UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Western Archeolog	ical Center		,
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as early as 1846, and sheep were raised after 1920.

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Santa Barbara is one of California's smallest off-shore islands, with an area of only one sq statute mile (2.6 sq. km). It is 24 miles (39 km) from the nearest neighbor, Catalina, and is situated between the southern group of Channel Islands (Catalina, San Nicolas, and San Clemente) and the northern chain. The island has steep shorelines with no sandy beaches.

A low north-south oriented ridge connects Signal Peak and North Peak, rounded hills with elevations of 193 and 171 meters respectively. On the east and west sides of this ridge are broad, seaformed terraces cut in places by gullies. The temperature varies only

ridge are broad, seaformed terraces cut in places by gullies. The temperature varies only slightly, with prevailing wind from the west-northwest. Average rainfall is approximately 30.5 cm., but humidity is high due to frequent wet fogs. Native land animals include an endemic night-lizard, a small bat, and an endemic deer mouse. California sea lions and northern elephant seals frequent the shores, and harbor seals are occasional visitors. At least 70 different birds have been reported. While the island looks barren during the dry season, suffrutescent and herbaceous plants abound during winter and early spring. The most conspicuous elements of the vegetation are grasses, ice plant, maritime-shrub and sea-bluff communities. Several unique and endemic plants are varieties of Eriogorum (buckwheat), Platystemon (cream-cups), and a species of Dudleya (hen-and-chickens). The native species of Suaeda (seashore blite), Dudleya, and Coreopsis have been reduced as a result of erosion and introduced plants. Some of the plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates are endangered species or are threatened forms. No perennial water sources are known at this time. It is likely that vegetation was both quantitatively and qualitatively different before the introduction of grazing and farming, and an introduced rabbit population also contributed to surface degradation. Goats were brought to the island at least

Despite the small size of the island, 17 prehistoric sites have been discovered and recorded to date, for an average density of 6.6 sites per square kilometer. In addition, one historic site has been recorded. There is a potential for more sites in both categories, and for prehistoric and historical resources underwater. The following is a brief summary of the recorded sites (site information adapted from Greenwood 1977):

4-SB1-1. On the concentrated deposits of midden shell. Earlier site records estimated up to 46 cm. in depth, and present area is estimated on the basis of surface indications to be about 625 square meters. Chipped stone artifactsobserved from the surface include cores, hammerstones, pitted hammerstones, scraper planes, and abundant basalt workshop detritus.

4-SB1-2. On the remains covering an area estimated at 28,800 square meters. Artifacts collected include one pestle, mano, and felsite anvil. Although surficial cultural materials appear over most of the site, a distinct locus in the southwest corner reveals a buried lens of shell, burned rock, and sea mammal bone.

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4-SB1-3. the site is an extensive scatter of artifacts and stone workshop debris within a shell midden. Artifacts observed include mortars, pestles, millingstones, scraper planes, steatite bowl, and choppers. Area is estimated at 1,155 square meters, and depth at 30+ cm.
4-SB1-4. This site is within a tight cluster of the island. It is a shell midden with lithic artifacts including mortars, pestles, manos, steatite bowl and a fish effigy. Faunal remains include sea mammal, cetacean, avian, and teleost bone. Partially obscured by vegetation, the area is estimated to be at least 280 square meters, with depth of 30 cm.
4-SB1-5. and workshop waste in a thin shell midden. Artifacts recorded include implements related to the processing of foods, one projectile point, hammerstones and basaltic cores and flakes. Fish vertebrae were abundant.
which may once have had a sandy beach. Shell midden is light, but lithic artifacts, cores, and flakes are abundant. Sea mammal bone and worked steatite are present. The extent is estimated as 2,494 square meters, with depth unknown.
4-SB1-7. scatter with a light shell component. Food processing tools are present, and the worked steatite includes fragments of two bowls. Size is approximately 1,029 square meters; depth was estimated by Rozaire to be "shallow."
4-SB1-8. burned rock, but no shell is visible on the surface. Artifacts include bowls, pestles, discoidal, chopper, steatite bowl fragment, and part of a drilled steatite tablet or pendant. Remains are visible for about 99 square meters; presence of a subsurface deposit is unknown.
for testing in 1964 because it appeared to have the heaviest concentration of artifacts (see Rozaire 1978). From six units, the recovery included 108 artifacts and 186 pieces of flake waste. Faunal remains identified include sea otter, California sea lion. Guadalupe fur seal, unidentified eared seal, possible Northern fur seal, harbor seal, dolphin, California sheephead, and other pinnipeds, cetacean, avian, elasmobranch and teleost fish. Temporal diagnostics were absent, but the sample added bone and shell artifacts to the surface inventories.

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4-SB1-10. This is the closest of the group the state of the group artifacts and debitage in a very sparse shell scatter with species different from neighboring sites. Artifacts include ground stone and flake knives over an area estimated at 880 square meters.	
4-SB1-11. At square meters contains a variety of lithic materials and workshop detritus of basalt, white quartz, quartzite, schist, and steatite. Hammerstones were abundant. Stone bottom and mano fragments and a possible steatite boat effigy were observed. Depth is unknown.	w]
4-SB1-12. This very small shell scatter is one of the two presently known sites near is 90 square meters; Rozaire has estimated the deposit to be "shallow."	е
4-SB1-13. Deposits of shell, ash, and burned rock are widely dispersed in	f
of the island. The deposit is at least 10 cm. thick where presently exposed. A second locus is a surface shell midden of 750 square meters on the slope above the gully. Rozaire commented on the original site record (1964) that the buried remains in the gully may be "old."	,
4-SB1-14. Unique in its, this site may be characterized as a sparse shell scatter with lithic flake waste. The extent is 675 square meters, with depth unknown.	
4-SB1-15. This locality, had been recorded by Rozaire in 1964, but no remains were found in the area during the 1977 investigation. The location it could have been lost to erosion.	
4-SB1-16. This site, at and use area was originally recorded as SB-1, but has been renumbered because of duplication in the earlier record It was tested by Swartz with three units in 1958, and described by him as 60 x 100 meters with midden to a depth of 46 cm. (1958, 1960). Only a "representative sample" was saved from this excavation; UCLA Accession No. 199 lists 43 entries, some of them combined shell samples, unidentified bone, and flake waste. The site was already heavily damaged by historic buildings and construction at that time. It has been further impacted by recent activities.	
4-SB1-17. A site recorded during the 1977 investigation, this is the first bedrock mortar to be discovered on the island. It is and was found with a pestle in association.	

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4-SB1-18. Also recorded in 1977, this is also the first historical site to be added to the inventory. Visible remains are a concrete tank or cistern, rock wall, and lengthy earthen berm of which 50 meters are clearly visible. These features were probably

ITEM NUMBER

constructed by the Hyder family between 1915 and 1926, to control and store water. A family member called this the location of the water pond to supply fields of corn and potatoes, and named this area.

dense shell midden with a heavy lithic component and faunal remains including fish and sea mammal bone. It covers an area presently estimated at 800 square meters between the . It may have been a part of the site presently recorded as 4-SB1-16, but has been separately designated because it appears to be an undisturbed area with high research potential and is physically separated from the former.

In addition to these sites, the 1977 investigation observed two isolated archeological occurrences: a portable slab millingstone and associated mano on the

on the USGS map. These have been described on special forms, but not now designated or staked as sites. All of the sites have been marked with an oak datum stake bearing the site number embossed on a brass surveyor's tag.

In addition to the sites presently known, there is potential for additional discoveries around the shores and underwater. Swartz recovered an abalone pry at the landing (1958), and at least one large mortar has been brought up from "near the landing." Docking facilities and early commerce may well have left evidence. The historic sites on land are probably underrepresented at this time since none of the early surveys had shown concern for them, or described them at the time when surface indications would have been present. Known occupations which may have left remains in the form of structural elements or material goods accessible through the methodologies of historic archaeology would include the Chinese lobstermen at the landing in the 1890's; cabins on the by the same years, including that of H. Bay Webster, a fisherman and seal-hunter

by the same years, including that of H. Bay Webster, a fisherman and seal-hunter who lived later on Anacapa Island; and the very extensive activities of the Hyder family between 1914 and 1922. By 1921 there were at least seven structures on the island including a 60-foot barn, and at various time the Hyders raised barley, hay, corn, potatoes, sheep, goats, rabbits, geese, ducks, chickens, turkeys, and hogs.

Government activities on Santa Barbara Island include the Santa Barbara Island Lighthouse at Arch Point and the early light tower on Signal Peak, USCG & GS station, aircraft early warning outpost and photographic tracking station, and the inclined cable railway used to transport supplies up from the landing. Currently, NPS utilizes a Navy quonset of ca. 1943 for a visitor/ranger facility, and has installed a campground

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with picnic tables on a graded pad bordered by railroad ties.

other pads and foundations are

visible. There is a network of abandoned roads, and both current and discontinued trails; some of the latter have been stabilized with the narrow tracks of the old funicular.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Santa Barbara Island Archaeological District contains at least 19 locations of prehistoric and historic cultural value with significance at the local and regional levels. The two sites which have been tested have yielded significant data about prehistoric adaptation and subsistence practises in this unique environment. Those which have not been sampled or excavated contain potential research data amenable to the refined methodologies and theoretical considerations of scientific archaeology. As a district, the prehistoric site resources have a Regional level of significance while the little known historical archeological sites possess a local significance.

No radiocarbon dates have been determined as yet for Santa Barbara Island. Rozaire has estimated that 4-SB1-9 was occupied later than A.D. 1 and possible after A.D. 1170 on the basis of one Olivella bead and three projectile point fragments, although other artifacts including the fishhooks could originate in an earlier period. The quantity of millingstones mortars, and pestles and the bedrock mortar recently discovered suggest many potential research questions regarding the exploitation of plant foods and other natural resources, which may have had different distributions and proportions than in present times.

Analysis of the settlement pattern reveals two major focuses of occupation: one at the historic landing cove (4-SB1-16 and -19), and another on the (4-SB1-4 through -11 and -17. Future investigations may be able to relate these to a sandy beach formerly present along the elephant seal and California sea lion.

Unique to Santa Barbara Island and enhancing the broad, regional significance to its archeological resources is the location between the northern and southern Channel Islands. Is is closest to Catalina, part of the southern group which includes San Nicolas, and San Clemente as well. As such, it is within the territory ethnographically assigned to the Gabrielino and may be hypothesized to represent a culture socially, linquistically, economically, and artifactually different from the Chumas society on the northern islands. To the extent that such distinctions can be drawn, it might be predicted that the material remains may reflect a separate adaptation to, and utilization of, this environment by these major Southern California native groups.

It is possible that certain resources of the island may have possessed ritual and other ethnic aspects of significance to Native American people. One version of a Gabrielino myth related by Fr. Boscana refers to a black rock, called <u>tosaut</u>, which was used to fasten

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the earth and which contained the gall which made the sea salty; supposedly this is the basalt found on Santa Barbara (Johnson 1962: 43,70). Reference has also been made to "magician's stones" described as quartz pebbles darkened by iron deposit (Rozaire 1978: 36), and to an abundance of crypto-crystalline raw materials (Swartz 1960:9), a resource which has not yet been relocated. Further, Harrington reported the presence—but not the location—of a serpentine deposit which he claimed supplied the Santa Barbara mainland coast (Van Valkenburg 1935).

The island may have constituted a node in trade and travel patterns because of its position and thus have the potential to answer research questions oriented towards economics and exchange, as well as the possibility of some ceremonial function. Glassow has proposed a number of research questions, including hypotheses that the island was occupied seasonally and perhaps as a result of population pressure on Catalina (1977: 43-48). Other theoretical interests focus on the role of the island as an interface between Gabrielino and Chumash cultures, unique natural resources which may have influenced utilization and settlement pattern, degree to which a change in this environment may have influenced exploitation of natural resources, chronology, and adaptation of social organization and roles to insular settlement.

The sites representing historic use of the island are less well know at present, but stockraising may date back to the mid 1800's and sealing, fishing, lobstering, farming, and the collection of sea gull eggs were all practiced before 1900. Government and military activities have also left their traces. The cabin sites at and the settlement of the Alvin Hyder family and associates

have the potential to yield data through the approach of historical archaeology. These sites are regarded as significant for some of the same reasons as the prehistoric sites: information on economic and trade endeavors, adaptation of family and entrepreneurial behavior in a difficult and isolated environment, and the pressure of their activities upon the natural resources. The facilities of the Government and military outposts are also important in the history of research and protection of the west coast. Historical archaeological research may be the only methodology for gathering information on these historical occupations of the island.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

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