

From: **Anthony Ciani** <aciani@cianiarchitecture.com>

Date: Tue, Feb 9, 2021 at 11:12 AM

Subject: Fwd: Belvedere at Windansea

To: Melinda Merryweather <mbeherenow@sbcglobal.net>

Cc: Diane Kane <dkane002@san.rr.com>, Carol Olten <colten@lajollahistory.org>, Vonn Marie May <yvmay@mac.com>, Jim Neri <jim@nerila.com>, Salli Sachse <soxsea@gmail.com>

Dear Melinda,

I am writing to confirm my comments in 2018 regarding the previously existing historic Belvedere on the coastal blufftop overlooking Windansea at the La Jolla Strand Beach. The site is part of the City of San Diego's historic designation of the Windansea Surf Shack Historic (No. 357) It is located in the prism of the historic site (see the site description in the nomination).

The attached California Coastal Records Project aerial photographic images No.7955091 (May 3, 1979), and No. 7241102 (1972) are further evidence of the structure during its historic period.

The belvedere was present when I was a Lifeguard stationed at Windansea in 1961, and since then until it was demolished in the 1980s. It was part of the larger theme of historic belvederes that were built on public vista points on the La Jolla coastline.

I support the effort to "reconstruct" the Windansea Belvedere equivalent to a historic reconstruction pursuant to **The Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties** (2017 edition), page 225.

"STANDARDS FOR RECONSTRUCTION & GUIDELINES FOR RECONSTRUCTING HISTORIC BUILDINGS Reconstruction is defined as the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location."

(See: <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/treatment-guidelines-2017.pdf>)

There is precedent for the reconstruction of the historic belvederes at other locations in La Jolla based on measured drawings, photographs, and details, and using in-kind materials and methods of construction; specifically: South Boomer and Shell Beach. Additionally, the Belvedere replication located at the northeast end of the Children's Pool was not a reconstruction. It replaced a one-room lifeguard station ("The Shack") that had been converted from a ground observation corp station). The replicated belvedere was based on the historic model.

Copies of Photos:



N32 49.68 W117 17.16 [Image 7955091](#) Thu May 3 14:45:00 1979



ENLARGED IMAGE (1979)



IMAGE 7241102 (1972)



ENLARGED 1972 IMAGE



CREDIT: Surfer Magazine, 1981 (Source: Melinda Merryweather)

If you have any questions please let me know.

Sincerely,
Tony Ciani, Architect
Historic Preservation Consultant