress for that individual might at times cause insanity.

In the interest of time, Mr. Gosney stated that with the exception of the archaeology discussion and the wrap-up items, the other agenda items will be moved to the next meeting.

IV. Archaeology Discussion

Ms. Duff stated that prehistoric shellmounds have been looked at over the years to determine if they are eligible for listing on the National Register for historic places. If an archaeological site is eligible for such listing, it is afforded some protection under the National Prehistoric Preservation Act. The shellmounds pertinent to Pt. Molate are designated Contra Costa County 282 and 283, both of which

were tested in 1985. There was no evidence of archaeological significance at Shellmound 282. It was also determined Shellmound 283 lacked integrity and was unlikely to yield significant information.

Ms. Duff explained that because Shellmound 283 holds religious and cultural significance due to the burials that were removed in 1939, monitoring was required to deal with any human remains that may have been left behind. It was determined that a site of 150 feet by 200 feet has intact shellmound deposits. Pt. Molate is also significant for its historic district and Chinese fishing village.

Ms. Duff stated the Navy wants to ensure that some protection is in place when the property is turned over to the City. The Navy must also complete consultation with Native Americans pursuant to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). That process has just begun. NAGPRA is considered to be a human rights legislation and gives Native Americans the right to custody of their remains. Also, the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) requires federal agencies to obtain permits prior to excavation to ensure that artifacts are protected accordingly.

Ms. Duff added the Navy is required by law to find an appropriate curation facility according to federal standards as outlined in 36 CFR 79. Regulations dictate that when possible, the collection should be deposited in a repository that stores and maintains other collections from the same site or project location. It should not be subdivided unless it is necessary in order to meet special storage, conservation and research needs. As a federal agency, the Navy should also ensure the collection is available for scientific, educational, and religious uses. She emphasized dialogue needs to take place with respect to ownership and curation, adding that Native American input is necessary. Lastly, the Navy must also complete consultation for disposal of property listed in the National Register, according to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The City of Richmond will be responsible for ensuring protection is afforded to the site according to a Memorandum of Agreement.

Ms. Harris asked if the RAB will be able to view the mortar and pestle. Ms. Duff confirmed that the mortar and pestle can be viewed but not touched, as it still has remnants which need to be analyzed. Ms. Kiernan asked when it can be examined more carefully. Ms. Duff estimated that the consultations and determination of eligibility should be wrapped up by the end of fiscal year 2000. Ms. Kiernan asked if it was being exposed to pollen, as it is out in the open. Ms. Duff replied that although it is stored inside and is not exposed to pollen, it should be transported to an environmentally-controlled curation facility. She added that Kathleen Rupley, Curator at the Richmond Museum of History, and Patrick V. Kirch, Director at the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology at the Berkeley, are open to working out the details of a loan.

Gaye Eisenlord asked if the mortar and pestle can be dated. Ms. Duff replied that this would be unlikely without additional investigation, given that the age dating comes from the burial position and the type of artifacts found with it. She noted that no report was written from 1939 to 1954 with regard to how it was found. She also mentioned that at that time, few controls were in place to

protect artifacts and that archaeologists were under duress to gather items prior to development of the property.

Jackie Kiel commented that the way an artifact is displayed may give an inaccurate impression with respect to culture and history. She noticed that an Indian statue appeared to be very European and "White Plains"; it does not represent the peoples who reside in this area. She also noted that the community can be educated through reports, as well as through physical collections. She noted that prior to the institution of NAGPRA in 1991, there was no Native American involvement. Native Americans must not only prove their ancestry, they must also assert their right to give input about how the artifacts must be handled. Mr. Galvan added that replicas can be displayed in place of the actual collection. Ms. Harris asked if the casts of the artifacts from San Pablo Highway are made of resin, and Mr. Galvan stated that he does not know.

V. Community Input/Wrap-up

Mr. Gosney stated that the City of Richmond will honor Lucretia Edwards as a community preservationist on 17 May.

Mr. Gosney concluded the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

The next RAB meeting will be held on Thursday, 1 June 2000.

A copy of the approved final minutes will be placed in the Information Repositories located at City Hall and at the Public Library.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

HANDOUTS

Basewide Pipeline Removal Fact Sheet