



August 22, 2022

Paul J. Klukas
Director of Planning
PLANNING SYSTEMS
1530 Faraday Avenue, Suite 100
Carlsbad, California 92008

RE: Cultural Resources Records Search Results for the Omni Hotel Golf Course Project,
Carlsbad, California

Dear Paul:

An archaeological records search has been completed for Omni Hotel Golf Course Project. The delineated property includes most of the existing Omni La Costa Resort and Spa golf course, which is situated west of El Camino Real, north of La Costa Avenue, and south of Poinsettia Lane in the city of Carlsbad, San Diego County, California. As part of the environmental review process, Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc. (BFSa) reviewed the results of records search data provided by the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) at San Diego State University (SDSU). The records search was completed on August 18, 2022 and included a review of previously recorded archaeological resources within the project and a one-quarter-mile radius of the property as well as a review of previously studies conducted within the subject property.

The SCIC search identified 12 previous studies conducted within the project (Attachment A). Many of the previous studies are large overviews which do not directly address the subject property. However, one study conducted by Gallegos and Associates consisted of a focused survey of the entire Omni La Costa Resort and Spa property in 2003 (Guerrero et al. 2003). The Guerrero et al. (2003) study identified eight resources within the project (SDI-213, SDI-698, SDI-699, SDI-946, SDI-4859, SDI-4863, SDI-4866, and LC-1), most of which were recorded in the 1960s before the resort was constructed. At the time of the 2003 study, sites SDI-213, SDI-698, SDI-699, SDI-4859, and SDI-4866 had either been destroyed or capped as a result of the prior development of the Omni La Costa Resort and Spa facilities. Because most of the resort was constructed prior to California Environmental Quality Act regulations, there are no records available that indicate if these sites were destroyed. Despite the prior development, Guerrero et al. (2003) did identify marine shell within the recorded boundaries of SDI-946 and SDI-4863. Guerrero et al. (2003) also located a small scatter of marine shell and two pestle fragments south of SDI-946 along a dirt track that bounds the eastern edge of the golf course, which they recorded in the field as LC-1. Guerrero

et al. (2003) postulated that the material from LC-1 may not be in-situ and may have been redeposited through regular golf course maintenance or erosion. Based on the survey results, it was recommended that, if any development was proposed for sites SDI-946, SDI-4863, or LC-1, testing to determine site significance and appropriate mitigation measures be conducted. Based upon the records search results, it does not appear any development has occurred within these sites or that testing of the resources has occurred since 2003.

The records search results also indicated that 39 resources have been recorded within one-quarter mile of the project (Table 1; Attachment A). All the previously recorded sites are prehistoric and tied to the exploitation of natural resources associated with the nearby Los Baticuitos Lagoon. In addition to the eight sites identified by Gallegos and Associates (Guerrero et al. 2003), one additional site located within the property was identified by the SCIC: SDI-4858, a prehistoric shell scatter. However, based upon the maps provided by the SCIC, SDI-4858 appears to be primarily mapped outside of the project within the Poinsettia Lane right-of-way along the northern boundary of the subject property. Additionally, LC-1 was not returned by the SCIC, indicating that it was not formally recorded by Gallegos and Associates.

Table 1
 Previously Recorded Archaeological Sites
 Within a One-Quarter-Mile Radius of the Project

Site Number(s)	Site Description
SDI-213*	No information on site form
SDI-1015; SDI-4858*; and SDI-4866*	Prehistoric shell scatter
SDI-608 (not relocated 2009); SDI-611; SDI-699*; SDI-765; SDI-4856; SDI-4857; SDI- 4861; SDI-4868; and SDI-4869	Prehistoric lithic scatter
SDI-697; SDI-689; SDI-698*; SDI-700; SDI-701; SDI-4846; SDI-4859*; SDI-4865; LC-1*†	Prehistoric artifact and shell scatter
SDI-609; SDI-610; SDI-696; SDI-946*; SDI-4547; SDI-4849; SDI-4862; SDI-4863*; SDI-4864; SDI-4867; and SDI-21,546	Prehistoric artifact and shell scatter with associated midden
SDI-763	Prehistoric shell scatter with associated midden
SDI-4847 (subsumed SDI-4748)	Prehistoric village site
SDI-4860	Prehistoric hearth feature
SDI-4870 and P-37-039925	Prehistoric isolate

*Within project

†Not returned in the SCIC results

The records search data indicated that cultural resources have been previously recorded within the boundaries of the proposed golf course renovation. The potential exists that earthwork needed for the renovation project could encounter elements of the previously recorded

archaeological sites or could uncover sites that have not been recorded. A mitigation monitoring program is recommended for all excavations on this property due to the potential to encounter cultural resources. The full results of the completed SCIC records search are attached to this letter report (Attachment A). Please contact us should you have any questions or require additional study for this project.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian F. Smith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian F. Smith

BFS:ag

Attachment:

Attachment A – SCIC Archaeological Records Search Results