

# TakingPart

WORKSHOP

# 2023

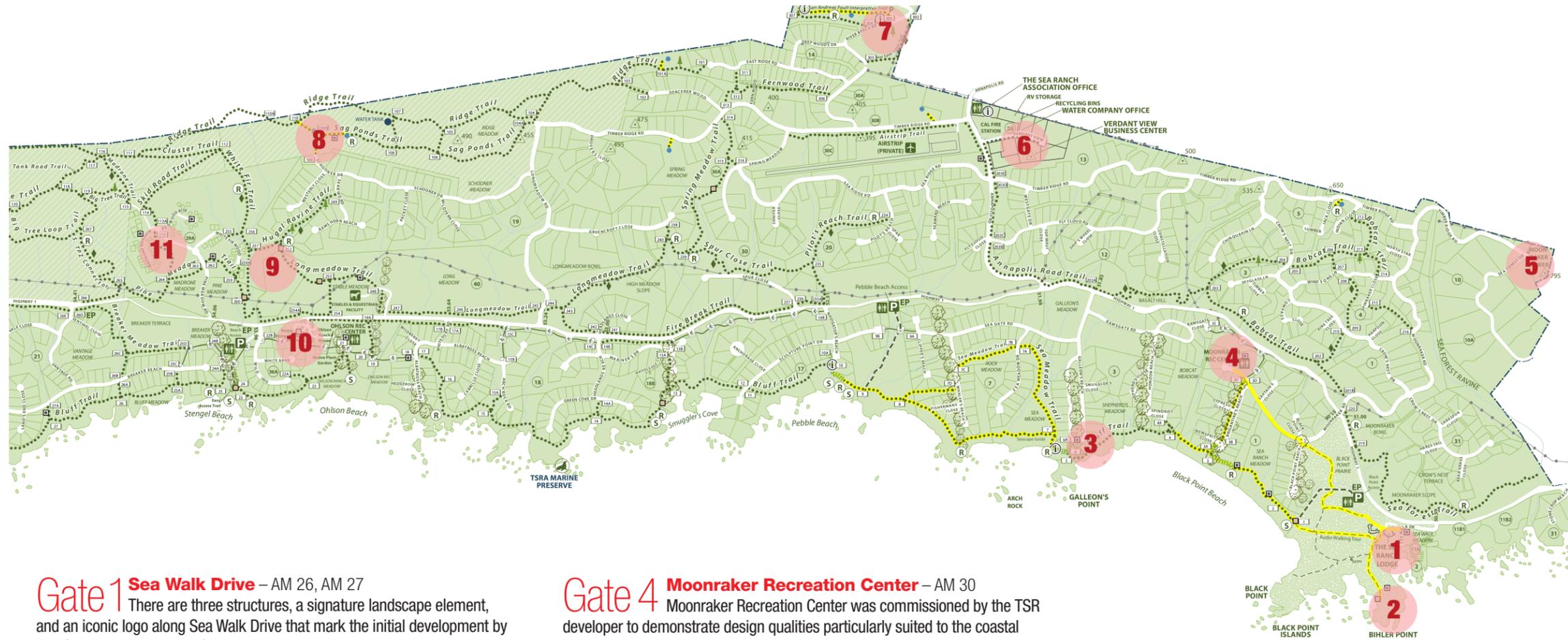
The Sea Ranch

## Self-Guided Gateway Map

**Larry Halprin spoke** of the mythology of *Gate II*, the gate to his and Anna's property, their house and his studio, off Highway 1. He wrote that Gate II opens "... to a strange and complex and wonderfully rich natural place." That story reflects the purpose of this Taking Part Map – a gateway to connections with the The Sea Ranch. Through 18 gates, this map directs you to places or things that are in plain sight but are often overlooked, places that have changed with time, or that no longer exist, places that are notable in the cultural history of The Sea Ranch. View each gate as an opening or an introduction to a place, offering background for further query and discovery.

**Gate 18** has been left open, inviting you to enter a place you think notable, one the map may have missed. You are encouraged to draw, write about, or photograph your observations and gate ideas. Then, to submit them to the web page or bring them to the October Taking Part Workshop.

**Gate locations** are referenced to the Archives Committee Historical Markers (HM) and the Architecture/Landscape Markers (AM) or Trail Markers (TM). The markers are noted on The Sea Ranch Trails Map and in the Archives Committee's publications, *Preserving Sea Ranch History* and *Place at The Sea Ranch*. *Sea Ranch Rambles Trail Guide* and interpretive trail guides are valuable informational resources. More explanation about each of the gates and a list of resources are on the Taking Part 2023 web page.



**Gate 1 Sea Walk Drive** – AM 26, AM 27  
There are three structures, a signature landscape element, and an iconic logo along Sea Walk Drive that mark the initial development by The Sea Ranch developer, Oceanic Properties. • How would you describe the purpose and design of each of the structures? What are some architectural features common to each of the structures? How is the architecture and landscape design reflective of the coastal climate? HEAR: *Audio Walking Tour* by Donlyn Lyndon.

**Gate 2 Bihler Point** – HM 25  
The bluffs at Bihler and Black Point form small coves which, in the 1880s, were known as "doghole ports." They were tight, dangerous landings – so small only a dog could turn around in them – for loading specially designed ships, "doghole" schooners, with lumber and cargo. Chutes anchored to the bluffs acted as slides to lower goods to the ships. A small community built up around the landing • Look back to the meadow. What building remains as the only easily visible evidence of the community? Imagine loading the ships in the doghole coves from the top of the bluff. Look for bolts and pins, remnants of the chutes, in the rocks along the bluff. Walk carefully.

**Gate 3 Galleon's Point, Galleon's Reach** – AM 31, TM 5  
Black Point Spillite is the oldest rock formation along the coast, running from Black Point to the coves south of Pebble Beach. Spillite is dark green to black. At Galleon's Point (TM 5), spillite can be seen as outcroppings from the bluffs, but it is more apparent as offshore sea stacks, once part of the mainland. Inland, outcroppings of spillite are along Sea Meadow Trail. Birds roost and nest on the sea stacks.

Monterey Cypress hedgerows are a defining landscape feature of The Sea Ranch. They offer protection from the elements, and they provide shade. Galleon's Hedgerow was originally planted in the 1920s. • New trees were planted as saplings in 2001. Why are they planted where they are? Why was the original hedgerow not removed until 2019, eighteen years later? What other hedgerows across The Sea Ranch can you identify as being replanted? SEE: *The Sea Ranch Signature Hedgerow Management Plan*.

**Gate 4 Moonraker Recreation Center** – AM 30  
Moonraker Recreation Center was commissioned by the TSR developer to demonstrate design qualities particularly suited to the coastal environment. • Consider the way the building and land are shaped. To what purpose? Standing in the pool area, what changes do you notice from the outside? How would you describe the graphics? Can you point to other notable examples of graphics on TSR? HEAR: *Audio Walking Tour* by Donlyn Lyndon.  
Moonraker Recreation Center is a "Starred Site," one of 23 parcels designated as such on The Sea Ranch. They are reserved for community facilities and recreational purposes, and they are a variety of sizes and descriptions. • Describe other examples of a Starred Site.

**Gate 5 Unit 10, Timber Ridge Road and Sea Forest Drive**  
Infrastructure is the adhesive necessary for The Sea Ranch to function day to day. Elements of infrastructure are hidden in forests or underfoot, sometimes in plain sight, but they receive little thought. Power, water, communications, and security are some elements of infrastructure. Timber Ridge Road is connective infrastructure. At this, the highest point on TSR, there are two elements of infrastructure. Two more pieces of TSR infrastructure are in view in the Verdant View area (AM 32). One piece of infrastructure is not on TSR property. • Where do you find other elements of infrastructure? Consider the effects of the loss or disruption of any part of our infrastructure.

**Gate 6 Verdant View**  
The Sea Ranch Fire Station is located near the Chapel, off Highway 1. The original Volunteer Fire House was on Verdant View. Today, it is used by the Association for another purpose. • What is that? What other Association facilities are nearby? What are their uses?  
Commercial properties, not owned by the Association, line the west side of Verdant View. • Describe two other large properties at either end of TSR that are privately owned, not subject to TSRA CC&Rs, but for which the Design Committee has review authority over construction and vegetation management.

**Gate 7 Hot Spot** – HM 23  
The Sea Ranch geology is in constant motion, usually slowly. However, some 120 years ago a rapid change resulted in portions of the land rising and shifting. • What are some features in the land and vegetation that are evidence of the rapid change? Identify features known as a scarp, a sag pond, or a hummock. What are the predominant understory and ground cover plants? This area shows signs of logging in the past. Some stumps will have slots carved into them to accept a "springboard." • What was the purpose of the springboard? SEE: *San Andreas Fault Interpretive Trail Guide*.

**Gate 8 Schooner Drive Trailhead** – TM 109, AM 36  
Walk into the Central Forest to the intersection at Sag Pond Trail, then veer to the right. • How do you identify or describe a "sag" pond? How would you characterize the property and the vegetation? What kind of event do the tree stumps reveal?  
As you continue to walk, take a left on the trail connecting to the Ridge Trail. • What TSR infrastructure do you encounter? SEE: *Rambles, Central Forest (Central TPZ)*, and "Horse Ramble." Also, *The Sag Pond Story – Interpretive Trail Guide*.

**Gate 9 Hugal Ravine** – HM 17, HM 19  
In 1846, Frederick Hugal built a cabin near the ravine at the north end of Rams Horn Reach and planted an orchard on the slopes below. Nearby, in the 1870s, Chris Stengel built a house of redwood and exterior boards and battens painted white. A covered porch ran the full length of the house. A eucalyptus grove was nearby, and portions of it remain today. In the late 1800s, Chinese immigrants moved to the area and lived and worked there. • How would you describe the lands and structures above the White Barn? How are they used today? What TSR infrastructure do you find? SEE: *Rambles, "Central Loops."*



