

Character Defining Features of Coast Walk Trail Historic District, June 16, 2020

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- HRB Site 288, designated 9/19/1990
- Documented La Jolla Community Plan, Local Coastal Program, Sub-Area D (Figures 11 & 12), 1990.
- Owner: City of San Diego, Transportation/Storm Water
- Boundary Description: A dedicated street between Cave Street and Torrey Pines Road, adjacent to Lots 15-27, Block 48, and Lots 1-8 and Lots 20-21, Block 46, La Jolla Park Subdivision
- Period of Significance: Prehistory; 1860s-1931
- HRB Criterion A: Community history; cultural landscape

Description Source: Tony Ciani, Architect & Historian; Email communication to Diane Kane, June 11, 2020

I recall submitting a supplemental brief to Alex Bevil's 1990 historical report that provided a summary of historical features including a map and photos. It included:

Historic Features

1. (2) low stone "gateway" columns at the NW entrance
2. Historic fencing and stairway at Goldfish Point
3. Stone guttering along the trail in and around Park Row
4. Wooden Foot Bridges (1931; repaired, 1990) & remnants
Remnants of Angels Flight stairs and foundation pads (c. 1906)
5. Fencing and stairs at Park Row
6. Trail layout (alignment, surface, drainage, etc.)
7. Side-trails: a. Goldfish Point
b. Dead Man's Leap
c. path/ bench to the Roca Vista (?) Bungalow Court
8. Various iron and clay drainage pipes
9. Historic elements of Carey Crest (1369 Coast Walk) that are in the ROW
10. Historic elements of Emmor Brooke Weaver (Shelton House 1510 (?) Coast Walk) that are in the ROW
11. Mature plants pictured in historical photos and period paintings along the trail
12. Curb marking stamps at Park Row and Torrey Pines

Archaeological Resources

Coast Walk is part of a known archaeological sensitive area (La Jolla Cultures). There is high probability of encountering unidentified Native American cultural materials in the trail ROW that can be disturbed with ANY grading or grubbing activity, no matter how slight. Hence, the need for coordination with both HRB/DSD cultural resources staff and the Native American community.

Other Documentation

Other documents and photos that depict the trail are part of the 1975/6 "Old La Jolla Historic District" NR nomination, 1979 Coastal Conservancy Grant Application, 1980 La Jolla Study of Natural and Manmade Resources, part of an SOHP Planning Grant, and the La Jolla Waterfront Design Charrette (1988) and La Jolla Coastline Plan (1990).

La Jolla Community /Coastal Plan Addendum of 1980, and La Jolla Community Plan/Coastal Plan 2004.

Yes, there have been many newspaper accounts from the 1979 - 1990 efforts to address the protection of the trail.

Designation History

La Jolla Community Plan/Coastal Plan Addendum of 1980, and its 2004 update, designated the Coast Walk section for special treatment for coastal access. In 1990, the City formally designated the entire Coast Walk Trail from Coast Blvd. to the Northwest and Torrey Pines Rd. to the Southeast as a historic site.

Historic Designation Update

When Coast Walk was designated a historic property in 1990, supplemental material listed, photographed, and mapped "character defining features" that contribute to the district's historic significance. This material has detached from the original designation, but is reconstructed (above) by the original author. Historic photos of the listed features will document changes over time. This material will be updated with a field review, new photos & mapping to document current conditions. When this comparative material is evaluated, the changes over time should be able to provide sufficient information as to current integrity, contributors and non-contributors and to determine a treatment plan for historic rehabilitation.