UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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NAME				
нізтовіс Chalone Cre	eek Archaeological S	ites		
AND/OR COMMON			·	
		SBn	-PNM-6, SBn-PNM-8	3, SBn-PNM-9
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
	, Pinnacles N	National Monument	Xngt for publication	I
CHY, TOWN	<u>X</u>	VICINITY OF Soledad	CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
California		06	San Benito	069
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	SENT USE
X_DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	X_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	X_PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XXYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
•		_NO	MILITARY	_OTHER:
	TERS:( <i>If applicable)</i> rk Service, Western	Regional Office	·	
STREET & NUMBER	<b>.</b>			
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•	ltural Resources Sec	ction. Department	of Parks and Reco	reation
ITY, TOWN		,F	STATE	
P.O. Box 239	90	Sacramen	to, California	

#### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_EXCELLENT \_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

RUINS

X\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_UNALTERED X\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Chalone Creek Archaeological Sites are composed of three prehistoric Native Californian sites, an open camp site (SBn-PNM-8), a rock-shelter with an eastern exposure (SBn-PNM-9), and a midden deposit with a small number of bedrock mortar cups (SBn-PNM-6). The former two sites are while the bedrock mortar-midden site is

SBn-PNM-6 is a midden deposit at the base of monolithic boulders, the bases of which show some smoke-blackening. This site is about 50 feet in diameter and has been slightly impacted Site SBn-PNM-8 is about 75 feet in diameter and is situated on a slightly sloping flat area

dark-colored midden deposit has yielded several chipped and ground stone artifacts, one of which has been chronologically placed at the beginning of the Christian era. This site has been affected by a trail and by rodent burrows but impacts are not severe. Site SBn-PNM-9 is a linear overhang or exogene rockshelter about 35 feet long and 6 feet in width. Smoke-blackened rock surfaces and a few collected artifacts indicate that this rockshelter provided protection from westerly winds for native peoples. This site appears to be intact. The sites are in a chaparral environment which includes oaks, manzanita, and various bushes but larger trees and plants are nearby. The sites were recorded and described during a 1966 archaeological survey of the Monument accomplished by W. H. Olsen, L. A. Payen, and J. L. Beck. The area encompassing the Chalone Creek sites is a polygon oriented slightly east of north as shown on the accompanying map.

.Further alternations or impacts should be

avoided.

### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CI	HECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
—PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —1800-1899 —1900-	_XARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC _AGRICULTURE _ARCHITECTURE _ART _COMMERCE _COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURELAWLITERATUREMILITARYMUSICPHILOSOPHYPOLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—RELIGION —SCIENCE —SCULPTURE —SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN —THEATER —TRANSPORTATION —OTHER (SPECIEV)
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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the cluster of three sites is that each represents a different type of cultural activity influenced by different combinations of natural resources and settings. As a group, all three sites possess potential for chronological determinations, human environmental adaptations, and behavioral patterns as well as other research topics such as possible tribal identification of early area inhabitants. The state of preservation for the sites is at least good to excellent. The Chalone Creek archaeological sites lie about half-way between an excavated late prehistoric site

There are no other

excavated or surveyed sites in the western margins of San Benito County neighboring the Monument area. Of the 13 recorded sites within the Monument, several are bedrock mortar clusters with little or no midden deposit. The three Chalone Creek sites represent the most significant known cultural resources of the Monument and SBn-PNM-8 and 9 were identified by Olsen, Payen, and Beck as possessing high research potential.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Olsen, W.H., L.A. Payen, and J.L. Beck 1967 An Archeological Survey of Pinnacles National Monument, San Benito County, California. manuscript. NPS Western Archaeological Center, Tucson.

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