



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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November 10, 2016

Agenda Item: 3 a iii

To: Executive Committee

From: Tom Ford, Executive Director

Re: Support of Nomination of Malibu Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places

Action Requested of the Executive Committee:

- Recommend Governing Board consider approval of a resolution that supports the nomination of the Malibu Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places

Background

In December 2015, a nomination to the California Office of Historic Preservation was submitted for the area from the Malibu Pier through Malibu Lagoon State Beach (as the "Malibu Historic District") to be included in the National Register of Historic Places. Sea of Clouds, a local organization responsible for the nomination notes that a primary goal of the nomination is to "recognize, through the National Register of Historic Places, Malibu's worldwide contribution to surfing's history and culture".

Michael Blum, a representative of Sea of Clouds (and former President of the Malibu Surfing Association, an SMBRC Watershed Advisory Council member) stated to staff that there is little within the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) itself regarding protections for historic resources. There aren't building guidelines, enforcement capabilities, or oversight. Rather, most people understand the NHPA and the National Register through the actions of local governments -- expressing a community's value of their historic resources through local zoning and planning codes.

Blum also noted that the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 establishes the process by which nominations are made to the National Register, as follows:

- Nominations are first submitted to, and reviewed at, the state level. In California, by staff at the Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento.
- Nominations in an "approved form" are forwarded to the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC), to be evaluated at a public meeting. The SHRC meets quarterly and there is a 60-day public comment period before the meeting.
- If approved by the SHRC, the nomination is sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer for nomination to the National Register.
- The final determination is made approximately 45 days after receipt by the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C.

our mission: to restore and enhance the santa monica bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay's benefits and values

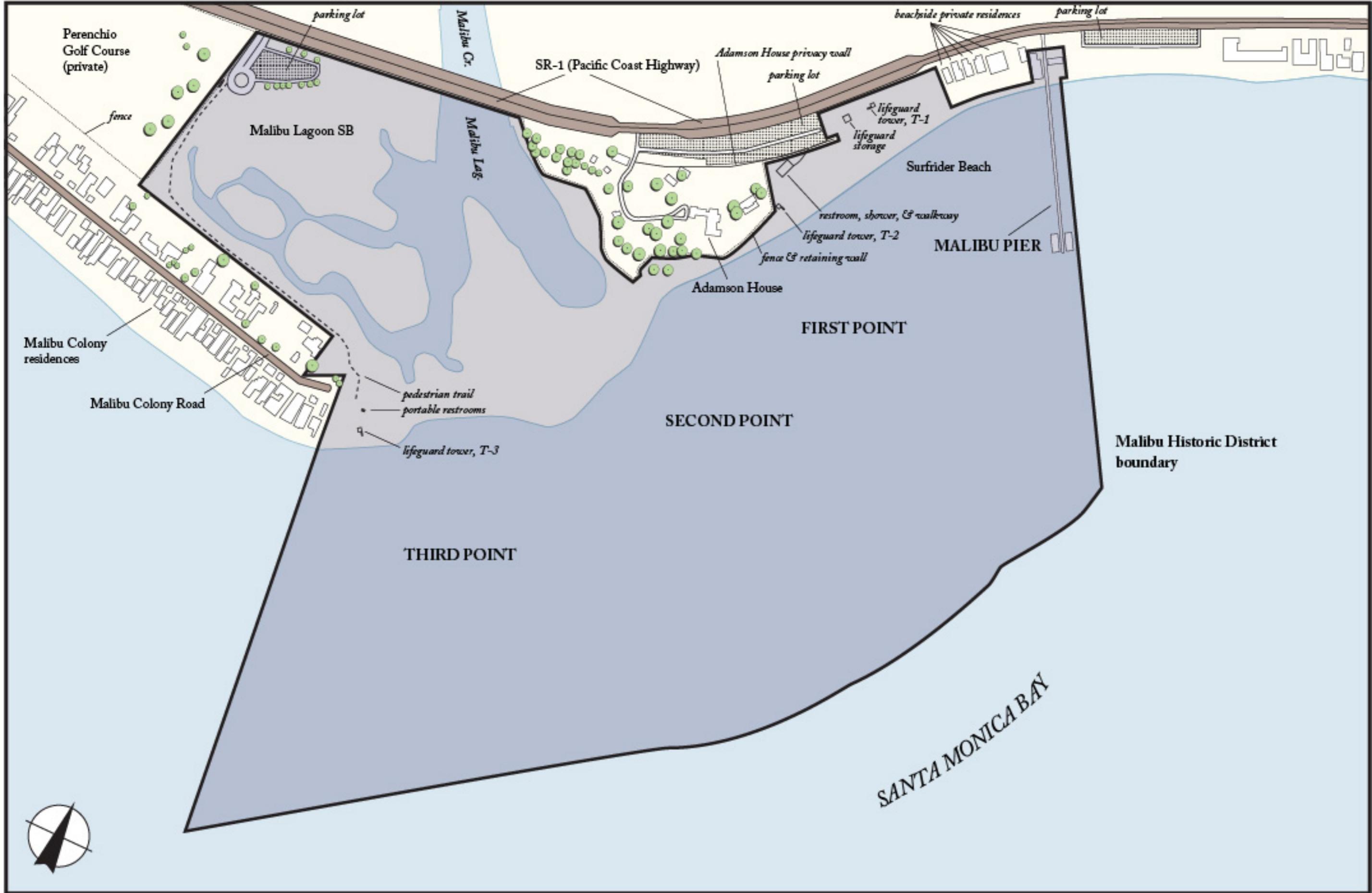


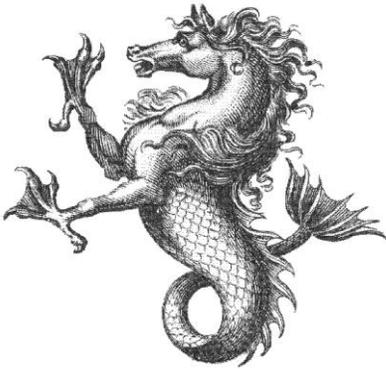


In April 2016, the City of Malibu City Council voted to authorize its mayor to send letters of support for the nomination of the Malibu Historic District.

Attached to this staff report is a map of the Malibu Historic District and a Position Summary prepared by Sea of Clouds.







THE MALIBU HISTORIC DISTRICT

Nominated to the National Register of Historic Places
December, 2015
seaofclouds.org/malibu

CONTACT

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INTRODUCTION

"Although new ideas of surfing were developing worldwide, Malibu served as a cultural, technological, and intellectual arena for its expert surfers and surfboard shapers. It was a focusing point for surfboard design theory, the deconstruction of surfing style, and the development of a bohemian lifestyle that defined this era of surfing while serving as a template for the next. Malibu, then, is associated with the broader history of surfing; it is an important California locale which represents the evolution of modern surfing both in the minds of surfers and the general public."

OVERVIEW

The Malibu Historic District includes Malibu's First, Second, and Third Point surf breaks, as well as the Malibu Pier as contributing historical resources. The overall area has a small footprint (approximately 150 acres) and is contained entirely on public property. The District includes portions of the popular Surfrider Beach (owned by the County of Los Angeles) and Malibu Lagoon State Beach (owned by California State Parks) areas, which together receive more than three million visitors annually, as well as nearshore areas up to 500 meters from the mean high tide line. A National Register listing at Malibu will not impact public access, safety, or the area's current uses, such as: pier fishing, summer camps, special events and, of course, surfing. Also, a listing will have no environmental impact.

SUMMARY

Property Name: Malibu Historic District

Location: City of Malibu, Los Angeles County

Registration Program: National Register of Historic Places

Nominated: December, 2015

Anticipated State/Federal reviews: Early, 2017

Goals:

- 1) recognize, through the National Register of Historic Places, Malibu's worldwide contribution to surfing's history and culture
- 2) incorporate the property into Federal and State coastal planning explicitly within a context of its value to surfing

- 3) have a National Register listing qualify for other protection programs
- 4) develop precedent for other historically- or culturally-significant coastal places

CURRENT PROJECT SUPPORTERS

online at seaofclouds.org/malibu

RECENT ARTICLES

Malibu Times:

malibutimes.com/news/article_39eef59a-0c1c-11e6-90c7-9b7fd277ab97.html

National Trust:

savingplaces.org/stories/surfs-up-a-quest-to-create-the-malibu-historic-district