

Wharf Treatment Recommendations

The Wharf (Figures 6-62 and 6-14) is the primary entry into Alcatraz Island, a use that began with the initial development of the Island by the U.S. Army beginning in 1853. Located on the east side of the Island, the Wharf is in a position protected from prevailing winds and was out of sight of the Golden Gate, which was desirable when the Island served as a defensive fortification. The Wharf includes the present-day dock and shoreline, and extends from the Dock Tower on the north to Prison Cyclone Fencing SF2 on the south.

Intent:

1. Maintain the Wharf as the primary entry onto Alcatraz Island, allowing for the addition of visitor amenities that are designed and placed to be compatible with the historic character of the Wharf.
2. Maintain the historic form, topography and arrangement of the Wharf. Repair, restore or maintain all extant contributing features.
3. Allow for non-contributing compatible features to remain and be stabilized or maintained. Allow for non-contributing, non-compatible features to be removed.
4. Provide year-round visitor access from the Wharf to the Parade Ground at Building 64. Allow seasonal visitor access from the Wharf to Agave Walk.
5. Allow for a portion of the area on the south side of Building 64 to be used for operations as it was historically.

General:

- Maintain the Dock Tower and its associated fencing (SF1). Allow for additional fencing if needed to facilitate visitor access to the Perimeter Sentry Walk.
- Remove non-contributing amphitheater, and allow for operations to be located in this area (similar to its historic use). Screen or otherwise integrate operations with visitor access to the Parade Ground and Agave Walk.
- Remove non-contributing restroom building and provide similar facilities in a new building designed of a mass, scale, and style similar to the historic buildings that once existed in the Wharf. Locate new building or buildings south of Building 64.
- Maintain dock and all of its supporting structure. Maintain historic stone seawall (top of wall is visible on dock) and ensure that the top remains visible.
- Repair shoreline as needed, including seawall and shore protection.
- Repair staircase and railing from storage vault to Building 64 for year-round visitor access to the Parade Ground.
- Repair Federal Penitentiary period security fencing (SF2) at amphitheater and at south edge of Building 64.
- Repair painted line up markings (prisoner markings). Conduct additional research to determine extent and location of original markings.
- Remove non-contributing picnic tables and replace furnishings that are compatible with the Wharf's historic character.

- Remove non-contributing railing (SR2) along seawall. Replace with railing that is compatible with the Wharf's historic character. New railing should extend along the dock from the Dock Tower to the security fencing (SF2).
- Repair staircase and railing at the south end of the existing amphitheater for use as seasonal access to Officers' Quarters 72 and 73.

Building 64:

- Rehabilitate the terrace and all of its extant features on the building's west side. Repair metal ramps and staircases connecting the building with the terrace. Repair paving, curbs, walls and lights. Maintain decorative concrete railings. Maintain staircases and railings (MBSR28, MBSR29, MBSR30 and MBSR31), and security fencing (SR71, SR75 and SR76).
- Repair staircase from Building 64 to Road to Parade Ground (north of Building 64) and allow year round visitor access
- Maintain staircases and railings east of Building 64 and allow visitor access to Chinatown.
- Rehabilitate Building 64 and allow use for visitor services and administrative functions as recommended by the new GMP.
- Restore U.S. Penitentiary Sign and Indian Occupation graffiti "Indians Welcome" on Building 64 and 'Red Power' on Firebox #3.

Gardens:

- Add new plantings in extant planter curb boxes on storage vault, ensure that new plantings reflect the historic character. Restore planter boxes as existed during Federal Penitentiary period.
- Maintain current historic Sallyport Garden plantings (*Fuchsia sp.*, *Pelargonium sp.*, *Rosa sp.*, *Watsonia sp.*, etc.). Continue to remove invasive species (*Hedera helix*, *Chasmanthe floribunda*, *Oxalis pes-caprae*).
- Remove green dracaena (#1, *Cordyline australis*) and Australian Tea Trees (#6, #7, *Leptospermum laevigatum*) trees in poor condition (north of Building 64). Plant new, smaller tree of the same species in the same location.
- Remove invasive vegetation (*Hedera helix*, *Oxalis pes-caprae*) from slope from the Wharf to the Perimeter Sentry Walk.



Figure 6 - 50. Maintain Dock Tower and fencing. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (DSC02454.JPG)



Figure 6 - 51. Maintain Sallyport Garden. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (DSC02483.JPG, DSC02456.JPG)



Figure 6 - 52. Restore planter boxes, and add plants using species present during the period of significance. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (WharfP1010183.JPG)



Figure 6 - 53. Restore U.S. Penitentiary Sign, 'Indians Welcome' and other Indian Occupation graffiti (c 2009, 2010) (source: MBD); (MBD IMG_2818.jpg, DSC_0416.JPG)



Figure 6 - 54. Remove amphitheater. Allow for addition of operations in this area. Remove invasive vegetation on slope and restore security fencing. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (P1000840.JPG)



Figure 6 - 55. Restore prisoner line up markings on pavement. Allow for operations in this area, and new restroom building to replace existing non-contributing, non-compatible building. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (P1010156.JPG)



Figure 6 - 56. Stabilize seawall and shoreline. Remove non-contributing black metal railing and replace railing along dock to where it connects to the security fencing. (c 2010) (source: MBD); (DSC_0537.JPG)



Figure 6 - 57. Remove non-contributing picnic benches. Remove non-contributing black metal railing (SR3). Maintain paving. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (DSC00181-Crop.jpg)



Figure 6 - 58. Maintain security fence (SR 72), concrete staircase and metal railing. (c 2010) (source: MBD); (P1030757.JPG, DSC_0375.JPG)



Figure 6 - 59. Maintain staircases and railings from Wharf to Parade Ground at Building 64. Repair staircase and railing at top. Allow year round visitor access to Parade Ground via these staircases. (c 2010) (source: MBD); (DSC_0412.JPG, DSC_0446.JPG)



Figure 6 - 60. Maintain staircases, and railings on west side of Building 64 in Chinatown. (c 2010) (source: MBD); (DSC_0412.JPG, DSC_0446.JPG)



Figure 6 - 61. Repair paving, curbs, walls and lights. Maintain staircases and railings. Maintain decorative concrete railings. Maintain Federal Penitentiary period security fencing. (c 2009) (source: MBD); (P1020897, DSC_0357.JPG)