

**SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY
CLIMATE CHANGE AND CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY SERIES**

**TECHNICAL REPORT 2.
A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF
300 ACRES OF PACIFIC VALLEY COASTLINE,
LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST
MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**



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300 ACRES OF PACIFIC VALLEY COASTLINE,
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MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

prepared for

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INTRODUCTION

For the past 30 years, climate scientists, geologists, and ecologists have tracked widespread global evidence for climate change. There is near-unanimity within the scientific community that this climate change is the result of CO₂ emissions from anthropogenic sources (Anderegg et al. 2010). Recent documents by the United States National Climate Assessment Development Advisory Committee (NCADAC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicate that global sea levels will rise between 0.5 and 2.0 m over the next century (IPCC 2013:13.121; NCADAC 2013:65).

The Executive Board of the Society for California Archaeology (SCA) discussed the potential threats sea level rise posed to the California's coastal archaeological resources, at the 2011 Executive Board Meeting in Chico, California. The Board decided to take action towards surveying public lands along the California coast. Two concurrent exploratory areas were pursued in 2012, Marin County and Los Padres National Forest in Monterey County. Michael Newland, the SCA President at the time, Robert Strickland, United States Forest Service District Archaeologist, Dustin McKenzie, Instructor in Archaeology at Cabrillo Community College in Santa Cruz, and archaeologist Annamarie Leon Guerrero obtained Archaeological Resource Protection Act permits and organized the field effort for the Los Padres component of the climate change survey. This effort was entirely a volunteer or conducted through the Cabrillo College 2012 field school. The current study summarizes the results of that effort.

In June of 2012, a non-ground disturbing cultural resources field survey of 300 acres of coastal terrace, west of Pacific Valley Station and Highway 1 was conducted by the Cabrillo College Archaeological Field School (see Figure 1). **This section of text removed from**

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This study was completed in order to inventory the study area for cultural resources and to update archaeological site records for the known cultural resources within the coastal margin. Pre-field background research and field survey were conducted in June 2012. A total of 24 archaeological resources are located within the study area (see Figure 2). During the field survey, four sites within the study area were not visited; 19 previously recorded sites were re-located and the site records were updated and one site was not fully re-located and the site record was updated accordingly. Historical resources inventory forms (California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms) were used to record or update existing site records for these resources. Historical resources inventory forms are presented in Appendix A.

STUDY AREA LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The study area is located west of the Santa Lucia Mountain range, 32 miles south of Big Sur, California and 14 miles north of the San Luis Obispo county line; along the coastal terraces of southern Monterey County. **This section of text removed from**

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study area is 300 acres,

bound to the east by Pacific Coast Highway 1 and to the west by steep coastal bluffs that overlook the Pacific Ocean. The study area itself is relatively flat, primarily maintaining an elevation of 100 ft. above mean sea level (amsl), down the center line (north / south) of the study area. In order to better manage the field survey, [REDACTED] was used as an arbitrary geographic feature to divide the study area into two portions. The portion to the north of [REDACTED] is referred to as the northern portion of the study area and the study area south of [REDACTED] is referred to as the southern portion of the study area. Within the northern portion of the study area, the elevation ranges from 100 – 120 ft. amsl along the eastern boundary to 20 ft. amsl along the western extent. In the southern half of the study area, the elevation ranges from 160 ft. amsl. along the eastern extent to 20 ft. amsl in certain areas along the western extent of the study area. The topography and vegetation can be primarily characterized by flat, open terraces covered with tall invasive European grasses and native plant-life with pockets of dense and impenetrable chaparral that includes coyote brush and poison oak. The study area encompasses two main watersheds, Plaskett and Prewitt Creek and several other minor drainage systems.

The study area lies ensconced within the continental margin of Northern California, adjacent to the California Coastal Range along the central coast. The Coastal Ranges are over 500 miles in length; their northern origin overlapping with the southern end of the Klamath Mountains and their southern extent located in the Santa Barbara area, near Point Conception. The Ranges rise from sea level to an elevation of nearly 6000 feet, separating the coast from the Central Valley. The Coastal Ranges are comprised of northwest to southeast trending ridges and valleys that are associated with folding and faulting (Schoenherr 1992:262). Along the coastal margin, the Ranges are characterized by a series of old wave-cut benches that have been uplifted by the rising of the land in the form of coastal terraces (Schoenherr 1992:7).

The California Coastal Ranges consists of two core complexes, a Franciscan assemblage and a granitic-metamorphic complex. The granitic-metamorphic complex is comprised of granitic and metamorphosed rocks (Page 1966:255). The nearby Santa Lucia Mountain range contains the earliest geologic history of the Coastal Range in the form of metamorphic rocks named the Sur Series. Rocks within this series include gneisses, schists, marbles, quartzites and granulites (Page 1966:257). The age of metamorphic rocks is actually unknown. The possibility of the Paleozoic age has been suggested by dating poorly preserved corals and crinoids fragments in marble of the Gabilan Range. The Santa Lucia Range, along with the La Panza, Gabilan and Santa Cruz Ranges, contains extensive exposures of granitic rock. Granitic formations consist of a variety of plutons, such as quartz diorite, adamellite and potassic granite (Page 1966:257). Overall, the granitic-metamorphic complex is overlain by Upper Cretaceous strata. (Page 1966:258).

In opposition to this granitic-metamorphic complex is the Franciscan eugeosynclinal complex. The Franciscan complex is described as a “disorderly assemblage of various characteristic rocks that have undergone unsystematic disturbance” (Page 1966:258). The Franciscan complex is characterized by sandstone, volcanics, limestone and chert. Franciscan chert is a chalcedonic quartz. Cherts are closely jointed rocks, thin bedded and often observed in reds or greens and associated with greenstone (Page 1966:259). Uncommon types of metamorphic rocks also contribute to the Franciscan complex. Examples of anomalous metamorphic rock include jadeitized greywacke, eclogite and glaucopane-bearing rocks. Associated with the Franciscan complex are ultramafic bodies and serpentine. Research has indicated that the rocks from this core complex can range from the uppermost Jurassic to the lower Upper Cretaceous (Page 1966:260).

The continental margin is bordered by the California Coast Range, which itself is bounded by the Transverse Ranges to the south and by the Klamath Mountains to the north. The arbitrary western edge of the coastal margin is the 1,600 fm contour line, which is where the steeper continental slope joins the lower declivity of the continental rise (Rusnak 1966:325). Due to the level of difficulty associated with studying the submerged coastal margin, more research has been devoted to its onshore counterpart. However, the geologic relations of the coastal margin are still not entirely well understood. This is in part because of the complexity of the Franciscan assemblage (Rusnak 1966:325). The type of continental margin along northern and central California is a common type of margin but actually atypical for the Pacific Ocean. The Pacific margin along most of North America is morphologically similar to the margins of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. These margins are typified by broad to intermediate width shelves and a rise or series of deep-sea fans at the base of the slope (Curry 1966:337). The Delgada and Monterey fans have filled and buried any oceanic depressions or trenches that may have existed at the base of the slope in this area, which constitute the continental rise within the vicinity (Curry 1966:337).

The diverse geologic formation of the Coast Ranges contributes to the unique soil formation of the coastal margin. Soil, a combination of organic and mineral matter, is formed by climate, animal and human interaction upon the earth’s surface, topography, physical and chemical properties of the parent material, and the time and length that each of these forces have been working. Parent material is identified as the material that has accumulated through the weathering of rock formations and alluvial deposits over time and evolves into soils. Along the very western edge of the study area, the soil consists of beach sands created by wave action and nearby eroding slopes. Moving just inland off of the beach areas, the soil is characterized as Pacheco clay loam. The majority of the study area is then Lockwood shale loam. There is a section of land, bordering the concave portion of the bay to Highway 1, that is characterized as cobbly river gravel deposits. This small terrace occurs at the base of an east to west trending ridgeline. The entire study area also contains areas that are categorized as rock outcrops of the Xerothent association (USDA 2012).

Coastal beaches are comprised of sand and gravel and are located along the toeslopes of landforms (USDA 2012). Pacheco clay loam is found at elevations ranging from 10 to 400 ft.

amsl and are found on the toeslopes of landforms as well. They are somewhat poorly drained although, if irrigated, considered prime farmland. The parent material for Pacheco clay loam is fine-loamy alluvium derived from sedimentary rock (USDA 2012). Lockwood shale loam is found on elevations from 100 to 2,000 ft. amsl on the footslope of landforms and on two to nine percent slopes. It is a well-drained soil originating from fine-loamy alluvium derived from shale (USDA 2012). Cobbly river gravel deposits are found on a toeslope of a floodplain and are derived from mixed alluvium parent materials. It is found on slopes between 0 and 15 percent and is an excessively drained soil (USDA 2012). Rock outcrops with a Xerothent association can be found throughout the study area. Such outcrops can be found on the backslope and flanks of mountains at elevations ranging anywhere from 0 to 5,800 ft. amsl (USDA 2012). Its Xerothent association indicates that its parent material is residuum weathered from igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rock (USDA 2012).

The unique combination of minerals that break down into impoverished soil provides the coastal margin with a unique vegetation community (Schoenherr 1992:7). The study area encompasses a maritime chaparral community and coastal sagebrush (Küchler 1977:22; Schoenherr 1992:273). This community is typified by moderately dense communities of drought-resistant deciduous shrubs along the central and southern California coastline. In Monterey, this vegetation community occurs in sandy soil, on remnants of Pleistocene sand and dunes along the coast (Schoenherr 1992:273). This maritime chaparral includes a variety of manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) and California lilacs (*Ceanothus* spp) (Schoenherr 1992:273). While this type of coastal scrub and maritime chaparral characterizes the vegetation within the study area, the coastline vegetation along Monterey County and in northern San Luis Obispo County can include a mixed hardwood and redwood forest, southern oak forest, coastal cypress and pine forests (Küchler 1977: 9, 19, 20).

CULTURAL SETTING

Over the past two decades, there has been a steady increase in archaeological research in the central coast region. This has permitted the construction of a comprehensive regional culture history. Jones et al. (2007) is perhaps the most inclusive work to date and incorporates the last few decades' major studies of the central coast region. The system presented in that work identifies six periods, as well as recognizing locally defined phases and regional cultures (Jones et al. 2007:134). The following discussion is adapted from Jones et al. (2007:134-149) who divide area prehistory into six periods, each characterized by its own artifact assemblage:

Late (cal A.D. 1250 to 1769)

Middle/Late Transition (cal A.D. 1000 to 1250)

Middle (600 cal B.C. to cal A.D. 1000)

Early (3500 to 600 cal B.C.)

Millingstone (or Early Archaic) (8000 to 3500 cal B.C.)

Paleo-Indian (pre-8000 cal B.C.)

The Early, Middle, and Late Period divisions reflect long-standing perceptions of central California prehistory that are rooted in work dating back to the 1930s, when three superimposed archaeological cultures were identified in the lower Sacramento Valley/Delta (Lillard and Purves 1936; Lillard et al. 1939). Since then, Early, Middle, and Late Periods have been delineated on the basis of distinctive bead types. The Early Period is marked by thick rectangular (Class L) *Olivella* beads, the Middle Period is marked by normal saucer (G2) *Olivella* beads, and Late Period is marked by lipped (Class E) and cupped (Class K) *Olivella* beads (Bennyhoff and Hughes 1987) and steatite disks.

Broader periods in the regional prehistory are reflected in three major cultural divisions marked by highly distinctive tool assemblages: the Millingstone Culture, the Hunting Culture, and Late Period.

Millingstone Culture (8000 to 3500/3000 cal B.C.)

The Millingstone culture is marked by large numbers of well-made handstones and/or milling slabs, crude core and cobble-core tools, and less abundant flake tools and large side-notched projectile points. Some Millingstone sites also exhibit pitted stones and contracting-stemmed points. The oldest known expressions of this culture in the Central Coast region are found in southern San Luis Obispo County. Three human burials from the deepest levels of one of these sites, SLO-2, are among the oldest in California. Other Millingstone components have been found in at least 42 sites in Monterey, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties. They occur in a range of settings including rocky coastline, estuaries, paleoestuaries, and nearshore interior valleys, though a few are located more than 15 mi. (25 km.) inland from the shore. Some of these sites suggest that the culture may have persisted until 3000 cal B.C. within the region (Jones et al. 2007:135).

Faunal remains indicate that Millingstone people practiced broad-spectrum hunting and gathering, exploiting shellfish, fish, birds, and mammals. However, robust faunal assemblages are not common, especially inland where preservation is poor. At the oldest sites, shellfish represent a significant portion of the remains, supplemented by deer, birds, rabbits, and rocky coast fish at coastal sites. Other more recent Millingstone components are dominated by either deer or rabbit. One study of Millingstone-era burials inferred, through stable isotope analysis, a diet composed of 70-84 percent marine food (Jones et al. 2007:137-138). This conclusion is supported by the dense concentrations of shell in many deposits.

Hunting Culture (3500/3000 cal B.C. to cal A.D. 1000/1250)

The Hunting Culture spans the Early and Middle Periods. In contrast to Millingstone, the Hunting Culture is marked by great quantities of stemmed and notched projectile points, especially points of large size. Projectile points and other formal artifacts are used as markers of discrete phases in Hunting Culture typologies. The Early Period is marked by the co-occurrence

of contracting-stemmed and Rossi square-stemmed points, and large side-notched variants (as a holdover from Millingstone). Ground stone assemblages show the retention of handstones and milling slabs, along with pitted stones. Cobble-core tools reduce in frequency. Portable mortars and pestles appear for the first time, as well as bone gorges for line fishing and rectangular (Class L) *Olivella* beads. Burials are generally in flexed position (Jones et al. 2007:138).

The Middle Period is marked by the gradual disappearance of square-stemmed and large side-notched variants, but contracting-stemmed points, slabs and handstones, and portable mortars and pestles are all retained. Circular shell fishhooks appear for the first time, and grooved stone net sinkers are also common. Saucer-shaped (G2) *Olivella* beads replace the earlier rectangular style. Pitted stones are often the most abundant artifact in Middle Period sites. Burials are flexed, and bone flutes are often found accompanying them. Toward the end of the Middle Period, small leaf-shape projectile points begin to appear, marking the arrival of the bow and arrow. To date, at least 157 Central Coast region sites show evidence of Hunting Culture occupation. As with Millingstone-component sites, most of these are located near to the shoreline; however, large Hunting Culture deposits are also present in peri-coastal valleys (Jones et al. 2007:139).

Faunal assemblages from Hunting Culture sites display some variability. Most Early and Middle Period deposits are dominated by deer, although rabbits and sea otters are plentiful at certain sites. Fish remains increase in Early Period components, but appear in much greater concentrations by the Middle Period. Shellfish still occur at all coastal sites dating to these periods, but appear to have decreased in importance. Acorns were used to an unknown degree (Jones et al. 2007:139-140).

Late Period (cal A.D. 1250 to 1769)

Late Period site components are distinguished from those of the Hunting Culture by the profusion of Desert side-notched and Cottonwood arrow points, small bifacial bead drills, bedrock mortars, hopper mortars, lipped (Class E) and cupped (Class K) *Olivella* beads. Most sites dating to this period produce at least a few bead drills and small amounts of bead manufacturing debris, indicating that bead production was common and widespread. Circular shell fishhooks continued to be used, and there is some evidence for the persistence of contracting-stemmed points (Jones et al. 2007:140).

The Late Period in the Central Coast region is marked by a profusion of single-component sites in the interior, with fewer sites located on the coast. Late Period components have been recognized in at least 157 sites, several of which are located in the interior ranges. Typical occupations are distinguished by small middens with associated or nearby bedrock mortars. As with earlier periods, residential features are not common. Small circular house floors measuring 3 – 4 m in diameter have been identified at both coastal and interior sites. Assemblages, site types, and settlements dating to this period show strong consistency across the entire region, despite the pronounced linguistic variability between groups that lived here at the time of European contact (Jones et al. 2007:140).

ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Ethnographic literature indicates that at the time of historic contact, the study area was within the traditional territory of the Salinan peoples who occupied the rugged and mountainous area of the south-central California coastline and the heavily wooded hills and mountains of the interior of the South Coast Ranges (Hester 1978:500). Ethnographic data do not provide a definitive geographic territory for the Salinan and, in fact, the exact extent of the Salinan territory has been debated (Hester 1978:500). Kroeber proposes a fairly extensive view of the Salinan territory based upon linguistics (Kroeber 1925:546). Kroeber defined the reach of the Salinan language to be from the headwaters of the Salinas, or from the approximate vicinity of the Santa Margarita divide, northward towards the Santa Lucia Peak and extending inland towards the region of south Soledad (Kroeber 1925:546). Kroeber argued that within the Salinan language, there are two main dialectal divisions; one dialect was spoken in the mountains and valleys and another dialect, dubbed a "'Playano' or 'beach'" dialect was spoken (Kroeber 1925:546). The dialect that was spoken in the valley and mountains can be further divided into a northern and southern sub dialect (Kroeber 1925:546). More current research argues that this "Playano" dialect may have been a Salinan dialect, but, it may have been a Chumash language or a completely different language isolate (Milliken 2004:167). The Salinan were bordered to the north by the Esselen and Ohlone, to the east by the Southern Valley Yokuts and to the south by the Chumash. The Esselen, Salinan and Chumash languages are part of the Hokan language family (Kroeber 1925:546).

At the time of European contact, it is speculated that 4,200 Salinan people lived in numerous independent political groups across Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Kings, Kern and Fresno counties. During the ethnographic period, about 600 Salinan were living in or adjacent to the southern portion of the Monterey Ranger District (Milliken 2004:161). The multi-village districts in this region included Quiguil, Lamaca and Lima. From 1773 to 1806, the Salinan living in these villages, were moved to Mission San Antonio (Milliken 2004:161). Another 100 Salinan, of the Pel band, that may have been using the northeastern portion of the San Lucia Ranger District, moved to Mission San Miguel from 1798 to 1804 (Milliken 2004:161).

As with most contact-period groups in central and southern California, the ethnographic Salinan held a gender-based hunting and gathering socio-political economy. While there were community projects that men, women and children all took part in, men and women generally had different roles within society. Women were responsible for gathering foods, preparing foods and manufacturing baskets (Milliken 2004:169). In terms of subsistence, there was an emphasis placed on collecting vegetal foodstuffs, especially acorns. Acorns were gathered then stored in willow-twig granaries prior to process in stone mortars (Hester 1978:501). Other vegetal foods included berries, mescal, sage seed, wild oats and wild fruits. Basketry was made by both coiling and twining methods (Hester 1978:501). Coiled baskets included mush-boilers, hats, winnowers, flat trays and hopper mortars. Twined baskets include large and small work baskets and asphaltum-sealed water bottles (Milliken 2004:171). Men hunted, manufactured tools and crafted items for ceremonial purposes, such as dances (Milliken 2004:169). The Salinan hunted deer, rabbits and bear. Meat was baked, dried or roasted in cooking baskets or earth

ovens. Fishing was also an important economy for both the coastal and interior Salinans (Hester 1978:501). Stone tools included project points, scrapers and choppers. Bone and shell tools include bone awls and wedges as well as C-shaped shell fishhooks (Hester 1978:501).

The Salinan political, settlement and land use systems in the Monterey District vicinity were most likely organized into small, regional, multi-village tribes with formal political leaders. This is typical of the “regional tribelet” model where there would have been clearly demarcated tribelet region inclusive of many semi-permanent villages and temporary camps (Milliken 2004:176). There would have been one or few formal headmen. Movement into and out of villages within the tribelet region would have been possible, but, moving between neighboring tribelets would have been restricted and limited to newly married individuals (Milliken 2004:176). However, they may have also lived in small bands with fluid membership (Milliken 2004:175). This is typical of the “local community/regional community model” where Salinan people would have lived in multiple semi-sedentary bands where leadership was provided by extended family elders. Families would have been more able to switch from band to band and region to region (Milliken 2004:176). Based on information gathered from mission records and the writings of the Franciscan fathers, Milliken argues that the Salinan people of the Monterey District had some variety of tribelet political organization, similar to the tribelet system of the Pomo-speaking populations of the northern San Francisco Bay area, although social control and group leadership of the Salinan were never documented (Milliken 2004:178).

The Quiguil tribelet area may have been the closest to the current study area. While the exact tribelet territory has not been precisely defined, Milliken estimates the pre-mission population of Quiguil to have been 180 – 200 people. Of these, 133 Quiguil were baptized and Mission San Antonio from 1779 – 1786 (Milliken 2004:196). Milliken suggests that the Quiguil territory may have been centered in the upper San Antonio River watershed. It then extended further east to the top of Junipero Serra Peak, southeast along the east side of the Pinal Creek watershed and crossed the San Antonio River about two miles east of the Monterey Ranger District boundary. Their territory could have continued southwest to Chalk Peak, that overlooks Mill Creek, down to the south side of Wild Cattle Creek (Milliken 2004:188). Mill Creek is located just 2.4 miles north of the current study area and Wild Cattle Creek is even closer being 1.31 miles north of the study area.

After the secularization of the Missions, Salinan land came under ownership of the Mexican elite. In the late nineteenth century, many Salinan families were able to either obtain land through homesteads or purchase. Most Salinan worked as servants or as laborers. The Salinan language was still spoken in the early twentieth century and many Salinan descendants are still living in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties (Milliken 2004:161).

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Monterey County is one of the original 27 counties of California, its name derived from the Spanish exploration of what is now known as Monterey Bay. In 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo came across what is now known as Monterey Bay while navigating northward along the California coastline. Cabrillo initially named the bay Bahia de los Piños (Gudde 1998:246). In

1595, Sebastian Rodriguez Cermeño, a Portuguese commander of a Spanish galleon, crossed the bay and named it San Pedro, for Saint Peter the martyr (Gudde 1998:246). However, it was the merchant trader Sebastian Vizcaíno who entered the bay, and after failing to realize it was the same bay he had crossed Cermeño, named the bay “Puerto de Monterey” after Gaspar de Zúñiga y Acevedo, the fifth Count de Monterrey, who was then the viceroy of New Spain (Hoover et al. 1990:213; Gudde 1998:246). Monterey loosely translated into English is “hill or forest of the king” (Hoover et al. 1990:213). Vizcaíno wrote so prolifically about the “Puerto de Monterey” that it inspired further explorations. Portolá was commissioned in 1769 to re-locate the bay. During this expedition, Portolá and his men actually found and explored the area without realizing that it was in fact the very bay that spurred Vizcaíno’s writing (Hoover et al. 1990:214). In 1770, Portolá with Father Crespí set out on foot, with Father Serra following by boat, to once again re-locate the bay. Portolá and Crespí succeeded in this second endeavor in May of 1770 (Hoover et al. 1990:214). Father Serra arrived in early June of 1770 and the mission and presidio, both named San Carlos de Borromeo were established; and with that, Spain took possession of the territory (Hoover et al. 1990:215). The Presidio San Carlos de Borromeo was known as, and continues to be known as, the Monterey Presidio (Gudde 1998:246). The city of Monterey was the military and social capital of Alta California during the Spanish and Mexican periods of California. It served as the port of entry for whaling vessels and American ships to trade with colonists. It was this interaction that led to the eventual breakdown of Spain’s anti-foreign trade policy (Hoover et al. 1990:214).

The current study area is located on the USGS 7.5-minute Cape San Martin, California quadrangle. The study area is west of the Santa Lucia Mountain Range, 32 miles south of Big Sur, in the Pacific Valley Station region, adjacent to the small community of Gorda. The name Cape San Martin is derived from Spain’s Portuguese explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo. In 1542, Cabrillo named applied the name to a cape along the coastline of Monterey. However, it has remained unclear as to which cape along the coastline Cabrillo was referring to (Gudde 1998:341). Similarly, in 1542, Cabrillo also termed the range now known as the Santa Lucia Range, as the Sierras de San Martin and called the ranges to the north the Sierra Nevadas due to the presence of snow on the peaks. In 1602, however, Vizcaíno named this section of the Coastal Ranges the Sierra de Santa Lucia in honor of St. Lucy of Syracuse (Gudde 1998:347). The Sierra de Santa Lucia is repeatedly mentioned in the diaries of the Portola (Gudde 1998:347). The Pacific Valley area is so named despite the fact that the area does not represent a valley, but, the only section of flat land in this region of the California coastline (Gudde 1998:275). The modern community of Gorda takes its name from the historic-era settlement, mine, and school located there and is derived from the nearby cape, Punta Gorda (Gudde 1998:149).

The vicinity of Big Sur was relatively unexplored by Euro-Americans until the 1830’s. Rancho El Sur and Rancho San Jose y Sur Chiquito were the only two land grants approved during the Rancho Period (Maliarik 1998:3) were only two land grants approved during the Rancho Period. This may be due to the fact that the Big Sur area and the southern Monterey coastline is characterized by steep and rocky terrain, notably not suitable for agriculture, causing it to remain open to homesteading after the majority of California was settled by Americans (Maliarik 1998:3). From 1860 – 1890 however, a community, occasionally supplied by

ships and connected with the development of narrow trails, began to grow. Industries, such as lime processing, gold mining and harvesting tan oak bark were established during that time period (Maliarik 1998:3). The Mansfields and the Plasketts were two of the first families to re-inhabit the area (Gibson 1993:2). The land from the vicinity of what is now Prewitt Creek to north of the current Sand Dollar area, was owned by cattle runner John Junge who had acquired the land in 1919 (Maliarik 1996a). The area surrounding what is now known as Plaskett Creek was acquired by William Plaskett in 1869 through a land grant. The Plaskett family established a sawmill on Plaskett Creek. Remnants of the Plaskett homestead have been observed around Plaskett Campground, adjacent to the Pacific Valley Unified School District (Maliarik 1989).

At the beginning of the 20th Century, William Plaskett donated land to build a school on. This school is now known as the Pacific Valley Unified School (Maliarik 1989). After Pacific Valley became integrated into the National Forest, the Pacific Valley School established a Special Use Permit in 1961 with the Forest Service for the five acres it currently occupies. The original schoolhouse and garage associated with the school, however, were removed in 1967. Since the 1960s the school facilities have been expanded (Maliarik 1989).

From 1922 to 1940 William Randolph Hearst owned holdings within Pacific Valley until they were sold to the United States Army (Maliarik 1989). The Pacific Valley became part of National Forest Land in a United State Army and Forest Service exchange in 1957. The Los Padres National Forest was established in 1936 through an Executive Order by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to commemorate the Franciscan padres who founded the California missions (Gudde 1998:217). The Los Padre National Forest name has replaced the names of the Santa Barbara National Forest and extended to include the San Luis Obispo National Forest in 1910 and the Monterey National Forest in 1919 (Gudde 1998:217).

STUDY METHODS

RECORDS AND LITERATURE SEARCH AND AGENCY CONTACT

Prior to the field study, a records search was conducted on 04 June 2012 by the author at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System, which is housed at Sonoma State University. The NWIC, an affiliate of the State of California Office of Historic Preservation, is the official state repository of archaeological and historical records and reports for a 16-county area that includes Monterey County. The records search included a review of all site records within a 1-mile radius of the study area and of the studies located within or adjacent to the study area.

The records search and literature review for this study were done (1) to determine whether known cultural resources had been recorded within or adjacent to the study area; (2) to assess the likelihood of unrecorded cultural resources based on archaeological, ethnographic, and historical documents and literature, and on the environmental setting of nearby sites; and (3) to develop a context for the preliminary evaluation of identified resources.

Included in the review were the *California Inventory of Historical Resources* (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1976) and the California Office of Historic Preservation's *Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California* (CA-OHP 1988), *California Historical Landmarks* (CA-OHP 1990), *California Points of Historical Interest* (CA-OHP 1992), and the *Historic Properties Directory Listing* (CA-OHP 2012). The *Historic Properties Directory* includes the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), and the most recent listings (through 9 August 2011) of the California Historical Landmarks and California Points of Historical Interest.

Within a 1-mile radius, two sites (CA-MNT-1944 and CA-MNT-1171) are recorded to the north of the study area and two sites are located to the south (CA-MNT-421 and CA-MNT-419). These four sites are located on coastal terraces near or adjacent to the steep bluff line. To the east of the study area, nine sites (CA-MNT-775H, CA-MNT-301, CA-MNT-1586, CA-MNT-288, CA-MNT-715, CA-MNT-424, CA-MNT-CA-MNT-423, CA-MNT-422, and CA-MNT-1026) have been recorded. To the southeast of CA-MNT-1586, an unrecorded shellmound is noted on the maps at the NWIC. These sites, with the exception of CA-MNT-1586, are located within an environment that can be characterized as relatively flat areas within the foothills of the Santa Lucia Range and are in close proximity to an intermittent water source. CA-MNT-1586 is located on top of the western end of a west to east trending ridgeline that separates the south fork of Prewitt Creek from Plaskett Creek.

The records search indicated 24 archaeological resources have been recorded within the study area and are listed in the table below and are ordered as they are located along the coastline from north to south (see Figure 2). A short description of each site is also included.

Trinomial Primary Other Designation	Site Description
CA-MNT-1943 P-27-002164 SM-408	This site was recorded in 1998 and described as a dense shell midden that included fire cracked rock and chert flakes (Mikkelsen 1998a). The record also indicates that the site is covered in dense vegetation and located on an eroding remnant knoll that is cut by a creek and a walking trail (Mikkelsen 1998a).
CA-MNT-300 N/A LPm-41	This resource was originally recorded by Bennyhoff and Bennyhoff (1954). The site is described as a dark shell mound that was impacted by the construction of Highway 1 and a dirt road. During the construction of Highway 1, six burials were exposed (Bennyhoff and Bennyhoff 1954). The site record was updated in 1973. The update describes the site similarly, a shell mound impacted by Highway 1. In addition, the update noted fire cracked rock, haliotis bead blanks, a chert flake, a pestle and fire cracked rock (Baldwin 1973).
CA-MNT-602 P-27-000684 FS#: 05-07-51-09	This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded by Baldwin (1971a). The original site record describes it as a dense shell midden and sparse lithic scatter adjacent to a bedrock mortar station containing seven mortar cups. The site record update recorded similar findings to the original record (Brogan and Lopez 1999a).
CA-MNT-601 P-27-000683 FS#: 05-07-51-10 LPm-2	This resource was originally recorded in 1972 and described as a small site comprised of a low density of shell and a sparse lithic deposit, including chert flakes, pitted stone and a possible chopper (Baldwin 1972). The 1999 update for this site observed a similar low density of shell and lithics (Brogan and Lopez 1999b). The site update described the site as a small shell midden with a small number of Monterey and Franciscan chert flakes dispersed across the midden (Brogan and Lopez 1999b).
CA-MNT-2042 P-27-002357 FS#: 05-07-51-532	This site was recorded in 1999 and described as containing midden soil with a light density of shell and a sparse Monterey and Franciscan chert deposit. The record also notes that the site is located on and covers a point of land extending into the ocean (Lopez and Brogan 1999a).
CA-MNT-2041 P-27-002356	This site was recorded in 1999 and described as the remains of a larger site area damaged by winter storms in 1998. Cultural constituents include shell and faunal remains. The site record indicates the north end of the site has been sloughed away due to subsurface water flow

FS#: 05-07-51-533	(Lopez and Brogan 1999b).
CA-MNT-1053 P-27-001109 FS#: 05-07-51-322	This prehistoric resource was originally recorded by Brandoff (1979a). It was described as a shell midden with groundstone fragments and chipped stone. The 1999 site update described the site as a large midden with fragments of shell and lithic materials (Brogan and Lopez 1999c). The lithic material in the update also included three pestles, one which was broken, lithic debitage and a banded chert biface fragment (Brogan and Lopez 1999c). The update also recorded two bedrock milling stations, one with two mortar cups and the other with one mortar cup (Brogan and Lopez 1999c).
CA-MNT-466 P-27-000566 LPm-3	This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded by Baldwin (1971b). The original site record describes the site as a shell midden deposit and a lithic deposit. The lithic deposit includes a chert project point, chert flakes and spire-topped olivella. The possibility of destruction of this site by wave action (erosion) is also noted in the original record (Baldwin 1971b). Looting was also impacted this site, and was noted in the site record update by Maliarik (1994a).
CA-MNT-1025 N/A Field No. 678	This prehistoric resource was record in 1980 by Whitlaw and Hamp (1980). The record describes the site as a shell midden deposit with a few chert flakes (Whitlaw and Hamp 1980).
CA-MNT-600 P-27-000682 FS#: 05-07-51-129	This prehistoric resource was recorded in by Breschini (1973). It was described as a thin shell and lithic scatter. It also notes that several points have been found at this site (Breschini 1973). The site record was updated by Maliarik (1994b). The site record update is similar to the original as it notes a shell midden with a light lithic scatter (Maliarik 1994b). The update also describes that this site has been impacted by artifact collection. One collector actually turned in their collection from this site to the Forest Service (Maliarik 1994b).
CA-MNT-577 P-27-000659 FS#: 05-07-51-131	This is a prehistoric resource consisting of a sparse shell midden deposit along south bank of Prewitt Creek. A single auger sample of site was taken in 1974 revealing a depth of 0.50m (Gibson 1973; Horne 1974).
CA-MNT-578 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-133	This is a prehistoric resource originally recorded in 1974 (Home 1974). The site is described as a small shell midden deposit situated on a small terrace on the south bank of Prewitt Creek. An auger sample taken from the site revealed a depth of 0.50 m (Home 1974).
CA-MNT-467 N/A	This is a prehistoric resource, originally recorded in 1971 (Baldwin 1971c). The original site record describes the site as a large area containing a sparse shell deposit, a light lithic concentration including

LPm-4	three “pieces of obsidian,” one of which was a projectile point that had been reworked as a scraper, chert flakes, tools, projectile points and knives, spire-lopped olivella and a bedrock milling feature with at least six mortar cups (Baldwin 1971c).
CA-MNT-692 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-332 LPm-63	This is a prehistoric resource, originally recorded in 1979 and updated in 1979 (Baldwin 1976; Brandoff 1979b). Both the original site record and the update describe the site as containing shell and groundstone fragments (handstones and millingslabs), a bifacial chert fragment, chert flakes and fire cracked rock (Baldwin 1976; Brandoff 1979b).
CA-MNT-1303 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-333	This is a prehistoric resource that was recorded by Brandoff (1979c). It is described as midden with sparse and fragmented shell and a sparse stone scatter on a small rocky knoll (Brandoff 1979c).
CA-MNT-1304 P-27-001340 FS#: 05-07-51-334	This resource was originally recorded in 1979 and described as a small, low density site containing shellfish fragments and periodic instances of chipped stone from rodent tailings (Brandoff 1979d).
CA-MNT-468 P-27-000558 FS#: 05-07-51-13 LPm-5	Originally recorded in 1971, the site is described as midden soil with sparse and fragmentary shell but a dense (for this vicinity) lithic scatter including chert flakes, 3 projectile point and a broken point or bifacially worked knife. The original record notes a bedrock milling station with a single, shallow milling surface was also noted (Baldwin 1971d). The 1996 update describes it as a small shell midden site southeast of a rock outcrop and does not include a bedrock mortar station. It does note cattle grazing as an impact to the site (Maliarik 1996b).
CA-MNT-469 P-27-000559 FS#: 05-07-51-14 LPm-6	This site was originally recorded in 1971 and described as a small shell midden site with a sparse, chert lithic scatter behind a prominent rock outcrop (Baldwin 1971e). The site record was updated in 1996 and describes the site similarly , noting rodents and cattle grazing as impacts to the site (Maliarik 1996c).
CA-MNT-471 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-15 LPm-7	This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1971 (Baldwin 1971f). It is described as a dense shell midden with an associated lithic deposit, possible fish hook fragments, possible groundstone and a bedrock milling station with for mortar cups (Baldwin 1971f). The Site record indicates that two burials were reported in the nearby Plaskett Campground and were exposed and recovered. It is unclear whether these burials are associated with CA-MNT-471 or are mentioned due to their proximity to this site (Baldwin

	1971f). The site has been impacted by the construction of Highway 1, the nearby campground and looting.
CA-MNT-472 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-16 LPm-8	This is a prehistoric resource consisting of a moderately dense shell midden with a sparse lithic scatter. While sparse, the lithic scatter included four project points and two point fragments (Baldwin 1971g and Maliarik 1992b). Impacts to site include cattle grazing.
CA-MNT-945 N/A FS#: 05-07-51-317	This is a Middle Period residential site comprised of shell midden and four loci, recorded in 2005 (Breschini and Haversat 2005).
CA-MNT-283 N/A LPm-9	This site was originally recorded in 1951 and described as an occupation area with black midden, shell, and one chert blade (Meighan1951). A site record update was done in 1971 (Baldwin 1971h). It notes scattered shell and lithics including chert flakes, a possible pestle and non-chert flakes and probably tools. The site record also notes the site has been impacted by looting and that the site boundary included densely overgrown vegetation (Baldwin 1971h).
CA-MNT-716 P-27-000793 FS#: 05-07-51-223	This prehistoric resource was originally recorded by Brandoff (1977). It was described as a shell midden on a coastal terrace with flaked tools and faunal fragments. In addition, less than 5 yellow-brown chert tools were observed (Brandoff 1977). The site record was updated in 1978 (Brandoff and Barnett 1978). The update is similar to the original site record noting a sparse shell midden and lithic deposit, comprised of a total of five chert flakes (Brandoff and Barnette 1978).
CA-MNT-946/H P-27-001003 FS#: 05-07-51-318 SM-404	This is a multi-component site that was first recorded by Barnette and Brandoff (1978), and updated in 1998 (Mikkelsen 1998b) and updated as recently as 2004 (Leach-Palm and Mikkelsen 2004). The 1978 record describes the site as containing prehistoric shell midden, a concentration of lithics, including numerous chert tools, retouched flakes, chert debitage and cores, and two probable abalone pendants. The historic-era component of the site included a portion of an 80 ft.-long stone wall foundation across the northern half of the site and glass and ceramic fragments (Barnette and Brandoff 1978). The site record also includes an oral communication source that notes the stone wall may have been part of the Plaskett family homestead (Barnette and Brandoff 1978). The 1998 site record update indicates that dense vegetation covered the vicinity of the site. Abalone fragments and a sparse chert flake deposit were observed along with ceramic

	<p>fragments. The rock wall was not located (Mikkelsen 1998b). The most recent March 2004 update relays that that the site was crossed in order to get to the area of potential effects (APE) for the Big Sur Culvert Replacement Project (Leach-Palm and Mikkelsen 2004). The update indicates that the site was observed to be the same as it was in 1998 with no additional disturbances (Leach-Palm and Mikkelsen 2004).</p>
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A total of nine studies have been done within the study area. These studies fall into three categories: 1) those that were done in-house by the Forest Service (S-3337 [E-40], -14832, -18471, -21621, -22462, -22495) 2) those done under contract for the Forest Service (S-8276 [E-33], -31080) and 3) those done at the request of another lead agency (S-3662 [E-570]).

Except for S-3337 [E-40], the studies done in-house by the forest service were for proposed undertakings within the study area. S-14832 was done for proposed improvements at the Sand Dollar Picnic Area that included the installation of a handicap access turnstile and a hardened path and water system improvements (Maliarik 1989). The proposed improvements required ground disturbing activities; a surface survey and subsurface testing were conducted to determine the vertical and horizontal presence of cultural resources within the area of potential effect (APE) (Maliarik 1989). The study identified two prehistoric resources (CA-MNT-471 and 472) south of the study area. The study resulted in the finding that the proposed project would not disturb the identified cultural resources (Maliarik 1989). However, the study did note that these resources showed signs of disturbance by cattle and indicated that continued use of this area by cattle grazing would further the erosion of these sites. The study suggested a cattle enclosure be erected to protect the cultural and biological resources of Plaskett Creek (Maliarik 1989).

Study 18471 was completed for a water tank replacement project at the Sand Dollar Day Use Area (Maliarik 1996a). The study reported that sites recorded in the area (CA-MNT-468 and 469) were located 100 meters away from the APE and would not be impacted (Maliarik 1996a). S-21621 is an archaeological reconnaissance report that was completed as the Los Padres National Forest was developing a pest plant presentation and control plan along the Big Sur coastline (Maliarik 1998). This study identified cultural resources within the APE for this undertaking. The cultural resources that were identified and are in the current study area are: CA-MNT-468, -469, -600, -577, -578 and -1304 (Maliarik 1998). S-22462 is another archaeological reconnaissance report. This study inventories cultural resources; the proposed undertaking was for new grazing permits for four allotments, including Mill Creek, Pacific Valley, Prewitt and Plaskett (Maliarik 1999). The study identified all of the 24 cultural resources located in the current study area. Two of these archaeological resources, CA-MNT-2041 and 2042, were newly identified and recorded as a result of S-22462. The study also resulted in updating records for CA-MNT-283, -300, -600, -477, -478, -692 and -1303. For CA-MNT-471, -692 and -1303 the study recommends an enclosure to exclude cattle from further eroding the site and for CA-MNT-600, the study recommends eliminating the corral as cattle use has resulted in the churning and exposure of artifacts (Maliarik 1999). The study also recommends annual monitoring for all of the cultural resources identified within the APE, which encompasses the current study area.

Study 22495 was completed for the proposed undertaking described as replacing a livestock fence on the west side of Highway 1 (Marmor 1989). As part of this study, transects were walked parallel to the existing fence line and three previously recorded archaeological sites were identified. The study recommends that extreme caution be used when replacing the fenceline within the vicinity of the identified cultural resources. It also recommends that the

same postholes be used when replacing the fence posts and that all construction within the vicinity of cultural resources be done by hand and be closely monitored (Marmor 1989).

Studies 8276 and 3337 (E-40) were written regarding the construction of leach fields east and west side of Highway 1, south of Prewitt Bridge, and the sites that were located within the vicinity of the APE. During the construction of the leach fields, Gibson carried out a surface survey and employed subsurface archaeological testing in the study area (Gibson 1973). Gibson did not observe archaeological materials within the study area. However, he did locate a site (CA-MNT-577) adjacent to the APE. Gibson describes this site as a small shell scatter to the south of Prewitt Creek (Gibson 1973). In the study, Gibson notes that during the creation of the leach fields, precautions should be taken to avoid adversely impacting CA-MNT-577 (Gibson 1973). Gibson also describes an area east of the small tributary that flows into Prewitt Creek as containing midden and was discovered partially due to a trench that had been placed within the site (Gibson 1973). The exact location of this midden is unclear as it is not indicated on a map within the study, nor is there a clear description in the report except for “the area east of the small tributary that flows into Prewitt Creek” (Gibson 1973). In the study, Gibson states that the area west of the small tributary already contained several house trailers and any midden that may have been there no longer existed (Gibson 1973). Study 3337 (E-40) was done in 1974 as a follow up to Gibson’s 1973 report (Horne 1974). In the study, CA-MNT-577 is re-located and another site, CA-MNT-578 was also located and recorded. The study found that the creation of the leach fields would not impact either site (Horne 1974).

Study 3662 (E-570) was carried out by and prepared for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) (Smith 1981). The project area as indicated by the study includes a portion of the current study area. The report indicates that 11 archaeological resources were noted within 1 kilometer of the APE, none were observed to be within the APE or adjacent to it (Smith 1981).

Study 31080 was carried out by Breschini and Haversat (2005). This study covers three specific sites, CA-MNT-307, CA-MNT-945 and CA-MNT-385. Only CA-MNT-945 is included within the current study area. This study was initiated by the Forest Service due to specific threats to the integrity of these sites and because “of their potential eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under 36 CFR 60.4” (Breschini and Haversat 2005:1). CA-MNT-945 was excavated.

Four studies have been conducted adjacent to the study area. Studies 15344 and 17549 were carried out due to the installation of a Pacific Bell phone cable along Highway 1. The proposed telephone corridor was located on the west side of Highway 1, the north end of the project area began at a telephone pole just north of Plaskett Creek and its southern terminus was located at a telephone pole at highway marker 13.00 (Gibson 1993:3). S-15344 is the initial study that included an archaeological survey of the study area. In this study, Gibson identifies CA-MNT-471 as the only archaeological resource within the study area (Gibson 1993:3). Gibson does identify three other sites, CA-MNT-421, -716, and -946 as adjacent to the study area but notes that these sites will not be affected by the cable installation (Gibson 1993:3). The report states that CA-MNT-471 would probably be affected because approximately half of the 15 ft. tie

in from the edge of the pavement westward toward the base of the telephone pole would be in cultural deposit from CA-MNT-471 (Gibson 1993:3). Gibson recommended having an archaeological monitor present when the trench is excavated for the installation of the phone cable (Gibson 1993:4). The archaeological monitoring of the excavation of the trench for the cable installation is discussed in study 17549 (Parker 1993). As part of the archaeological monitoring, a pre-trenching field inspection took place. It was noted that a previous underground cable project had previously disturbed the site and it was decided that, if the new cable were to be placed within this existing trench, a data recovery project would not be needed (Parker 1993:2). In addition, the portion of the trench that extended from the shoulder of the road to the pole was hand excavated to not disturb intact portions of the site (Parker 1993:2).

There are two additional studies that were adjacent to the current study area, S-3734 (E-646) and S-32449. Study 3734 is an archaeological survey report for the paving of existing road shoulders of Highway 1 for bicycle lanes (Smith 1981). The study found that while two sites, CA-MNT-471 and CA-MNT-424, were adjacent to the APE, these sites would not be affected by the project as the sites do not extend into the APE and proposed ground disturbance would be within existing road shoulders (Smith 1981:7). Study 32449 was carried out for a culvert replacement project along Highway 1 (Leach-Palm and Mikkelsen 2004). For the current study, Highway 1 was used solely as an arbitrary buffer for the purposes of the coastal survey carried out by the Cabrillo College archaeology field school. S-32449 does include an update for CA-MNT-946. CA-MNT-946 is not located within the APE for S-32449, but, it provided easy access to the APE, so an update was done for this site (Leach-Palm and Mikkelsen 2004:18).

While not within or adjacent to the study area, there are two relevant studies (S-15178 and S-28559) that have been done at the Pacific Unified School District. These studies are relevant because they discuss the possibility that CA-MNT-424 and CA-MNT-471 represent one site that became separate with the creation of Highway 1. S-15178 was a result of the proposed undertaking for an expansion of the Pacific Unified School (Maliarik 1989). The study discusses the possibility of the connection between CA-MNT-424 and CA-MNT-471 but determines that both sites would have to undergo further testing in order to ascertain whether or not these sites are actually one. S-28559 included both a surface examination and subsurface testing, in the form of auguring, of CA-MNT-424 for the replacement of a failed leach line (Breschini and Haversat 2004:1). This study could not conclusively state whether or not CA-MNT-424 and CA-MNT-471 were related but does suggest that CA-MNT-424 may be an extension of CA-MNT-471 (Breschini and Haversat 2004:18).

ORGANIZATION CONTACT

The United States Forest Service (USFS) initiated and was primarily responsible for any and all tribal consultation for this study.

FIELD SURVEY

Dustin McKenzie, Field Director for the Cabrillo College Archaeology Field School, eight crew chiefs and 22 students enrolled in the archaeological field school conducted a cultural resources field study from the 25th through the 29th of June 2012.

Prior to the fieldwork a two-fold field survey strategy was designed due to the large number of archaeological resources already known to be in the study area. An emphasis was placed on recording and/or updating historical resource inventory forms for sites close to the coastal margin as well as sites that were determined to have a higher sensitivity level and/or in need of a record update (sites with a higher level of priority are listed in bold on the table below). The study area was split into a northern and southern half, using [REDACTED] as an arbitrary geographic divider. Two survey teams (a “recording” and “survey” team) were assigned to each half of the study area. Crews were comprised of at least two crew chiefs and five students.

The recording team was responsible for updating historical resource inventory forms for previously recorded archaeological resources that had been placed high on the pre-field survey strategy list. The recording team went to the reported location of a previously recorded site and attempted to re-locate the site. Methods generally consisted of walking 5-meter transects, either along a contour or bearing determined by the crew chief within the vicinity of the site, and visually inspecting the ground surface for indicators of the previously recorded resource. If the site was re-located, the site boundaries were defined and historical resource inventory forms were updated.

The survey teams carried out intensive pedestrian survey for as much of their portions of the study area as possible. The survey teams’ methods included walking transect lines in 5- to 10-meter increments along a north to south axis to a bearing of east or west; essentially, from the boundary of Highway 1 to the edge of the coastal bluffs and back. Survey crew members visually inspected the ground surface, clearing duff from the ground surface as necessary, for prehistoric and historic-era archaeological deposits.

Overall, the amount of vegetation, consisting of dense and often overgrown coastal scrub (e.g. blankets of poison oak, coyote brush and tall invasive grasses), left the ground visibility within the study area to be less than 5 percent. When possible, piles of rodent backdirt were visually inspected to determine whether or not these contained archaeological site indicators. Additionally, while neither team employed ground-disturbing activities, pockets of vegetation were cleared away to expose the ground surface to gain better visibility archaeological site indicators including anthropogenic soil and historic-era and prehistoric artifacts and/or features.

STUDY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A total of 19 sites were re-located from 25 June through 29 June 2012. One site, CA-MNT-946/H was not re-located due to dense vegetation. Four of the sites located within the study area were not visited. The table below depicts the sites that were re-located, not re-located or not visited. The finds are described below; historical resources inventory forms are presented as Appendix A. Due to the number of sites within the study area and the time constraints of the field school, an emphasis was placed on recording and/or updating historical resource inventory forms for sites closes to the steep coastal bluff line. The trinomial for these sites are listed in bold in the table below. The trinomials are presented north to south, followed by text descriptions of each site revisited.

Trinomial	Primary	Status
CA-MNT-1943	P-27-002164	Not visited
CA-MNT-300	N/A	Not visited
CA-MNT-602	P-27-000684	Re-located
CA-MNT-601	P-27-000683	Re-located
CA-MNT-2042	P-27-002357	Re-located
CA-MNT-2041	P-27-002356	Re-located
CA-MNT-1053	P-27-001109	Re-located
CA-MNT-466	P-27-000566	Re-located
CA-MNT-1025	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-600	P-27-000682	Re-located
CA-MNT-577	P-27-000659	Re-located
CA-MNT-578	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-467	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-692	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-1303	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-1304	P-27-001340	Re-located
CA-MNT-468	P-27-000558	Re-located
CA-MNT-469	P-27-000559	Re-located
CA-MNT-471	N/A	Re-located

CA-MNT-472	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-945	N/A	Not visited
CA-MNT-283	N/A	Re-located
CA-MNT-716	P-27-000793	Not visited
CA-MNT-946/H	P-27-001003	Not located

CA-MNT-602

This site is a prehistoric resource, consisting of shell midden that contains a moderately dense Franciscan chert lithic concentration and a bedrock milling feature. It was originally recorded on 18 October 1971 and then updated on 20 July 1999 (Baldwin 1971a; Brogan and Lopez 1999a). The site is located on a grassy, point of land protruding into the ocean, approximately 200 m west of Highway 1. The point contains 2 prominent outcrops of siliceous outcrops that appear to be low grade Franciscan chert. The western outcrop rises approximately 40 – 50 m above the point and forms a distinct local landmark visible from at least Plaskett Creek, 2 miles south.

During the June 2012 Cabrillo College visit, the midden deposit was noted to extend 15 m east of the first outcrop to the base of the western outcrop. Midden was also observed on small terraces 10 m up on the rock face. Shellfish species included California mussel, abalone, turban snail, limpet, and chiton. A moderately dense lithic deposit was noted throughout the midden. The lithic deposit consisted of 30 to 40 Franciscan chert flakes. During this site visit, the bedrock milling feature was re-located, but only six mortar cups were recorded.

CA-MNT-601

This site was originally recorded in February 1972 and the record updated in 1999 by the US Forest Service (Baldwin 1972, Brogan and Lopez 1999b). The original site record and the 1999 update locate the site on top of a coastal bluff, overlooking a “sandy beach to the north and a rocky promontory to the west” (Baldwin 1972). Both records indicate that the site contains a thin deposit of shell midden and lithic material.

The site was re-located for the current study and was recorded as having two loci (Locus 1 and 2). Locus 1 consists of the site boundaries as defined by Baldwin (1972) and Brogan and Lopez (1999a). Locus 2 is comprised of another thin deposit of shell midden and lithics that was located approximately 30 m west of Locus 1, across an exposed mudstone bridge. Observed shellfish species in both locations include California mussel, barnacle, abalone, chiton and limpet. The lithics included Franciscan chert flakes, primarily in Locus 2, and a basalt flake. A spire-lopped olivella bead was located in Locus 1.

CA-MNT-2042

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1999 and described as consisting of midden containing a light density of shell and a sparse deposit of Monterey and Franciscan chert flakes (Lopez and Brogan 199a). At the time of the update, a deposit of shell midden and lithics were observed along a densely vegetated point of land that protrudes into the ocean. The shell consisted of fragments of abalone, chiton and limpet.

The shell midden contours along the natural shape of the point of land that extends into the ocean. From that western-most point of land, the site extends eastward 16 meters. The shape of the site is roughly triangular and sits atop steep slopes above the ocean. As the western boundary of the site is represented by the edge of the coastline, this has most likely influenced the shaping of the site. The dense brush covers much of the site. The site is located approximately 162 m, following the coastline, north of CA-MNT-2041 and 64 m south, following the coastline, of CA-MNT-601.

CA-MNT-2041

This prehistoric resource was originally recorded in 1999 and described as containing faunal material and shell (Lopez and Brogan 1999b). The site was re-located during the current study and found to be consistent with the original recording. More than 40 fragments of abalone shell were observed that may represent only two minimum number of individuals; along with a fragment of chiton, owl limpet and goose neck barnacle.

CA-MNT-1053

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1979 and the record updated in 1999 (Brandoff 1979a; Brogan and Lopez 1999c). The original site record describes the site as containing shell midden with ground stone fragments and chipped stone material. It also notes minimal erosion; however, cattle disturbances was observed (Brandoff 1979a). The 1999 updated description includes the presence of shell midden and lithic materials. The 1999 update augments the original record with the addition of two bedrock milling stations; one station with two mortar cups and the other with a single large cup (Brogan and Lopez 1999c). The artifacts observed included two whole pestles, one broken pestle and lithic debitage that included a banded chert biface fragment. Cattle grazing was again noted as a disturbance to the site (Brogan and Lopez 1999c).

Shell midden was observed during the current study, as well as two bedrock milling stations, Feature 1 and Feature 2. Feature 1 was observed to have three mortar cups and Feature 2 had a single mortar cup. A pestle was located on the surface of Feature 1 and was observed to have battered ends. A spire lopped olivella bead was also observed.

CA-MNT-466

This is a prehistoric resource that is located at the mouth of the north bank of Prewitt Creek. This site was originally recorded as being comprised of shell midden, lithics and spire-lopped olivella (Baldwin 1971b). In the original site record, an additional page is attached that notes the presence of incised glyph stones.

At the time of current study, dense shell midden, lithics and spire-lopped beads were observed. The shell midden appeared to be most dense at the western end of the site. However, the abundance of vegetation along the southern boundary of the site obscured ground visibility and lent to the approximation of that boundary. The shellfish species observed included California mussel, chiton, tegula, limpet and abalone. Lithics, in the form of chert flakes and fire cracked rock (FCR) were also observed. Two spire-lopped olivella beads were also located.

CA-MNT-1025

This is a prehistoric resource, located on a southern sloping, lower terrace, just north of Prewitt Creek. The site consists of midden, containing a variable density of shell deposited throughout the midden. This site was originally recorded by Whitlaw and Hamp (1980). The site was described as a shell midden site, containing a few chert flakes (Whitlaw and Hamp 1980). At the time of the original recording, the vegetation was described as pasture and short grasses. The overall environment was characterized as pasture and open space (Whitlaw and Hamp 1980). The current vegetation, tall grasses and dense riparian corridor limited the current recording.

The species of shell observed include California mussel, abalone, chiton, limpet and barnacle. Lithics were not observed at the time of recording. The southern boundary of this site was incompletely defined and the midden may continue southward to the creek. Due to the dense amount of vegetation along the Prewitt Creek corridor, the ground surface was not visible and creek access was limited.

The site is located approximately 46 m west of CA-MNT-600 and approximately 150 m east of CA-MNT-466. In the 1994 update for CA-MNT-600, that site boundary is recorded as 225 m (E/W) × 55 m (N/S) and may actually encompass CA-MNT-1025 (Maliarik 1994b). However, despite the proximity of these site locations, surface cultural constituents were not observed between these sites and CA-MNT-600 and CA-MNT-1025 have been recorded separately.

CA-MNT-600

At the time of the current study, this site was re-located 100 m west of State Route 1, just north of Prewitt Creek. The southern boundary of the site is approximated, as there was poor ground visibility and inaccessibility to the northern edge of the creek due to dense riparian vegetation. The cultural constituents included a thin, intermittent deposit of shell midden that was concentrated within the southwestern site boundary. The shellfish observed included California mussel, abalone, and limpet. A Monterey chert point fragment was also located,

within the main shell midden deposit. The site boundary that was recorded on 28 June 2012, may be reduced from previous recordings (Breschini 1973, Maliarik 1994b). The surface of this site has been adversely impacted over the years by looting, cattle, installment and removal of corrals and fence lines (Breschini 1978, Maliarik 1994). These factors may contribute to the sparse lithics and shell midden observed during the 2012 survey and in the 1994 update. This site has been noted to have been routinely looted and in fact, a collection from an individual was turned over to the US Forest Service (Maliarik 1994b).

CA-MNT-577

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1973 and updated in 1974 (Culver and Gibson 1973; Horne 1974). The 1973 and 1974 records describe the site as a small deposit of shell midden. An auger test revealed that a segment of the site had a depth of 0.50 m (Horne 1974). During the current study, anthropogenic soil was located and recorded, however, shell was not observed. A Monterey chert biface and two Monterey chert flakes were located. Lithics were not noted in the 1973 record or in the 1974 update. This site may have been adversely affected by several different factors. In the 1973 record, a leach field was noted to be located just upslope and to the southeast of the site. In addition, abandoned farm equipment was observed within the vicinity of the site boundary (Horne 1974). During the most recent recording, a fence line was observed to intersect the site and cattle grazing was evident. The vegetation was high and dense, obscuring ground visibility, especially along the southern bank of Prewitt Creek.

CA-MNT-578

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1974 (Home 1974). The site was described as a small shell midden deposit situated on a small terrace on the south bank of Prewitt Creek. An auger sample was taken from the site and revealed a depth of 0.50 m (Home 1974). During the current study, the site was re-located 124 m west of CA-MNT-577 and 83 m east of CA-MNT-467. This resource consists of a roughly 10 m by 10 m discrete shell midden deposit located midslope on a gently sloping terrace on the south bank of Prewitt Creek. No other artifacts were observed within the shell midden deposit. A fence line is located just north of the deposit; evidence of cattle grazing and bioturbation was observed.

CA-MNT-467

This is an update for a prehistoric resource consisting of shell midden, a lithic deposit and a bedrock mortar feature, originally recorded in 1971 (Baldwin 1971c). The site boundary conforms to the edge of the steep coastal bluff, along the south bank of where Prewitt Creek empties into the ocean. The western portion of the site contains the densest concentration of anthropogenic soil, whole and fragments of shell (which include mussel, limpet, barnacle, tegula, and abalone), lithics, fire cracked and affected rock. The lithics are comprised primarily

of Franciscan chert flakes, however, a Franciscan chert biface was also located. An olivella spire-lopped bead and a bedrock mortar feature were also observed within the western extent of the site. A bedrock mortar feature, with five mortar cups, is located in the northwestern extent of the site boundary on the small point of land that extends into the ocean.

CA-MNT-692

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1976. The site record was updated in 1979 and again for the current study (Baldwin 1976; Brandoff 1979b). The site is located along a steep coastal bluff line and is comprised of shell midden, with the predominantly observed species being California mussel. Concentrated areas of lithic deposits, including bifaces, points, cores and flakes as well as groundstone fragments and fire-affected rocks were observed. As in the previous site records, erosion was noted. The vegetation was dense and included long, invasive grasses, ice plants, sage brush and ferns.

CA-MNT-1303

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1979. The original site record describes the site as a light shell midden deposit with a sparse chipped stone scatter (Brandoff 1979c). The site is located at the edge of a coastal bluff, and overlooking the Pacific Ocean. It was re-located during the current study. A light deposit of shell and Monterey chert flakes were observed. In addition the site's boundary was augmented to include two mortar cups that were located in the nearby rock outcrop. The vegetation was fairly dense, leaving ground visibility low. Vegetation included poison oak, sage brush, mustard, and coastal scrub.

CA-MNT-1304

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in August 1979, and described as a medium brown sandy loam midden deposit containing shell fragments and chipped stone (Brogan 1979). The surface midden deposit is described as low density, however, chipped stone was observed in rodent tailings, indicating a possibility of a subsurface deposit. This area may have been cultivated in the homesteading era and was disced in the early 1960s (Brogan 1979d).

The site was revisited during the current study. Ground visibility was relatively low as the site, and the surrounding area, was covered in dense vegetation. The vegetation included poison oak, coyote brush, coffee berry, thistles, California sage, mustard and hemlock. A low density deposit of lithics was observed within the shell midden. Lithics included quartz, fire cracked rock, and an obsidian pressure flake.

CA-MNT-468

This is a prehistoric resource, consisting of shell midden, a lithic deposit and a bedrock mortar feature (Baldwin 1971d). The lithic deposit contained several chert flakes, 3 projectile points, 2 projectile point bases and a biface (Baldwin 1971d). The update for the site records similar observations, however, does not include the bedrock mortar feature (Maliarik 1996b).

This site was re-located during the 2012 Cabrillo College Archaeological Field School. The bedrock milling feature was re-located and a sparse lithic deposit, consisting of eight Monterey chert flakes were observed south of this feature. Shell midden was not observed. The site may have been affected by cattle grazing and by public access as an established path intersects the site. Aside from the clearing for the path, ground surface visibility was obscured by dense vegetation that included high grasses, poison oak and coastal scrub.

CA-MNT-469

This site was originally recorded in 1971 as a small shell midden site with California mussel, abalone, chiton, and turban snail; 1 “chert chip” was also observed (Baldwin 1971e). The site record was updated in 1996 and was noted to have been impacted by rodent burrows and cattle grazing. MNT-469 was described as being a small shell midden site with shell fragments consistent with the earlier recording (Maliarik 1996c). Lithics were not noted in the 1996 update.

During the current study, the site was re-located just south of a large greywacke sandstone outcrop on a small knoll along the edge of the coastline. Ground visibility was limited as dense vegetation permeated the region. Amid the vegetation, midden and shell consisting of California mussel, limpet, abalone and barnacle was observed. A single Monterey chert flake was also located.

CA-MNT-471

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1971 (Baldwin 1971f). The site record describes the site as being comprised of shell midden with an associated lithic deposit, a fish-hook fragment and fire affected rock. The original site record reports that two burials had been recovered from the site (Baldwin 1971f). It also notes that CA-MNT-471 and CA-MNT-424, located to the east, on the northbound side of California State Route 1 may have been a single site prior to the creation of the road (Baldwin 1971f). Other impacts to the site include rodents and looting (Baldwin 1971f). The 1992 site record update provides a more accurate location map of the site; the site is described as a shell midden deposit with a sparser associated lithic deposit but includes a bedrock mortar feature with four milling stations (Maliarik 1992a).

At the time of the current study’s field component, the site was observed to be comprised of a high density shell midden, lithics and a bedrock milling feature with 4 milling stations. The lithic deposit was relatively sparse, but primarily included Franciscan chert flakes and an obsidian flake. An olivella shell bead was also located. Impacts to the site included the freeway,

a pedestrian pathway at the eastern extent of the site, rodent disturbance, and signs of cattle graving were evident.

CA-MNT-472

This is a prehistoric resource consisting of dense shell midden and a lithic concentration. It is located along the north bank of Plaskett Creek, directly across from CA-MNT-283 and 75 m west, across a small drainage, from CA-MNT-716. CA-MNT-472 was originally recorded in 1971 (Baldwin 1971g). The site record was updated in 1992 and the boundary was reduced (Maliarik 1992b). The original site record notes shell midden extending towards the ocean bluff, four projectile points, two point fragments and chert flakes (Baldwin 1971g). In the 1992 update, the site was observed to contain a moderately dense shell midden and a light scatter of Franciscan chert (Maliarik 1992). Rodent and cattle disturbance were also observed. Cow paths were noted as causing erosion and the topsoil showed signs of churning (Maliarik 1992b).

This site was re-located during the current study. A high concentration of shell midden, that included mussel, limpet, chiton, and abalone were observed. Monterey and Franciscan chert flakes were observed as well as one Franciscan chert biface and a Monterey chert biface fragment.

CA-MNT-283

This is a prehistoric resource that was originally recorded in 1951 as a shell midden site with one chert blade (Meighan:1951). The record was updated in 1971 and noted that the site contained shell midden, Monterey chert chips, ground stone flakes as well as possible tools and a possible broken pestle (Baldwin 1971h).

During the 20current field study, , the site was re-located through dense vegetation, including poison oak and coyote brush. The site was observed to be comprised of shell midden and a Monterey and Franciscan chert lithic deposit. A complete Monterey chert biface and a spire-ground olivella bead were also located. The shell midden was observed to contain predominantly mussel and limpet fragments.

CA-MNT-946/H

This site is recorded as a multi-component site (Barnette and Brandoff 1978). The prehistoric component is comprised of a shell midden concentration and lithic deposit. The historic-era component consists of a stone wall foundation and glass and ceramic fragments. The 1998 update survey resulted in abalone fragments, chert flakes, and a white glazed ceramic sherd being located. Abalone pendants and seven ceramic sherds were collected. The rock wall was not located and poor visibility caused by dense vegetation was noted (Mikkelsen 1998b). The 2004 update notes that the site appeared to be in the same condition as it did in 1998 (Leach-Palm 2004).

As part of the current study, the location where the site is plotted was surveyed. A crew of 10 students and 4 crew chiefs walked in transect lines, 1 m apart through dense vegetation to re-locate the site. This survey resulted in a total of 3 Monterey chert flakes being located near the western site boundary. No historic-era artifacts or features were observed. The current site conditions appear to be consistent with the 1998 and 2004 updates for this site in that the vegetation was exceedingly dense. The vegetation has most likely become progressively dense since the 2004 update, lending to the paucity of artifacts that were observed (Leach-Palm 2004; Mikkelsen 1998b).

UNANTICIPATED ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

There is a high possibility that subsurface archaeological deposits may exist within the study area, given the archaeological sensitivity of the area and that the vegetation throughout the study area was dense creating a low visibility for the ground surface.

Prehistoric materials might include obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or toolmaking debris; culturally darkened soil (“midden”) containing heat-affected rock, artifacts, or shellfish remains; and stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones). Historical materials might include stone, concrete, or adobe footings and walls; filled wells or privies; and deposits of metal, glass, and/or ceramic artifacts.

ENCOUNTERING HUMAN REMAINS

The possibility of encountering human remains in the study area cannot be discounted. Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that it is a misdemeanor to knowingly disturb a human burial. If human burials are encountered, work should halt in the vicinity and the County Coroner should be notified immediately. At the same time, an archaeologist should be contacted to evaluate the situation.

If human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours. The Commission then notifies the Most Likely Descendant, who has 48 hours to make recommendations to the landowner for the disposition of the remains.

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