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PROJECT TITLE				
HAWTHORNS INTERIM STRUCTURE STABILIZATION, DEBRIS R PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT E			NE NUMBER
MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT	amac@openspace.org		, ,	) 772-3655
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP C	
5050 EL CAMINO REAL	LOS ALTOS	CA	9402	2
PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box)	_	_		
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☐ Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)				
☐ Certified Regulatory Program (CRP) document - payment due directly to CDFW				
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■ Exempt from fee				
Notice of Exemption (attach)				
□ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)				
☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy	y)			
■ Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resource)	s Control Board only)	500		
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To:

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

County Clerk

County of San Mateo

FILED

SAN MATEO COUNTY

Mar 28 2025

MARK CHURCH, County Clerk
Derry Jegule
By

Deputy Clerk

From:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

5050 El Camino Real

Los Altos, CA 94022

Project Title: Hawthorns Interim Structure Stabilization, Debris Removal, and Re-roof Project

Project Location: 800 Los Trancos Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028 (Hawthorns Historic Complex at Windy Hill

Open Space Preserve)

City: Portola Valley

County: San Mateo

**Description of Project:** The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (District) proposes maintenance and repairs at the Hawthorns Historic Complex in the Windy Hill Open Space Preserve, including replacing the roofs of the Hawthorn House, Garage, and Cottage due deteriorating conditions that are allowing moisture to enter the buildings and degrade the structures. Replacement of the roofs would include removal of existing roof materials, repair of sheathing and rafters, installation of new plywood sheathing, and reroofing with new asphalt shingles over new roof membranes.

Additionally, the District proposes interim structure stabilization measures at the Hawthorns Historic Complex. The interim stabilization measures would mitigate structural degradation over the next five to ten years for structures including the Main House, Cottage, and Garage, as well as four secondary structures/sheds as identified in Attachment 1 (Project Scope of Work Map). Stabilization measures would include installing shoring for foundations and other structural supports, selective removal of deteriorating stairs, and extensions such as the shade structure on the north elevation of the Upper Barn to mitigate hazards.

The District also proposes to remove debris of secondary structures that no longer retain historical integrity, where the structures have deteriorated to the point where the original form is no longer discernable. The proposed debris removal of secondary structures includes the Shetland Sheds, Dog Sheds, Carriage Shed, Pump House, Coachman's Quarters, and Horse Shed 2 (see Attachment 1). The removal and cleanup of these structures would meet District Board of Directors-approved objectives to remove physical hazards to public safety, reduce wildland fire risk, and improve the natural visual character and scenic open space qualities at the site.

Historic Resources: A Historic Structures Assessment for the Hawthorns area of Windy Hill Open Space Preserve was prepared by Knapp Architects in 2013, and concluded Hawthorns appears eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district under Criterion A (broad patterns of history) at the local level with importance in the areas of agriculture, architecture, and social history. The assessment stated that "the contributors to the historic district include the features, structures and buildings that are located in and around the main house or Hawthorns House", including the Hawthorns House, the Garage, the Lower Barn, and the Cottage.

The proposed reroof and stabilization work for the structures as described in the project description will be carried out in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the treatment of historic properties, ensuring the preservation of the structures' historical integrity and overall character of the historic district.

Knapp Architects prepared an additional evaluation in 2024, which concluded that "the Shetland Sheds, Dog Sheds, Carriage Shed, Pump House, and Coachman's Quarters are in poor condition and collapsed. In their current state, the



remaining portions are a scattered array of construction materials with no sense of their original architectural configuration or use. As such, these particular ancillary buildings no longer retain integrity to contribute to the property's historic significance."

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Same

**Exempt Status:** In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines, the proposed project is categorically exempt under the following sections:

Section 15301 – Existing Facilities: Class 1 exempts the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration to existing public or private structures or facilities that involve negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed project would include repairs and maintenance to structures and removal of secondary structures that no longer retain historical integrity within the Historic Complex as described herein. The proposed project would not result in expansion of the existing or former use.

Section 15331 – Historical Resource Restoration/Rehabilitation. Class 31 consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation, or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The project entails maintenance and repair of a historic resource in a manner consistent with the Secretary of Interior's Standards. The re-roofing and interim stabilization scope propose to mitigate structural degradation over the next five to ten years for structures that retain historical integrity.

Date: 3/20/2025

## **Lead Agency Contact:**

Ashley Mac, Planner III amac@openspace.org (650) 772-3655

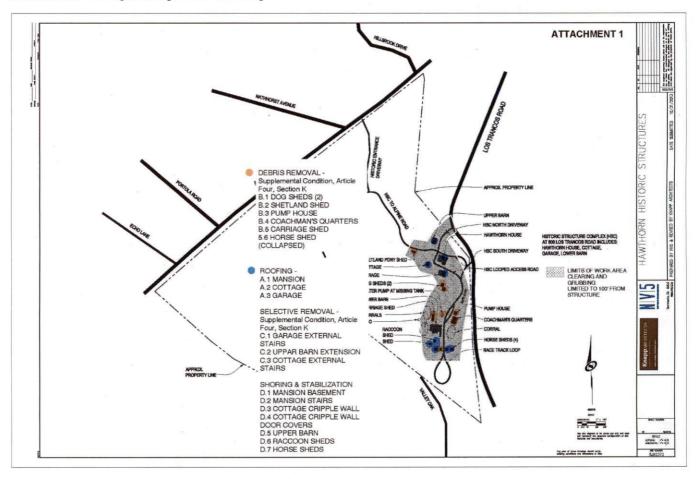
## Attachments:

1. Project Scope of Work Map

Signature: Jane Mark, AICP, Planning Manager



Attachment 1: Project Scope of Work Map



County of San Mateo Clerk-Recorder Mark Church 555 County Center Redwood City, CA 94063 (650) 363-4500

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