

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 17 1980

JAN 26 1981

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Muir Beach Archeological Site

AND/OR COMMON

4-Mrn-333

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN *Marin City, Calif.*

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Muir Beach (unincorporated)

VICINITY OF *Stinson Beach*

STATE
California

CODE

COUNTY
Marin

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(if applicable)*

National Park Service, Western Region

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

— VICINITY OF

STATE

California 94102

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Assessor's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Marin County Civic Center

CITY, TOWN

San Rafael

STATE

California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Adan Treganza Anthropology Museum Archeological Survey

Department of Anthropology, San Francisco State University, San Francisco

DATE

Unknown (late 1940s)

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Muir Beach is a short sand beach at the [REDACTED] which drains the high landforms in [REDACTED]. Formerly a 12-acre State beach, the location is now a day use area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Both west and east ends of the beach are terminated by elevated and steep terrain in the form of seacliffs or ridges. To the west, a residential community has been increasing in recent years. To the east, grassy hills and ridges used for grazing and recreational hiking are other parcels of the Recreation Area. To the north, the wide valley of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Both areas were named for the naturalist John Muir.

Along its banks, native willow (*Salix* sp.), white alders and blackberry (*Ribes* sp.) grow. A lowland, freshwater marsh borders the creek on its north side with the beach area on its south side. Native grasses, iceplant and seasonal weedy plants are found in the marsh. Exotic plantings include Monterrey pine, pampas grass, variegated *Coparsma* (a blooming shrub) and large *Myoporum laetum* which have been planted to screen the parking lot. Large eucalyptus trees had been planted also but are now removed.

Existing day use facilities include a wooden bridge across Redwood Creek, parking lot, movable tables and stationary fireboxes, a public telephone, portable restrooms and informal pathways. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In the recent past, a concessionaire operated a refreshment stand in a trailer parked near the existing telephone enclosure. Visitor use in the near future will be enhanced by a small changing room/restroom building and had-surface pathways near the telephone enclosure which will not impact the archeological deposit. Additional plantings and placement of tables in clusters will be also accomplished away from the site area. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a minimum 3 ft depth. Exposed midden shows fragmentary shell, firecracked rock, dark brown soils with a smearing quality and some charcoal. Modern day use debris and driftwood are also present. Thick grassy ground cover obscures much of the deposit but also protects it from erosion. A sidewalk, retaining wall and remnant chimney structure have been constructed into the midden but probably not to a great depth. The site was visited by Nels C. Nelson during his 1906-08 inventory of San Francisco bay shell midden sites; he probably labelled it number 333 which was formally used as a site number from the late 1940s to the present. A dot on his 1909 map indicates its existence at the time of Nelson's survey. The location of the midden site [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] rocky shores, a sand beach, a freshwater creek and marsh, and grassy or wooded interior uplands via Green Gulch or Frank Valley. The location would have been an optimum one for a wide variety of gathering, collecting, fishing, hunting, trapping and netting of fish, including salmon, known to have been found in Redwood Creek. Site boundaries are based on visible deposit, modern impacts as disturbing in-place midden, and observed effects of creek erosion.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The local significance of Marin-333 is based on the potential data it may contain, its geographical position [redacted] and its probable association with the protohistoric Coast Miwok native populations of the Central California coast north of San Francisco. Although impacted by past land uses, the site appears to have sufficient depth and integrity to yield important information on a variety of subjects.

Some research questions from different fields of interest include the past presence of species of vertebrates and invertebrates from ocean, marsh and land environments, documentation of anadromous fish in Redwood Creek; movement of the creek across the constricted beach, and archeological comparisons of material culture, seasonality of resource exploitation or localized adaptation strategies. The site is an important link between the several surviving midden sites known for the San Francisco peninsula (Fort Mason Archeological District and Point Lobos Archeological Sites within Golden Gate NRA also) and those known for the Bolinas Lagoon and town area. Even though an archeological site has been recorded for Slide Ranch, [redacted] it has not been relocated. The Bolinas Lagoon area [redacted] which is the same distance to the San Francisco sites. Point Reyes Archeological Districts sites are further comparative data.

Although no chronological indicators are known for the site as no excavations have been undertaken, it is hypothesized that it is a location utilized by the Coast Miwok or Hookooeko in post-Christian Era times. The location of Mrn-333 fits very well the subsistence patterns described by I. Kelly (1978) for Coast Miwok utilization of resources. No Coast Miwok or Hookooeko placename for the [redacted] or nearby landforms was recorded by C. Hart Merriam (1977), [redacted] the Coast Miwok village of balui-n (Mrn-401) is preserved at the Audubon Canyon Ranch wildlife sanctuary. The site may relate to prehistoric antecedent populations to the historic Coast Miwok. The site also possesses interpretive values which may be associated with natural resources of the creek/beach/marsh environments.

Continuation Sheet Bibliography Item Number 9 Page 2

Nelson, Nels C.

1909 Shellmounds of the San Francisco Bay Region. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. 7, No. 4, pp. 309-348.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kelly, Isabel

1978 Coast Miwok. In Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 8 (California), pp. 414-425. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, Government Printing Office

Merriam, C. Hart

1977 Ethnogeographic and Ethnosynonymic Data from Central California Tribes. U.C. Berkeley, Archaeological Research Facility.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .6 acre (30,000 square feet)

UTM REFERENCES

A
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION



LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Roger E. Kelly, Regional Archeologist

March 1979

ORGANIZATION

Division of Cultural Resource Management, Western Region, National Park Service

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue

TELEPHONE

(415)556-6893

CITY OR TOWN

San Francisco

STATE

California 94102

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

FEB 21 1980

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Kurt M. Ellen

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

F. R. Hall

TITLE

Assistant Director,
Cultural Resources

DATE

3-13-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

John J. Bush
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 1-26-81

Carol A. Clough
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11-29-80