



Indian Village

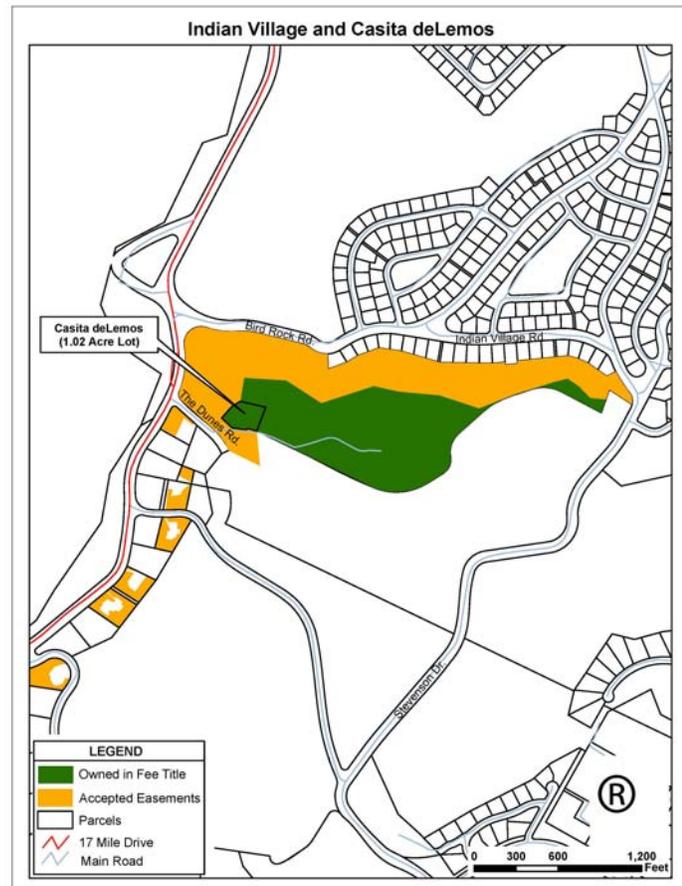
20 Acres

OSAC Category IB: Intensively Used Area and IV: Open Forest

Indian Village is located just inland of 17-Mile Drive at Dunes Drive south of Seal Rock Creek. Indian Village consists of a 20 acre parcel of primarily mature Monterey pine forest with a park-like clearing and picnic facilities. Parts of the forest area blighted by a bark beetle infestation in the late 1990s are under restoration by DMFC. At the western entrance to the area, and visible from 17 Mile Drive, is the well known *Casita de Lemos*. Access is by graded dirt road from the end of the Dunes Drive. Secondary access is via a hiking trail and fire road from Stevenson Road near the 7th green of Spyglass Hill Golf Course.

The 20 acres of the original Indian Village parcel were acquired in 1980 when more than 300 Del Monte Forest property owners donated \$120,000 to purchase 30 acres (20 acres at Indian Village and 10 acres at the Navajo Tract.) Part of the \$120,000 purchased 15 of the 30 acres and Pebble Beach Corporation generously donated the matching 15 acres. In 1980, Indian Village was transferred from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation to the DMFC.

The separate parcel of 1.04 acres containing *Casita de Lemos* was a gift to DMFC from Pebble Beach Company in 1993. Just over one half of this parcel was placed in conservation easement, while the remainder surrounding the cottage and its adjacent foundation were exempted from the easement. DMFC also holds a conservation easement on the two adjacent parcels to the north that contain the channel and riparian corridor of Seal Rock Creek as well as the dunes habitat west of the Monterey pine forest of Indian Village.



With help from the Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD), Pebble Beach Riding and Trails Association, and Del Monte Forest Property Owners, the Conservancy has updated the picnic facilities after vandals destroyed the wooden tables in July 2004. PBCSD continues to help DMFC maintain the grounds and provide access. Indian Village is available for rent by reservation through PBCSD.

Casita de Lemos

1.04 acres

OSAC Category III: Developed Area; Categories II, X & XI: Protected Natural Reserves with sensitive habitat and rare or endangered species in dunes habitat; and Category IV; Open Forest east of the residence. The residence, concrete foundation and a twenty foot perimeter surrounding this developed area are NOT included in the easements or regulated categories.

Perched high on a sand dune at the entrance to Indian Village is a Forest landmark, the storybook cottage “*Casita de Lemos*,” sometimes referred to locally as the Hansel and Gretel House or Gingerbread House. This separate 1.02 acre property was accepted as a gift from Pebble Beach Company by Grant Deed dated February 10, 1993.

It was built between 1941 and 1944 by artist Pedro de Lemos and his wife, as a guest house/studio for a much larger residence they planned for the property. The poured concrete roof was hand formed to create the appearance of individually colored tiles. Due to the shortage of materials and labor during WWII, followed by Pedro’s failing health, the main residence was never finished, but the original foundation is still visible.

About 1962, heirs of Pedro and his wife sold the property back to Pebble Beach Company. Thereafter it was used as a rental property for nearly 30 years before the concrete roof finally failed, and rendered the remainder of the cottage into an unusable state of disrepair. Early attempts to repair the cottage in the early 1990s were not successful. The property was gifted to Del Monte Forest Conservancy in 1993. The property languished through another ten years of deterioration and vandalism while the Board of Directors gathered funds and resolve to work through the cumbersome five year process of getting permits to begin a full restoration of the property. In the spring of 2012 detailed research was done on the design and construction of the distinctive roof. Aerial photographs and precise measurements were taken. Finally, on August 8, 2012, the Board of Directors began reconstruction under the supervision of board member Zigmont J. Le Towt and contractor RC Banjanin. The roof was removed and replaced with an exact replication using new technology and materials. Most of the interior was completely reconstructed. The project was completed to much acclaim in late October, 2014.

Preserved in the plaster above the garage in de Lemos’ own hand is the inscription:

“Mara Nido – Anno 1994 – Casita de Lemos”