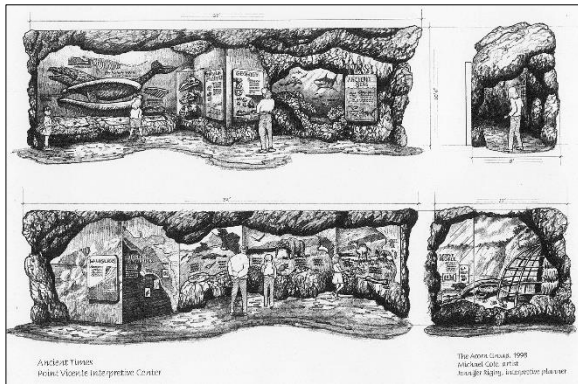


## Point Vicente Interpretive Center Palos Verdes, California

*Point Vicente is a rocky promontory on the Pacific coast. It is also a prime location for whale watching. Each year roughly 20,000 gray whales make an annual 10,000-mile journey from the Bering Sea to Mexico and back. Our challenge was to capitalize on outdoor whale watching opportunities with provocative indoor exhibits within the Point Vicente Interpretive Center.*

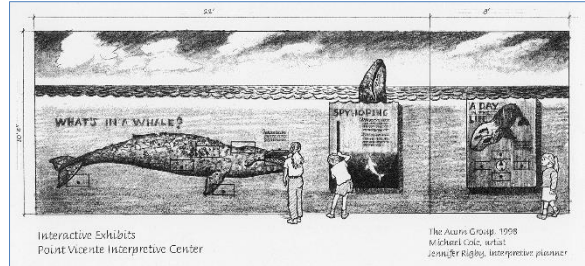


In 1998, The Acorn Group developed the interpretive master plan for Center. We created a new exhibit design scheme based on coastal ecology and the Pacific gray whale. Plans called for replacing old, static displays with dynamic, multi-sensory immersive exhibits that stimulate the visitor's imagination.



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Interior design includes a 32' walk-through ancient sea cave, a replica of a nineteenth century whalers' shack, and a 15' visitor-accessible fiberglass whale model with moveable blowholes, barnacle-encrusted skin, and touchable baleen.



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Even the architecture is interpretive. The walkway and retaining wall leading up the Center reflect the shape of the Pacific Ocean coastline from Baja California to the Bering Sea. As visitors approach the building, they follow the migratory pathway of the Pacific gray whale.