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PRELIMINARY HISTORICAL RESOURCE STUDY
SANTA ROSA ISLAND

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CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
February 1983-1984

INTRODUCTION

Santa Rosa Island has a rich historical legacy, one which has not been adequately chronicled by any one author. Several books including Adelaide L. Doran's Pieces of Eight Channel Islands (1980) and Charles F. Holder's The Channel Islands of California (1910), contain chapters on Santa Rosa. However, the most complete overview of the island history is Francis R. Holland's article "Santa Rosa Island: An Archeological and Historical Study" published in the Journal of the West in 1962. Gregg King's "The Potential for Historic Archeological Sites" in Michael A. Glassow's The Status of Archeological Research on Santa Rosa Island (1983) is especially useful in identifying the various buildings and structures noted in the historical record.¹

- ✓ This report chronicles the history of Santa Rosa Island ^{and} ~~it~~ also summarizes the findings of field observations made during two field survey trips to Santa
- ✓ Rosa in December 1982 and March 1983. ^{I+} ~~The report~~ compliments King's work,
- ✓ adding to our knowledge of the island's historical structures ^{IC+} ~~This report~~ also seeks to place the significance of the island's historic resources in their broader historical context.
- ✓ This report has its limitations, ~~however,~~ It cannot possibly discuss the rich history of the Santa Rosa Island in any great detail. It is not a Historic Structures Report, though some information may prove useful to architectural historians who hopefully will study the island's buildings in greater depth in the not too distant future. Neither is this study a Historic Furnishing Report, though I have attempted to document the condition of the furnishings of historic significance associated with the More ranch house complex. This report is merely an overview, a survey of the island's entire historical legacy. A much more thorough and systematic approach to the primary and secondary resources including a thorough review of manuscripts and papers:

contained in the collections of several research institutions; (i.e., the Huntington Library (San Marino, California) and the Smithsonian Institution (Washington, D.C.)), will someday need to be made.

Sources of Information

The historical literature pertaining to Santa Rosa Island was surveyed. Robert Garber, librarian at Channel Islands National Park, was of great assistance in locating some of the more obscure periodicals. The Bibliography at the end of this report lists the sources consulted as well as the research institutions visited. Most of the publications reviewed contained only fragments of useful information; some were of dubious accuracy. Seldom were Santa Rosa's buildings or structures discussed in any great detail. The one notable exception was Greg King's report. His "Inventory of Structures" was used to identify the structures that were documented during the field visits to Santa Rosa. On-site field visits enabled me to document the present condition of all the structures identified by King and in addition, document and assess other sites and structures previously recorded. Several archeological sites of historic significance as well as a few more recent structures associated with the military's presence on the island were noted, photographed and mapped. Though King alludes to these structures as "essentially modern and are of little or no historical value" in his ~~draft~~ ~~report~~, at least some of these structures indeed appear to be of historical significance --- particularly as to how they relate to the important role the offshore islands played in coastal defense in the World War II and 'cold war' eras. Some of these structures may also be significant in the history of military technology.²

Of the research institutions visited, the Channel Islands Archives at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History proved to contain the most useful

information. The archives preserves an important collection of records relating to the Channel Islands much of which relates to Santa Rosa Island. Ron Morgan's Channel Islands photographic survey was especially useful. Morgan's photos of island structures and the furnishings contained in the ✓ ranch house complex at Beechers Bay, enabled me to document, with relative ease, the present condition of these structures and the furnishings which are ✓ ^{of} historically ~~by~~ noteworthy.

I also visited the Santa Barbara Historical Society. This institution has a single slim file entitled "Santa Rosa Island" and a couple of scrapbooks with an article or two relating to the island. The books and periodicals in this institution's library probably could be more exhaustively perused by some future researcher. Because King visited the County Recorder's office, County Assessor's office and the Clerk of the County Board of Supervisors and concluded that "very little information was garnished from these offices.", I did not visit any of those public agencies. I do believe that the records relating to the assessed value of real and personal property of the More brothers Santa Rosa Island ranch most likely could produce interesting and relevant data relating to the decline of More's sheep operation in the late ✓ 19th century. (~~see Part of this report~~).

The U.C.S.B. Map and Imagery laboratory is known to have aerial photographs of the island taken in 1929 but due to time constraints, this collection was not consulted either.

Historians recognize the value of oral testimony to sharpen one's knowledge of an area's history. Santa Rosa's ranch foreman, Bill Wallace, our host on Santa Rosa, was a valuable source of information. Having lived on the island for over 20 years, he was familiar with all the structures still standing, and was able to describe some of those which are no longer intact. I owe him my sincere appreciation.



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PART I

The Historical Significance of Santa Rosa Island

"I could not help picturing
to my mind what a magnificent
park this would make as a
preserve for the wild game of
the continent."

J. Ross Brown, 1874

Santa Rosa was inhabited by the Chumash Indians, if not by one or more earlier cultures. However, the historic record of the island begins with Juan Rodriguez known as "Cabrillo", a brilliant navigator believed to be of Portuguese birth. Sent out from New Spain (Mexico) by Viceroy Mendoza, Cabrillo was to search for the long-rumored, though mythical, Strait of Anian, or "Northwest Passage" as it was called by English explorers. Cabrillo set sail from the port of Navidad, June 27, 1542, with two, (possibly three) tiny caravels---"La Victoria" and "El San Salvador". On September 28 he sailed into the fine harbor of San Diego which he called "San Miguel". He then voyaged northward on an odyssey of discovery but was unable to make any mainland landings north of Point Conception because of powerful northwest winds.³

Cabrillo wintered on an island he called "La Posesion". Here on "the 3rd of the month of January 1543, Juan Rodriguez Cabillo...departed from this life" a result of having suffered a serious fall a few months earlier on the island. Cabrillo's chief pilot Captain Bartolome Ferrello continued the northbound expedition. On March 1, 1543, Ferrello reached a point off the coast of southern Oregon, and then turned back and returned to Mexico.⁴

Historians have generally agreed that Cabrillo spent the winter of 1543 at San Miguel's Cuyler Harbor.⁵ Kroeber in 1925, through an analysis of the few identifiable Chumash Indian names given in Cabrillo's "log", suggests that Cabrillo may have actually wintered and died on Santa Rosa Island.⁶ Since then, other historians have joined in this assessment including Robert Heizer. In California's Oldest Historical Relic? Heizer writes "Krober may have been right, in my opinion, when he concluded that the Isla de Posesion may have been Santa Rosa rather than San Miguel".⁷ Heizer's contention is based in part on the findings of his study of the so-called "Cabrillo gravestone" found on Santa Rosa by archeologist Phillip Mills Jones in 1901. To some historians

the existence of this stone lends some credence to the view that the great explorer was buried on Santa Rosa Island rather than on San Miguel.⁸

The "Cabrillo grave stone" which was found "on the surface of an eroded campsite near Rancho Viejo", may have been a grave marker for a mission indian buried on the island during the historic era.⁹ Analysis of the artifact itself will probably not reveal additional information which would help clarify the Cabrillo controversy, however, research by National Park Service historians in the Spanish Archives may help determine where Cabrillo was actually buried.

After the Cabrillo expedition, more than a generation elapsed before the next European, Sir Francis Drake, landed on California's shore, but it is doubtful that he visited the Channel Islands. There was a lapse of 60 years between Cabrillo and Sebastian Vizcaino, the next major explorer to anchor off the southern California islands.¹⁰ Viscaino, christened the "Santa Barbara" channel and perhaps landed on Santa Rosa.¹¹ Another 167 years elapsed between Viscaino's voyage and Portola, which illustrates the lack of interest Spain had for her remote northern frontier.¹²

By the end of the 18th century, the Spanish sought to colonize upper California and consolidate and develop Spanish territory in the northwest. Though the Spanish were suspicious of the Russian and British expeditions into lower California, the Spanish established several fortified presidios. An equally important element in the Spanish colonial plan was to see that "the indian was made Spanish"; establishment of California's chain of missions soon followed.¹³

In 1805, Santa Rosa Island had perhaps as many as seven Indian villages or "rancherias".¹⁴ Due to a high mortality rate brought on by introduced European diseases (pneumonia and/or diphtheria in 1801 and a measles epidemic

in 1806-1807) the island population was in decline. Two of the larger historic era villages were 'hichimin', located at the mouth of Ranch House Canyon at ✓ Beecher's Bay, and qshiwqshiw, the largest and most important Santa Rosa Island Chumash settlement which was situated at "Rancho Viejo".¹⁵

The Chumash of Santa Rosa were eventually all brought to the mainland missions. Mission Santa Ines received the indians from the east shore villages, and the rest were brought to La Purisima. Although some authorities suggest that the indians left the island shortly after the earthquake of 1812, in which "a large crack, 1000 yards long, more than 100 feet wide and 50-60 feet deep" was opened in Canada Lobo, recent studies indicate that the mass exodus occurred two years later in 1814-1815. By 1835 all the Chumash from Santa Rosa Island were gone.¹⁶

Even before the indians had been removed from Santa Rosa, Russian, British and American ships were plying the waters of the Santa Barbara Channel, competing for the profitable fur trade and ignoring Spain's traditional right to the Pacific Ocean.¹⁷

It was the publication of Capt. James Cook's "Voyage" in 1784 that first touched off an international race to exploit the vast fur wealth in the northwest. The Russians began their quest in 1806, when Count Nikolai Petrovich Rezanov, an official of the Russian American Fur Company, assessed the possibilities of extending the Russian fur trade. In 1812 the Russian American Fur Co. built a fortified village called Ross, just 18 miles north of Bodega Bay. This settlement served as that company's headquarters for sea otter hunting in northern California waters. In addition, two British firms, ✓ the Northwest and Hudson's Bay Companies, also sent 'trapping brigades' into the Spanish territory; one went as far south as the Gulf of California.¹⁸

Americans also took great interest in the fur trade. Beginning on October 29, 1796, when the "Otter" out of Boston first dropped anchor in northern

California waters and continuing through 1812, American fur-trading vessels flocked to the Pacific northwest. Eventually the American company's gained the greatest share of the otter trade.

From 1801-1810 illegal trade boats such as the Lelia Byrd, Alexander, the Hazard, Enterprize, O'Cain, combed the waters of Spanish California and searched for otter even though such hunting activity was forbidden by the Spanish government. Because the Spanish had no force strong enough to drive out the British, Russian and American traders, the illegal fur trade continued throughout the Spanish colonial period.¹⁹

Santa Rosa Island served as a base of operation for some sea otter hunters. Though no historical accounts establish that the island was a base of operation in the 1784-1812 time period, the island, in the 1830's, did serve as the headquarters camp for otter hunter George Nidever.²⁰

Using Santa Rosa as his base of operation, Nidever, beginning in 1835, hunted otter for two years under the license of Captain William Dana.²¹ Sea otter in 1834 were valuable, worth \$30 each as compared to land otter, (worth \$2) and beaver (worth \$4) and Nidever continued to hunt the valued otter periodically until the mid 1800's.²²

Typically, Nidever remained "all winter" on Santa Rosa, even though he did most of his hunting ~~on hunting~~ on San Miguel and Santa Cruz, "as there were very few otters on Santa Rosa."²³ In his autobiography The Life and Adventures of George Nidever, Nidever relates how in January 1836 he and his men were attacked by Northwest Indians, possibly from the "Llama", a ship taking otter in violation of Mexican law. Nidever mentions a "large cave" on the northeast side of the island "close to the present wharf." which apparently served as his camp and in this case his refuge also.²⁴

In 1841, about the time Nidever made Santa Rosa Island his hunting base of

operation, Santa Rosa Island was granted to Jose Castro the Governor of Alta California, Juan Alvarado. On October 4, 1843, Governor Manuel Micheltorena re-granted the island of Santa Rosa to Carlos and Jose Antonio Carrillo.²⁵

When Mexico gained political independence from Spain, the ~~liberal~~ Mexican constitution makers developed new policies which included increasing the number of rancho land grants. Grants could be made to foreigners willing to be naturalized and accept the Roman Catholic religion.²⁶ On November 2, 1843,

Santa Rosa Island passed into the hands of Carlos Carrillos' daughters, each of whom had married an American.²⁷ Each daughter held an "undivided half interest" in the island.²⁸ In 1843 the two Americans, John Coffin Jones and

Alpheus B. Thompson, who married into the Carrillo family, quickly formed a business partnership and began stocking the island.²⁹ According to Ross Gast

in Contentious Consul: Biography of John Coffin Jones, "Jones purchased the livestock with his own funds and Thompson assumed control of the operations.

The proceeds were to be shared equally by the partners".³⁰ The two brothers-in-law eventually became embroiled in a bitter legal dispute when Thompson

tried to sell some cattle and disavowed that Jones had any financial stake in ownership of the island. Jones received an injunction from the 2nd District

Court in Santa Barbara to stop the sale of cattle and also a change in venue to the 3rd District Court in Monterey because Thompson was "entrenched in

political fabric of Santa Barbara" and Jones could not get a fair hearing. Eventually in 1857, after years of litigation, the suit was resolved in Jones'

favor.³¹

When the case was finally settled, Jones was in ill health. He instructed his lawyers to open negotiations with T. Wallace More, a Santa Barbara cattleman, who had expressed an interest in purchasing the island. More offered to buy Santa Rosa for \$35,000, ---\$12,000 in cash, the balance due in two years. Eventually, the More brothers acquired the entire island.³²

Alpheus Thompson built the first structure on the island.³³ The conditions of the Mexican land grant stipulated that a house must be built and cattle be raised. When he first came to the island in 1844, Thompson brought with him 270 head of cattle, and later that same year 51 ewes, 2 rams and 9 horses. A carpenter was also brought to build the first house as well as two corrals. According to Holland, "The first house was small, 24 feet long, 15 feet wide and 9 feet high. It was a 'good plank house' with one door, one glass window, one corridor and a shingle roof." In 1855 it was still standing but by then Thompson had built a "large ranch house in a cypress grove" which reportedly was still standing in 1939.³⁴

Under Thompson's management the island ranch apparently prospered; each year vaqueros were brought to the island to brand cattle. By 1852 the rancho reportedly had an income of \$38,000. It was also in 1852 that Dixie Thompson, Alpheus' nephew, brought 3,000 more sheep to the island. By 1857 the ranch consisted of 8,000 head of cattle, 2,300 sheep and 235 horses. Reportedly Thompson also brought "a lot of hogs, rabbits (sic), etc."³⁵

The years Thompson managed the island ranch were also years of great political turmoil in California history. From 1822 to 1848 the number of American residents in Alta California had been increasing. The expansionist mood in the United States fired by the Texas revolt in 1836, helped step up America's push to the Pacific. By the 1840's America's "manifest destiny" was to extend its borders across the continent. In 1846 the U.S. and Great Britain signed a treaty establishing the 49th parallel as the boundary between British and American North America. In 1842 war broke out between the United States and Mexico. "Californios" had a few victories such as the "Battle of the Old Womens Gun" where Santa Rosa's former owner, Jose Antonio Carrillo, enabled the Californios to acquit themselves with honor. However, the surrender at

Cahuenga began a new era in California as organized resistance to American occupation ceased.³⁶

Because cattle raising was the mainstay of economic activity during most of the Mexican period, and since the cattle ranch on Santa Rosa was prospering, the future looked promising for the owners of the island. The remoteness of the island virtually eliminated cattle rustling which plagued many ranchers in the Santa Barbara area. Santa Rosa was also an open range which eliminated the need to construct a costly fence.³⁷

A spectacular cattle boom in 1849 was the natural outgrowth of the California gold rush. Prior to 1848 a typical steer was worth about \$4 a head and was valued for its hide and tallow. But the California gold rush created an expanding market. The rise in cattle prices continued for seven years, some ranchers receiving as much as \$75 a head. Beginning in 1855 though, demand for California range stock declined, owing partly to the introduction of cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri valleys as well as rising number of imported sheep. In 1855 a severe drought forced ranchers to sell stock at sacrifice prices. By 1860 the price per head fell to \$10 and even at that price there was little demand. Reportedly, there were over 3 million horned cattle awaiting sale in California. Pedro Carillo wrote "Everyone in this town (Santa Barbara) is broke...cattle can be bought at any price; real estate is not worth a thing".³⁸

The Santa Rosa ranch also suffered. In 1858, the steamer Golia of San Francisco transported 8,000 head of cattle and 2,300 sheep to the mainland. This was the last such shipment until at least 1860. But in 1858, coinciding with Alpheus with Thompson's death, a new era in ranching began as the More family acquired an interest in the island.³⁹

In 1860 T. W. Mores one-quarter interest in Santa Rosa was valued at \$3,125; there were 1,000 head of cattle valued at \$3,000 (a mere \$3 a head!), 2,000

sheep were valued at \$1,500 and 100 horses were assessed at \$500.⁴⁰

Falling cattle prices, flood, drought and debt along with the fear on the part of southern ranchers that they would be taxed out of existence by northern ranchers, led to a separatist movement in February 1859. San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties moved to form a new political entity called the "Territory of Colorado". The preamble of the bill introduced into the State legislature called for the new territory to be composed of these counties, "including all the islands lying opposite to its adjacent coast". The bill was ratified by popular vote but the onslaught of American Civil War caused the bill to die in the Federal Congress.⁴¹

The value of cattle continued to plummet in the 1860's. An unprecedented rainstorm in December 1862, in which it rained for one month, drowned thousands of cattle, destroying possibly as much as one-quarter of the state's taxable wealth. The following year, lush grasses added to the fatness of the herds and once again the market could not absorb the supply. Santa Barbara County's ranchers were in debt and Santa Rosa's owners disposed of 2,000 head of cattle. The price of cattle was soon determined solely by the value of their hide---75 cents a head. By 1864, the price of cattle had dropped to 37 cents. While there had been 1,234,000 head of cattle in California in 1860, by 1870 there were only 670,000---a drop of 46 percent.⁴²

The decline of the price of cattle was partly the result of the growth of the sheep industry. In 1850 there was 18,000 sheep in California. By 1860 there were over a million of which 50 percent were raised in southern California; 65,000 in Santa Barbara County alone. The More brothers generally prospered, because their investments were diversified into cattle, horses and sheep. As time passed, the Santa Rosa Island stock of cattle was reduced and the island became principally a sheep ranch.⁴³

Santa Rosa Island was an ideal place to raise sheep.⁴⁴ Rattlesnakes, which were a real threat to mainland sheep ranchers, were non-existent on the island and consequently sheep roamed unmolested. Charles Towne in Shepards Empire wrote "These islands are a near paradise for sheepman. With abundant and nourishing forage, a mild climate, isolation from all possible infection from mainland animals, no chance of straying or being killed by predatory mammals, the only remaining hazard is drought, and even this has always been less frequent and less severe than on the mainland."⁴⁵

The greatest prosperity for Santa Barbara county sheep ranchers came during the American Civil War. Cotton was in short supply and wool for uniforms was in high demand. San Francisco became the chief wool market. Even after the Civil War the sheep industry continued to prosper. The drought of 1871-72 caused some concern on the part of ranchers but it was the drought of 1876-1877 that created as severe an economic crisis for sheep ranchers as had confronted the cattlemen in the 1860's.⁴⁶

During the 1870's, Santa Rosa had approximately 60,000 grazing sheep. Great storing barns, shearing rooms, stables, pens and sheds were built by the More brothers. But the 1876 drought also was devastating to the Santa Rosa Island ranch. A great "matanza" was held and many sheep were killed for merely their tallow and wool. About 1,200 sheep per day were slaughtered; but the prices obtained for the tallow and skins were high enough to make the matanza profitable.⁴⁷

Even though the price of sheep declined after 1876, sheep ranching remained the central activity of the island as long as the Mores owned it. If Thomas Stork is correct, perhaps at one time there may have been 125,000 sheep on the island.⁴⁸

Life on the Santa Rosa Island sheep ranch was unlike that of any other sheep ranch. No herders were required as the island was divided into quarters by

fences placed at right angles which extended to the extreme boundaries; 200 trained goats, in lieu of sheep dogs, were used to control the flocks. Only four men supervised the sheep but with the arrival of the shearers the island population swelled twice a year for a 6-7 week period when the sheep were sheared.⁴⁹

According to William Thayer in Marvels of the New West "In June 1887, More filled 1,014 sacks, averaging 410 pounds a sack, making a total of 415,740 pounds. At twentieth-seven and one-half cents a pound, the wool brought \$212,349.80, netting him a profit of more than \$80,000. Shearers were paid five cents a fleece. At the minimum output, 90 sheep a day, a man could earn \$4.50 a day or \$200 for the entire job. Many turned out 110 a day, and one "swift" averaged 125. Twice a year the little schooner 'Santa Rosa' made round trips to San Francisco for supplies, delivering the wool clip on the out-bound voyage."⁵⁰

"Much of the sheep shearing was performed by Chinese and Mexican laborers recruited in Santa Barbara and brought to the island for the important weeks of shearing. When the strenuous season was over there was a "grand-finale...a kind of fiesta, mostly dancing in the shearing barns". There also was a period for hunting wild boar, the "little gray foxes, and tender little deer peculiar to the Channel Islands."⁵¹

Sport hunting of Santa Rosa's wild boar as well as the other introduced species probably began in the 1870's. The main ranch house was visited by notables including the western oil painter Frederick Remington who in 1899 spent several days on the island "horseback riding and hunting wild boar".⁵²

Some island visitors recognized Santa Rosa's recreational potential. In 1874, just two years after Yellowstone was established as this nation's first national park, J. Ross Brown in the Overland Monthly first suggested the

possibility of making Santa Rosa a tourist attraction. Brown discussed the idea with A. P. More and pictured in his mind a magnificent "park...a preserve for the wild game of the continent". Brown envisioned dividing the island in portions of 10,000 or 15,000 acres and then stocking the subdivisions with buffalo, elk, deer, antelope and other "gramnivorous" animals common to the remote and thinly settled parts of our continent". 53

Brown also recognized that the island also possessed great commercial potential. He described the island as an area that could be relied upon for "heavy crops during the next twenty years". He noted that "Barley had already been successfully cultivated with a yield of 60 or 70 bushels to the acre and speculated that "in the sheltered valleys, most of the fruits known to temperate climes would flourish". He envisioned that the island could be divided into farms of 200 to 300 acres as "Santa Rosa would be an excellent field for a grand colonization enterprize". 54

✓ Unlike neighboring Santa Cruz Island, where a colony of French and Italian immigrants was established, Santa Rosa remained a sheep ranch throughout the 19th century. The ^{hard} ~~hard~~ packed adobe soil combined with the absence of timber gave "a rather bleak appearance to the island" which was perfect for sheep raising. Each valley was filled with an "impenetrable growth of alfileria, wild oats, bur clover, native grasses, weeds and various nutritious herbs suitable for pasturage". Roads for wagons and carriages had been constructed by 1871 permitting travel to the most important divisions of the island. 55 Even in 1945, nearly 50 years after the commercial sheep raising had ceased, Charles Town in wrote of Santa Rosa Island "the future may see the revival of a business which once constituted a most picturesque phase of California's wool growing, as well as the chief mutton supply for the youthful settlements of Los Angeles and San Francisco. And passengers and crews of coastal craft may again be cheered by the sight of green island uplands dotted with white

flocks, "sheep against the sea".⁵⁶

In 1901, Santa Rosa changed hands once again. Walter L. Vail, Edward N. Vail, Mahlon Vail, N. R. Vail, Alexander Vail and J. V. Vickers purchased the island from the various heirs of A. P. More. In 1904 the island was stocked with cattle and from then on the island was devoted to the raising and finishing of hereford beef stock.⁵⁷ The Vails introduce more Roosevelt Elk in 1914, and Canadian Elk in the 1930's; mule deer from Kanab, Utah, was also introduced at that time.⁵⁸

Although Santa Rosa's primary commercial activity continued to be the raising of cattle, oil development and the impact of the military's presence on the island are important aspects of Santa Rosa's history.

Oil is one of the primary natural resources present in the Santa Barbara channel region. In the 1920's several oil companies, including Continental and Standard Oil surveyed Santa Rosa Island and drilled exploratory wells. By 1949 at least five such wells had been drilled but all were eventually abandoned. Standard Oil Company possibly was responsible for paving several roads on Santa Rosa Island.⁵⁹

Although it is difficult to see any evidence of the oil company's historic presence on the island, the presence of the military is still very evident. The abandoned base at Johnson's Lee, where the Air Force's 669th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was stationed, is noteworthy. At one time this base was staffed with 200 Air Force personnel and 30 civilians. It was the western most station of the Western Air Defense Systems in California. The base maintained a 24 hour radar sky watch of the southern California coast with the mission to identify and track every inbound and outbound plane whether it be private, military or commercial. Observatory towers on remote peaks approximately five miles inland from Johnsons Lee, scanned the skies to

give warning of the approach of enemy aircraft. If an airplane could not be identified, fighter planes were scrambled from mainland Navy or Air Force bases.⁶⁰

Until 1953, the operation of the 669th Squadron Base was "highly classified." In 1953 however, Los Angeles Times correspondent Charles Hillinger and a photographer became the first newspaper crew to visit the base in its five year history. A revealing story appeared in the Los Angeles Times on December 13, 1953. Later, Hillinger's expanded article appeared in his book The Channel Islands.⁶¹

The history of the 229th Squadron, and the island's importance as an early warning station during the "cold war", and its mission to forestall a surprise aerial attack by an enemy nation, may constitute a significant chapter in military history. The records of various military archives probably contain useful information descriptive of stations importance and its unique role during the cold war era. The observation structures and radar housings associated with the Johnsons Lee base, with their elaborate water cooling systems, clearly are illustrative of a earlier far less sophisticated era of military technology.⁶²

The military presence is evident in other locations besides Johnsons Lee. One of the more interesting sites is the U. S. Army base nestled in the hills in an area where the army hoped it would be sheltered from the constant winds. Constructed in 1942-1943") this base also served as an aircraft early warning system base during World War II.⁶³

Santa Rosa Island, though one of the largest of the Channel Islands, is one of the least studied. Although cartographic surveys and early biological studies were made in the 1870's, the earliest documented scientific collection from Santa Rosa was made by botanist G. W. Hartford who accompanied the Coast Survey Team in 1873. Hartford's work stimulated more interest in the island

by the scientific community.⁶⁴

Of particular interest to anthropologists and historians is the islands association with early man sites. Several archeologists including Stephen Bowers and Lorenzo Yates (1876), Gustav Eisen (1897), Phillip Mills Jones (1901), David Burks Rogers (1927), H. Arden Edwards (1929-1930), Arthur Woodward (1939, 1941), John Shrader (1941) and Phil Orr. (who, beginning in 1946 and intermittently for the next 21 years), made significant contributions to the study of the archeological resources of Santa Rosa Island. Phil Orr's camp, near Skull Gulch, is a reminder of the work performed by this pioneer of Santa Barbara region archeology.⁶⁵

Biologists have also collected and studied island specimens. In 1874, Dr. Kellogg and Mr. Hartford were the first botanical collectors to come to Santa Rosa. Other researchers include Hazard (1855), Green (1886), Brandegee and Le Conte (1887) and Eastwood (1941). One party of scientists from the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History was briefly stranded on the island shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941. In more recent years researchers from the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, as well as individual researchers from local universities have studied the island's flora and fauna.⁶⁶

SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Island's history is unique among the Channel Islands. It's archeological ruins suggest a presence of early man, as well as Chumash Indians. The island is associated with the earliest European explorers, and possibly is the resting place of California's discoverer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo. The island was an important base of operation for fur hunters including George Nidever in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Though originally a Mexican land grant, entangling legal disputes over land titles

and possessory interests are illustrative of the court battles that ensued all over California shortly before and after Mexican independence, and into the early American period. The decline of the Spanish California cattle industry, the rise and eventual collapse of the sheep herding industry can also be traced through the history of the Santa Rosa Island ranch. The island is associated with notable early California politicians, as well as merchants, and personages of regional importance. As a hunting retreat, the Santa Rosa ranch has been visited by notable figures including Frederick Remington, Senator Thomas Stork, and U. S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Though little is known about the significance of the structures associated with early oil exploration efforts and the military bases that dot the island's landscape. During World War II and the "cold war era" the island apparently did play an important role in the Western Air Defense System.

Today, the character of Santa Rosa is that of a cattle ranch. Isolation from the mainland, the charm of the old ranch as well as the vast rangelands traversed by hereford cattle and hunters seeking Roosevelt elk, deer and wild boar, convey to the visitor the feeling that Santa Rosa is unique. It is a very special national park area.

PART II

THE STRUCTURES

1. RANCHO VIEJO - NO LONGER STANDING

The site of Rancho Viejo is of historical significance as it is where the oldest known structure on Santa Rosa Island rested.

The first structure constructed on Santa Rosa Island was "a good plank house" built by a carpenter in the employ of Captain Alpheus Thompson. Lumber was brought over to the island by ship and a shingle roof one room house, measuring 24 feet long, 15 feet wide and 9 feet high was constructed. The structure had one door, one glass window and one corridor. In addition, two corrals were built and possibly a short pier. It was standing in 1855 but its history after this point is uncertain.¹

The location of the site of this structure has not been located. Mrs. Margaret Woolley and Mr. Edward Smith were interviewed by King; both remember a shack located in the vicinity of an old road at the end of the island

referred to on old maps as "Rancho Viejo"² The map, erroneously attributed to C. D. Voy, (ca 1890) indicates a structure at "Rancho Viejo",^{and it apparently} mis-locates the

structure. (See map in appendix 2. Two aerial surveys and one ground search also failed to find any evidence of a structure in the area). Most likely the

shack referred to by Woolley and Smith is the weather beaten East End Shack

located in the "old ranch" area near east point; ^{the} ~~and~~ East End Shack is not

Thompson's first house. ^e It is too recent a structure ^e and also the dimensions of the structure depicted in Morgan's sketch differs greatly with the measurements indicated in the early period court records.

The Rancho Viejo structure probably was not constructed near the present ranch complex. Although ranch foreman Bill Wallace remembers that an old flagstone "foundation" was discovered when the bunkhouse burned down in the late 1960's, it was probably the remains of Thompson's second house.³ Dixie Thompson in a letter to A. B. Thompson mentions the "olde house" resting on the mesa. Most likely however, the first house rested somewhere in the vicinity of the

present day "old ranch" area in the vicinity of southeast anchorage near where the first wharfs were constructed.

A critical review of Thompson's correspondence and period court records may enable future researchers to pinpoint the site of Santa Rosa's first structure.

Associated structures in the South Point area that were documented includes an old "Duck Blind" and the "old ranch round-up". (see photo sheet #1).⁴

2. Thompson's Second House "Old Ranch" - No longer standing.

Alpheus Thompson built a second house between 1845 and 1853. According to Holland, it was built near a "cypress grove" at Ranch House Canyon. The house stood as late as 1939. Archeologist Arthur Woodward, in 1939 and 1941 drew a sketch of this structure which was labeled "old Ranch".⁵

Ron Morgan documents this structure in his photographic overview and in his notes as "Bunkhouse on Santa Rosa Island as Remembered by John Woolley".

According to Bill Wallace, the structure burned down in November 1969; the cook, Howard Anderson, was killed Bill Wallace also remembers that when the structure burned a "flagstone" foundation of an earlier structure was

discovered.

Apparently Thompson's second house was used by More and the Vails as a boarding house for hired help. As King noted, though the building no longer stands the site "is potentially significant because of the archeological deposits and historic artifacts likely to be encountered."⁶

3. More Ranch House - Still Standing, Becher's Bay

A. P. More's dwelling house is located on the plateau overlooking Bechers Bay. The house is a New England salt-box type, painted white with green trim and has a green composition roof. It is believed to have been built by the Mores in the 1870's and it has been added to a number of times. In the late 19th century an extension on the western side of the house was made. An outdoor

kitchen was also added. During the late 1940's or early 1950's another wing to the house was constructed including a bedroom and a bath. During the 1970's the old kitchen was enlarged and modernized.⁷

Today a white fence encloses the house complex. A garden with introduced ornamental plants including jade tree, geranium, anis, memosa, monterey pine and a ground cover are just inside the fence (see photo sheets #2-3). There is a separate tool shed and a few old ranch implements as well as a stack of antlers lying within the garden area. The exterior of the house appears well maintained (see slide sheets 4-6).

The interior of the house is also in good shape. On the 1st floor of the two story dwelling are two bedrooms, a dining area/living room and a kitchen and a bathroom; upstairs there is a small bedroom, a large room where bunk beds line the walls and a second bathroom (see slide sheets 7-8).

All of the floors are covered with linoleum. The outline of the original wood plank floor boards are noticeable in the entry hallway. Original walls are constructed of lathe and plaster while the more recent additions are of plywood and/or beaver board. The rooms have been repainted many times throughout the structures 100 year history; there was at least an eighth inch of paint on one window sill. The oldest layer appears to be pale blue. The main entrance door today is white, though the original color probably was a cream color. Turned banister posts run along the 13 steps to the second floor. Many of the interior door locks appear original to the structure, though modern toilet bowl fixtures (1975) and bath tubs are evident.

Ranch Foreman Bill Wallace remarked that once the structure had a brick chimney and a fireplace in the living room. I was unable to find evidence of the chimney.

Remarkably, many of the household furnishings are original to the structure

and date back to the More period. A complete bedroom set consisting of a bed, dresser/mirror, washstand, two night tables are in use in the several bedrooms. In some instances they evidence neglect and heavy use. According to Bill Wallace this set was brought around the Horn to San Francisco and then were brought to the island.

Other furniture possibly associated with the More period include a "Grand Action" upright piano (Patent dated 1873), a set of four kitchen chairs, three Queen Anne style chairs, several old prints, a large oak kitchen table, a clock, a brass bed, a marble dressing table, a Secretary desk, and a wicker rocker; a French provincial style bedroom set is in the second floor bedroom. (See slide pages 7-8).

The house has been occupied by the Mores, ranch foremen and cowboys from both the More and Vail and Vicker period. Bill Wallace noted that the wife of one of the first Vail and Vickers foreman, a woman named "Mrs. Pepper" killed herself in the upstairs bedroom. Senator Stork, Fredrick Remington, Governor Earl Warren and other notables have resided in this house while on hunting trips. It continues to be used periodically as a hunting lodge.

According to King the More ranch house "reflects the changing nature of American society and its attempts to modernize".⁸ Although the house has been greatly altered, the structure indeed does retain much of its original character and fabric. It also has historic value in its association with an important California merchant family, ranch "superintendents" and hunting party guests who have stayed there. It is the single most significant historic structure on the island.

4. New Bunkhouse - Still Standing

Two bunkhouses have stood on a site near Ranch House Canyon at the Bechers Bay complex. According to King, the first bunkhouse was "built by the Mores" for the men who sheared sheep. I believe the Mores simply modified Thompson's

second house. Once modified it served as the bunkhouse and was a two story L-shaped structure.⁹

A dining room and a living room were downstairs and bedrooms were located upstairs. Apparently the original structures contained no kitchen, but one was later attached. This structure is the one that was engulfed in a fire in November 1969.

Morgan's sketches include one of the bunkhouse as remembered by Woolley.

A one-story bunkhouse was rebuilt on the same site shortly thereafter.

Morgan's notes give a detailed sketch of this structure. (See slide sheet #9)

An old latrine stands nearby.

5. Barns

Some 300 feet northwest of the main ranch are two large red barns believed to have been built during the More period. According to Bill Wallace "The red buildings" are the oldest in the complex. Morgan identifies various uses for several different work areas within these two barns. They include a carpenter area, hide tanning, feed storage, fence repair, hay loft, Blacksmith shop, slaughter room, garage and other workshops. These uses continue to the present day.

According to Bill Wallace, at one time there were other structures dating back to the More period that have subsequently burned down --- possibly in 1969 or 1970. One of these most likely was the structure described by King as "Red House". According to Mrs. Margaret Woolley it was used as a cowboy residence; later dynamite was stored in it. Wallace suggests it was "near the gum trees" and originally ^{like} "old milk barns".

These barns and the possible archeological associations deserve more study. Their historical significance is not completely known though they undoubtedly are associated with the early sheep ranch activity. (See slide sheets 10 and

11). 10.

6. Bill and Prue's House - Still Standing

Ranch foreman Bill Wallace and his wife Prue built a track-like house west of the pier in the late 1960's. The house itself appears to have no historical significance though various artifacts including old horseshoes, ranch equipment and indian artifacts surround the house. The house rests on or near a known archeological site associated with the Chumash period. Morgan has documented this structure (see slide sheet #12).¹¹

7. Historic Trash Dump: Site located

On the bluff overlooking the ocean southeast of the old ranch house is a trash dump. In the dump are many objects of historical interest and possible significance including a breaking cart, the remains of two hay wagons, a utility wagon, buck racks, rubber tire wagons, generators, di-lock chain, railroad track, steel girders, bricks, spools of wire, toilets, hub caps, buoys, a dog house, 40-50 oil drums, heavy cable, water valves, refrigerators, propane bottles, lawn mowers, batteries and the remains of a wind mill, just to mention a few.

The dump has been used for over fifty years. Worn out ranch equipment, as well as a great deal of refuse has been tossed over the cliff where it has been washed out to sea. This site contains vast historical potential and would prove to reveal much information useful to archeologists and historians alike.

As ranch foreman Bill Wallace said, "When something comes over to the island, it dies here." This dump illustrates the veracity of Wallace's statement. Near the dump site are some stacks of cinder block, telephone poles and wood planks. There are also some steel storage sheds. None appear to have any historical significance (see slide sheets 13-15).

8. U.S. Army Buildings - Still Standing

The U.S. Army established a small base on Santa Rosa in 1943. Structures were built in at least two locations--Bechers Bay and in the middle of the island in the vicinity north of Water Canyon.

The remains of a small complex built one half mile off Pecho Peak, east of the road running from the main ranch area are intact. Foundations, a water tank, and piles of wood are still visible. The barracks building and two other structures which today are used for storage were moved closer to the main ranch complex. Bill Wallace noted that at one time there were "barns" in this area. Morgan documented these "old Army barracks" in his sketches.

The Army base and relocated structures are of historic interest. Their significance however, has yet to be determined. According to Wallace, this Beechers Bay camp supplied beef for the Army in World War II (see slide sheet #16).

Wallace also noted that the power station (near the red barns) and the slaughter house were also built by the Army.¹²

9. Former School House - Still Standing

A little white school house once stood at Bechers Bay and was used by More's children and those of the sheepherders. PGM Austin writes: "In a little white school house at Bechers Bay, my mother and her brothers, with children of the sheepherders, went to school. The Mores imported a school teacher from their ancestral home in Ohio to be guide, philosopher and a friend for the children on the island. I well remember her as an old lady, this kindly soul, Mrs. Isabel, reported to be the first white teacher in an American school in Santa Barbara County."¹³

The building most likely dates back to the 1870's or 1880's (1p 96). It was converted to the ranch foreman's residence and during the 1930's was enlarged to include a kitchen. Today it is used as a residence for one of the cowboys.

Morgan's sketch gives a floor plan of this structure. Though remodeling and the kitchen has altered the original design, most of the fabric is original. In that the building dates back to the More period and is associated with the sheep ranch days, it is of historical significance (see slide sheet #17).

10. Dock Area

Throughout the history of the Santa Rosa Island Ranching Operation, piers have played a critical role. Thompson apparently constructed a pier to land his sheep and cattle. For example, in 1858, the steamer Goliah loaded stock to transport to San Francisco. In 1860, Able Stearns visited the island and arranged "for the purchase and transportation of lumber to the island for the construction of a wharf to facilitate loading the stock."¹⁴

During the More era, on the mainland "More's Landing" served as a regular stop for steamships. It was a primary outlet for shipping cattle, sheep, grains, and Goletas Walnut Crop. According to P.G.M. Austin "There was always a close connection between the More Ranch on the mainland and the island ranch of Santa Rosa. It was to More's Landing in Goleta that the sheep and cattle were shipped from the island in the trim schooner "Santa Rosa."¹⁵

No doubt there have been several piers and docks constructed on the island. Stephen Bowers (circa 1876) mentions "There are several places where vessels can land, and the present properties, the Messrs. Moore brothers have built a wharf on the eastern end of the island, where vessels can load and unload at any time, except when gales prevail from the northeast.

C.D. Voy in the Bancroft Library "Yates Papers" manuscript in the Channel Islands Archives, mentions a 1,000 foot wharf, "shod with steel" drilled 4 feet down which is "often carried away."¹⁶ (It was used by the ship "Cantina" to load and unload livestock.)¹⁷

Bill Wallace vaguely remembers a wharf in the area between Southeast Anchorage to East Point, but nothing remains of it today.

Today a wharf at the Bechers Bay landing continues to serve as the on and off loading area for the Vail & Vickers ranch.

The pier appears to retain much of its original fabric. The original pier appears to extend about half way out; a more recent extension of the pier is evident as the boards are of a different size and finish.

Pilings of the older section of the pier are well worn while the more recent addition appear strong.

The dock is a structure of historical interest because of its association with the ranch complex (see slide sheets 18-20). Also associated with the wharf are a number of small shacks, (see slide sheet 20). In 1901 "one-fourth mile up the canyon to the north of the house" there was a boat house.¹⁸ A picture of this structure appears as plate 87d in Jones 1901 report. Although the boat house is no longer standing, there is a lighthouse (documented by Morgan) overlooking the dock, a line shed and platform and pieces of ranch equipment associated with the ranch operation that are on the bluff overlooking the wharf. These are all in deteriorating condition. These structures are presumed to be associated with other historic resources of the More and early Vail & Vicker period and are also of historic interest (see slide sheets 20-21).

11. Associated Ranch Structures

Associated with the Vail & Vicker cattle ranch are a number of structures associated with the ranching activities of More and early Vail & Vicker periods. There are the remains of several old 'cattle cables' (one east of China Camp and another between Skunk Point and Abalone Rocks) where cattle were once landed. In the main ranch area a scale and docking chute is possibly about a century old; a brick furnace (constructed 1897) for the manufacture of sheep dip, a line shed platform, a pig sty and ranch related

debris are all evidence of an earlier economic activity. As King shows "These structures may qualify as significant cultural resources as a representation of technological innovation related to the raising of sheep" and I might add cattle. (See slide sheets 21-22):19

12. Nidever Cave

In the vicinity behind the present cowboy bunkhouse outhouse in Ranch House Canyon stream is the so-called "Nidever Cave." It is here that George Nidever took refuge from the Aleut hunters in 1836; most likely it served as his base station.

During the field survey, Ranch Foreman Bill Wallace took Archeologist Don Morris and I to this cave. Although Nidever describes the caves entrance as "hardly larger than an ordinary doorway, but (the cave is) so large inside that a hundred persons could occupy it with ease," the cave is now nearly filled with sand, silt and debris; the wood door is also rotting away.²⁰

This cave served as an old shepherders shelter in the late 1800's (sheep shearing on Santa Rosa Island) and in 1951-52 was used to store explosives. In 1893 it was described as "Across the little stream is a large natural cave in the sandstone and is dry and water tight where many of the men are comfortable housed at night." (Ibid). Bill Wallace said that the children on the island used it as a "hideout" but has not been used in recent years. This site has extraordinary potential for archeological study. Due to its close proximity to known indian sites in the Bechers Bay area, the cave also, no doubt, has pre-historic archeological significance. Its significance to the historic area is notable; however, the cave is filling up with debris, a heavy load on the road above it could result in a cave-in. (see slide sheet 23). Occasionally, the ranch foreman fills in the two holes in the road which apparently open up periodically, ^{As a} result ^{is building up} ~~is~~ sediment in the cave.

13. Air Force Base: Johnsons Lee - Standing

In 1950-51, during the so-called "cold war era" an Air Force base was constructed at Johnsons Lee. Archeologist Phil Orr reported that a number of archeological sites were destroyed as a result of dumping and construction of structures. A dozen or so buildings were constructed and for the most part are still standing. They have been gutted and heavily vandalized.

It was here that the 669th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was stationed for approximately ten years. Journalist Chuck Hillinger in 1953, wrote an article documenting daily life at the station. The remains of hobby shops, recreational facilities as well as barracks, offices, generator and maintenance equipment rooms are all still standing. A brick incinerator also stands on a hill overlooking the rest of the base. The landing dock is washed out (see slide sheets 24-27).

Although this base is of historical significance in terms of America's coastal defenses during the 1950's, the structures individually are probably not of unique historical significance. Collectively though they may be significant; a substantial body of information about the base undoubtedly exists in military archives and will need to be reviewed.²²

14. Orr's Camp

Just west of Skull Gulch on the northwest coast of the island, Archeologist Phil Orr and his colleagues constructed several "sheds", which served as headquarters for Orr's studies.

These structures were constructed nearly flush with the ground level in a surrounding gully this offering protection from prevailing winds.

These structures are rapidly deteriorating. The bunkhouse/kitchen shack, the storeroom, outhouses, cleaning shacks and generator house are falling into the sea. The entire site is in such poor condition that Ranch Foreman Bill Wallace is contemplating burning them down because they present a "hazard to

grazing cattle."

Inside the main shack are three refrigerators, a stove, a large three spigot coffee urn, bottles of pickles, soy sauce, and Readers Digests and other items used by the archeologists.

Orr's camp is significant, not just because of its association with a noted archeologist, but the buildings themselves are perhaps the most ingeniously constructed ones on the island. They exemplify mans attempt to adapt structures to Santa Rosa's sometimes hostile environment. (see slide sheets 28-29). Nearby the camp are the remains of excavation trenches dug by Orr (see slide sheet 29). It is known in this area, various oil companies drilled test wells: the remains of these wells could not be located.²³

15. Johnsons Lee Shack

Between the southpoint light and the military base a Johnsons Lee is the "Johnsons Lee Shack." Most likely constructed in 1925 (as was the light), it was maintained by the lighthouse service until the Air Force Base was built in 1956. The shack has collapsed and is no longer standing. Underneath the boards many abalone shells were found. The structure is of little historical significance (see slide sheet #30).²⁴

16. Wreck Canyon Shack - Standing

During World War II the U.S. Army had an installation in the vicinity north of Water Canyon (see U.S. Army Buildings & Army Base (Interior) of this report). According to Bill Wallace the structure at the "Wreck Canyon Round-up was built by the U.S. Army during World War II and moved down from the interior island Army base in 1950-1951. The structure is in a deteriorating condition, and the roof is caving in. It is apparently still used occasionally. A sign on the structure reads "MKD for U.S. Army (?) 058 SIG AIRCRAFT WARNING SANTA ROSA ISLAND (see slide sheet 31).

This structure's significance is unknown but is associated with the Army's

presence in World War II.²⁵

17. China Camp Cabin - Standing

The China Camp round-up shack is a structure that dates back to at least the 1920's. In the 1930's, possibly 1936 according to Bill Wallace, it was enlarged and the present corrals were built. The shack appears to be in good condition and is quite frequently used by cowboys.

A writer in the Overland Monthly (1874) called this site the "Abalone Fisherman's Camp." However, that camp was located on the east side of Canada Acapulca, while the present day shacks, for as long as Bill Wallace can remember, have been located on the west side. This suggests that the China Camp Shacks are not the same structures associated with the abalone camp. An aerial survey also revealed a depression about the size of the present corrals on the east side of the canyon. This could be the site of the old abalone camp (see slide sheet 32), though a field survey in Spring failed to locate any historic ^{era} ~~ear~~ remains.

The China Camp structures have been documented by Morgan. He sketched the structures and noted the various dimensions of the interior rooms.

Archeologist Phil Orr encountered five or six reburials in the vicinity of China Camp. In the hills above the camp, Bill Wallace noted that the last of the Santa Rosa Island sheep were killed in the 1960's (see slide sheet 32).

The China Camp shack, because of its early association with the More sheep operation, and the "old abalone camp" is of noteable historical interest.²⁶

18. East Point Shack - No Longer Standing

King notes an "East point shack" remembered by Mrs. Woolley as a structure falling apart...built by Vail & Vickers in the early years."

Ranch Foreman Bill Wallace referred to this shack as an old unpainted "sheep camp." He remembers an "old stove" being in the building which he believes has been there since "a little before the Vails took over." He also remembers

an "old wharf" in the area where cattle were brought up on the island at one time. Morgan drew a sketch of this structure and called it "Rancho Viejo," a building in the "old ranch" area.

His notes show the location of a galvanized stove, and a well, "hand dug by Moore [sic]"; he locates fence posts around the structure (Wallace notes the area once was fenced in). The structure referred to by Morgan as "Rancho Viejo" no doubt is the same structure as referred to by King as the "East Point Shack." (see photo sheet 1).²⁷

19. West End Shack - Not Standing

A shepherders shack stands on the flats at the west end of the island. Possibly it dates to the More period---pre-1900. Austin Wright, in his article "An Islandian on the Islands" in 1920, mentioned "the only other house on the island, I'm told, is one near the west end--a shack." It is collapsed and deteriorating see photo sheet #39).²⁸

20. Army Base (Interior Island)

In 1943, the U.S. Army established a small base with men stationed at two locations on Santa Rosa Island. One complex was in a sheltered area nestled in the mountains north of Water Canyon. Most likely the base served as an early warning post.

Here, as many as 100 men worked three shifts. There used to be a telephone line down to the main ranch, but the poles have been cut down and used for ranch operation.

Several of the buildings were used by the oil companies after the Army left after their short two-and-one-half year stay. According to Al Vail the mess hall was painted but from the resulting fumes, the structure blew-up just after the paint job was completed.

Today none of the structures stand; foundations are clearly evident including

a fireplace trashburner, a T-shaped concrete slab (the old mess hall), a grease pit, a water tank on the hill overlooking the base. Al Vail said that water spiggots were located in front of the barracks on three sides. A star shaped flagpole concrete slab is also evident.

The "Wreck Canyon Shack" was removed from this site in 1950-1951.

The remains of a red welding truck dating back to the Air Force days is also evident. This camp was occupied by the Air Force briefly when the Johnsons Lee station was being built. The fire truck supposedly ran off the road and was dragged back to where it is presently stands; it is in a deteriorated condition.

More information about this base is needed in order to assess its historical significance. It apparently served as an aircraft warning base--an earlier version of the Johnsons Lee Base of the 1950's. No doubt it played an early role in the story of California Coastal defense (see slide sheets 33-34; also U.S. Army Buildings & Wreck Canyon Shack in this report).

21. Lookout/Radar Stations

About five miles behind the Johnsons Lee abandoned Air Force Base are the abandoned remains of two radar stations which are associated with the Johnsons Lee Air Force Base. Believed to be part of the E.A.T.S. (Extended Air Tracking Stations) network, these structures played a role in detecting possible enemy aircraft in the cold war era.

The remains of three stations are evident on three different mountain tops. Each are constructed of concrete and have been gutted. There are remains of an early parabolic dish "open wire mesh" radar tracking system, an underground bunker and an anti-aircraft gun.

These structures are of historical interest and may be significant to the history of military technology (see slide sheets 35-38).

22. Oil Company Well and Roads

Bill Wallace notes that the oil companies were responsible for drilling several test drills since the 1920's. Some of the roads that criss-cross the island were constructed and/or paved by these companies in the 1946-1949 time period. Standard Oil reportedly built an asphalt road to their well in 1932-33 (see slide sheets 35-38). By 1949 there had been five wells drilled but abandoned.²⁹

23. Shipwrecks

As King points out, many ships have gone aground off Santa Rosa's shores. The Chickasaw is still the most visible wreck and it is rapidly deteriorating. The island is also the graveyard for other wrecks as well. Between the lighthouse and Chickasaw wreck at East Point, is part of "The Crown of England" wreck, the wreck which gave Wreck Canyon its name in 1894. It serves as a reminder of the many boats that have gone aground off the island. The island's southwest and northwest sides are particularly littered with debris (see slide sheet 39).³⁰

24. Other Historic Sites

Several other possible historic sites are noted in the historic record. The Coast Survey Party of Reverend Stephen Bowers camped in the Canada Verde for six months in 1875-1876 on the "east side of the mouth of Canada Verde, on the first terrace." The camp confused Archeologist Philip Mills Jones in 1901 who thought it a pre-historic site until he learned about the Coast Survey ~~encampment~~.³¹ The Coast Survey trip is significant as it was the first systematic attempt to study the island's cultural/natural resources; also the island was mapped. Their campsite was called Camp #9 by Jones, but has been identified by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History as SRI-40. The site was located and documented (see slide sheets 39).

Jones also mentions "the old Jack Camp" supposedly where a "fence builder once

had his camp." Jones notes its location as "southeast of Camp #8 on a slight rise from two creeks that here come together." The ground is covered with a profuse growth of Malva (Malva pariflora) and (the site) can be seen with difficulty. It is full of shells, however, and has evidently been an Indian camp at some time or other".³² The site was called Camp #9 by Jones but the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History does not have a site number recorded for it. The site was located and documented (see slide sheets 40).

By far the most important site of historical significance is the site where "Cabrillo's grave-stone" was found at the turn of the 20th century by Phillip Mills Jones. He places the location at Camp #6 (or SBMNH site SRI-147) where on Wednesday, March 20 he found "stones, many flat and showing evidence of having been used as mealing stones, other of irregular forms and merely sandstone chunks are found..."³³ The Cabrillo stone is pictured in plate #120 ("views of sandstone slab that has been used for mealing or grinding stone, bearing on one side an incised design".³⁴ The rock was probably found at "Jolla Vieja" rather than "Rancho Viejo" (see slide sheets 40-43).

Historical Objects

As noted earlier, the old ranch house has many objects and furnishings associated with the More and Vail & Vickers eras. Other objects are also known to exist. For example, Jones noted in 1901, "that objects of glass, metal, etc. of extraneous origin and obviously derived within the historic period from Caucasians, were found only in the camp sites on the northern coast; camp sites in the interior or on the southern coast yielded only objects of aboriginal manufacture."³⁵ Ranch Foreman Bill Wallace possesses a branding iron dating to the 1840-1850 time period.

According to Bill Wallace, he has also found Spanish glass trade beads. A small silver cross that was found between East Point and Abalone Rocks was given to Archeologist Phil Orr; and may be associated with the Cabrillo grave.

controversy. E.K. Smith in 1912-1916 found a brass shoe buckle, a dagger, and glass trade beads in the Ranch House Canyon area.

P.G.M. Austin noted "one of my prize possessions is a large painting of this once familiar ship (the schooner "Santa Rosa") done by its well known Captain, A.B. Thompson as well as the "Great brass ships bearing the name the "Crown of England".³⁵

No doubt other objects of historical interest will be discovered in the future.

Conclusion

Most all of the sites and structures which remain on Santa Rosa Island are of historical interest, though not all are of equal historical significance. Historic archeological sites such as SRI #147 where the "Cabrillo gravestone" may have been was found are associated with the earliest European presence on any of the Channel Islands. Other historic archeological remains reflect use by specific ethnic groups such as the Chinese at China Camp.

A majority of the standing structures including the old ranch house and complex are associated with the early and continuing economic activity on the island. Some "shacks" including the "old sheep camp" (West End Shack), and East End Shack are significant in context to the islands historic ranching activities.

Some of the more recent 20th Century structures including the Army Camp in the islands interior and Air Force base at Johnsons Lee, are evidence of the military's historic presence on the island. With the possible exception of radar stations above Johnsons Lee, which may be significant to the history of military technology, the military buildings individually have little historic importance. Collectively however, they are part of the story of military technological progress. Although the military's presence is on all of the

Channel Islands, on Santa Rosa, the story can be traced through intact structures.

Although there are structures of historical interest that dot the landscape of Santa Rosa, the Ranch House complex (including the 1943 Army base at Bechers Bay and Nidever Cave) are illustrative of the island's significant history. Consideration should be made to establish a special historic zone here and possibly at Rancho Viejo.

Based on the National Park Service list of Classified Structures (LCS), some of the structures warrant Category A and B designations, a few would be Category C and practically none deserve a Category D.³⁷

Based on NPS Management Policies there are apparently 120 Category Ia structures on the island. The Ranch House complex and possibly some of the military related structures deserve consideration as Category Ib structures. (See NPS Management Policies, Chapter V).³⁸

The Ranch House complex, the so-called "old ranch" area (from Bechers Bay to East Point) along with the China Camp area as areas of special historical significance as the structures along with the introduced animal species (elk, boar, cattle, deer) and the range-like appearance of the landscape establish an historic scene. It is this historic scene that give Santa Rosa Island its unique character.

SUMMARY

✓ The ranch house complex, the so called "old ranch" area (from Bechers Bay to East Point) along with the China Camp are areas of special historical significance. As Congressman Robert Lagomarsino said when he testified before the Sub-committee on Parks, Recreation and Renewable Resources on July 19, 1979, "The ranching operations on these properties are considered compatible uses and the National Park Service has advised me that they support allowing these activities to continue within reasonable limits. The ranching

operations are in themselves historically significant." The issue now is to what extent does the National Park Service wish to continue the "historic" ranching activities?; how does one interpret Congressman Largomarsino's words "reasonable limits"?

I believe that a special historic zone ought to be established, inclusive of the ranch house complex and possibly extending into the "Rancho Viejo" area, provided that there are no especially sensitive natural resources in this area; China camp also deserves some consideration as it is in these areas that the range like appearance of the landscape would best establish a "historic scene".

Whether or not introduced species (elk, boar, cattle, deer) should be allowed to roam free within the confines of these zones is another issue management needs to address. These animals certainly do have a historic presence; Ross Brown's 1874 suggestion that "what a magnificent park this would make as a preserve for the wild game of the continent" comes immediately to mind. I believe that cattle, and possibly sheep, elk and deer could be allowed to roam within designated historic zones; the boar could be isolated to one very small restricted area or eliminated entirely and an alternative approach to interpreting this aspect of the "wild game" story of Santa Rosa Island could be considered. It is the historic scene that gives Santa Rosa Island its unique character when compared with the other Channel Islands.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

NOTES

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✓ 2. ~~By~~ "The Potential for Historic Archaeological Sites," p. 96.

3. Walton Bean, California: An Interpretive History (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1973), pp. 17-18.

4. Walter Tompkins, "Channel Islands Nomenclature," in Noticias (Santa Barbara Historical Society, Oct. 1958), vol. IV, #3.

✓ For a useful compilation of the several accounts relating to the Cabrillo voyage, see John Richard Johnson, Ethnic Historic Study of the Island Chumash (University of California at Santa Barbara, Dec. 1982), pp. 235.

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See also Bean, p. 18.

✓ 5. Robert Heizer, "California's Oldest Historical Relic" (Berkeley: Robert H. Lowie Museum of Anthropology, 1972) see p. 3 for complete list of references.

6. Ibid., p. 4.

7. Ibid., p. 51. The debate centering on where Cabrillo wintered and died is due primarily because the details of Cabrillo's voyage of discovery are sketchy. The original day-by-day record of the voyage has been lost for over 400 years. The best documentation that exists is an abstract of the voyage made by Juan Paez de Castro sometime between 1555 and 1560. Heizer demonstrates that even key points of this account are questionable." (See Heizer, p. IV, 1-6, 51.)

8. In 1956 Robert F. Heizer and Dr. Albert B. Elsasser of the Lowie Museum of Anthropology published the manuscript report and photographs of Phillip Mills Jones' 1901 Santa Rosa Island archeological excavations. A photograph of one specimen, catalogue No. 1-5086, aroused Heizer's interest several years later when he noticed the initials "JR" (Juan Rodriguez?) were etched on a stone. Heizer subsequently published a short book entitled, California's Oldest Historical Relic?, in which Heizer suggested that the stone may have been Cabrillo's gravestone.

Heizer concluded, however, that "nothing in this paper is aimed at reaching a positive or final decision on the authenticity or connection with Cabrillo" (see Heizer, p. V).

- ✓ 9. Philip Mills Jones, Archeological Investigations on Santa Rosa Island in 1901, ed. R. F. Heizer and A. B. Elsasser, (Anthro. Records, vol. 17, no. 2 (Los Angeles: University of CA press, 1955), p. 223 footnote 13, pp. 209-210.

The library of Channel Islands National Park contains a photocopy of Phillip Mills Jones' report. Plate #120 shows a view of a "sandstone slab that has been used for mealing or grinding stone, bearing on one side (an) incised design. The stone was found on the surface of an eroded campsite near the "Rancho Viejo" (ibid., p. 223, footnote 13). The stone may not have been found by Jones himself, but rather by one of his assistants, "Billy" or "John," on one of their surface collecting expeditions. Jones does not specify what day the stone was found but it probably was on March 4, 17, or April 2-5. (Ibid., pp. 209-210).

The explorer

- ✓ 10. Bean, p. 18. A Cermeno, in December 1595, anchored off Santa Rosa. His account states, "anchor was cast at the outside island (Santa Rosa Island) on the SE side." They traded for fish and seal. (See Johnson, p. 18, 43-44).

11. Holland, p. 51-52. The Channel Islands have been christened no less than eight times: the native population (prehistoric time), "Cabrillo (1542), Viscaino (1602), Costanzo (1770), Perez (1774), Vancouver (1792-1794), Wilkes (1841), and the Coast Survey (1850). The Chumash called Santa Rosa "Nicalque." Cabrillo supposedly called the island he wintered on as "San Lucas" and Isla de la Posesion." Cabrillo's friar called it "Palma." Ferrelo renamed Santa Rosa (or possibly San Miguel) the "Isla de Juan Rodriguez." Santa Rosa appears as "San Ambrosia" on Viscaino's charts. In 1770, Santa Rosa is called "Santa Cruz" in Costanzo's journal, but "Is S. Miguel" on Costanzo's charts. Present day San Miguel Island is designated "Isla de San Bernardo." Juan Perez in 1774 called Santa Rosa "Santa Margarita." "Carta Esferica de los Territorios de la Alta Y Baja Californias" by Jose Narvas, also identifies Santa Rosa as "Is S. Miguel." Although most historians contend that George Vancouver "fixed" the name Santa Rosa to the island in 1793, on U. S. nautical charts the name was not fixed until 1841 when the Navy's Charles Wilkes adopted this name first given the island by Vancouver. However, until the late 1840s Santa Rosa was known by a variety of names, depending upon whose charts are consulted. See Holland, p. 51-52 and Johnson, p. 42, and Noticias (Santa Barbara Historical Society) vol. V #3, "Channel Islands issue," Fall 1959, p. 12.

12. Holland, p. 52. Bean, pp. 18-26.

✓ According to Johnson, after Viscaino's voyage documentary evidence of Europeans visiting the Channel Islands is slim until 1769. No doubt Spanish galleons on the return voyage from the Philippines to Acapulco did encounter the islands, however, few records are extant. See Johnson, p. 29-30.

13. Bean, pp. 27-34.

14. See Glassow, vol. I, p. 73-93 and Johnson, pp. 146-157. According to Johnson:

- ✓ The Washkoy (probably a village on Santa Cruz)
- ✓ Ashiwshiw: location: Rancho Viejo (east end at mouth of longest valley; SRI-85 or SRI-77)
- hichimin: mouth ranch cañon at Beechers Bay; SRI-60
- silimihi - Canda Verde SRI-40
- ✓ Nyakla - Skill Gulch SRI-2
- namkilkil - SRI-15
- nawani - SRI 97 and 98
- nilahyu - Johnsons Lee SRI-62
- forsteche - (probably not on Santa Rosa)

15. Glassow (draft report), pp. 59-62.

16. Johnson, pp. 68-74 and Orr, The Prehistory of Santa Rosa Island (Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 1968), p. 180.

17. Irving Berdine Richman, California Under Spain & Mexico 1535-1547 (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1911), p. 160.

✓ In 1778, English Captain James Cook visited Nootka Sound, a harbor on Vancouver Island (British Columbia) and claimed the rights of discovery despite the claims of Juan Perez, who four years earlier had claimed the area for Spain. Spain's original claim to the Pacific Region was based on the papal Bull of 1493, which divided the New World between Spain and Portugal. In 1790, however, the Nootka Sound Convention granted England sovereignty over areas of the Pacific coast north of San Francisco Bay.

✓ (See Bean, p. 52 and Dr. Herbert Plasterer, Fort Victoria (Canada: Colonist Printers, Ltd.) p. 4.)

✓ 18. Bean, p. 52-55 and A. Satterfield and D. Lavender, Fort Vancouver, NPS Handbook #113 (Washington: U. S. National Park Service, 1981).

From 1779, when the Northwest Fur Company was founded, this company and the Hudson Bay Co. waged a war of competition which lasted for 40 years. In 1821 the companies merged and the British government gave the new concern a 21 year license as the sole legal fur trading company in British North America.

✓ (See Ibid., pp. 36-37.)

19. Bean, pp. 74, 55. Richman, pp. 160-161. Johnson, p. 67.

20. George Nidever was a reknown hunter along the Pacific coast and on the Channel Islands. He resided on San Miguel Island briefly and served as the pilot for the U. S. surveyors who made the first surveys in the Channel Islands region. He also is reputed to have rescued the "lone woman of San Nicolas."

✓ (See Life and Adventures of George Nidever, ed. William Henry Ellison (Berkeley, CA: Univ. of California Press, 1937).

21. Ellison, p. 36.

✓ 22. William Goodwin Dana of Boston came to California in 1826. His schooner "Santa Barbara" was used in trade and otter hunting. One source of his revenue was letting out his otter hunting license to foreigners who paid him a percentage of their catch. (See Ellison, p. 107, footnote #94).

22. Ibid., p. 34.

23. Ibid., p. 39.

✓ 24. Ibid., p. 109, 40.

25. Glassow, pp. 101-102. Robert Glass Cleland, The Cattle on a Thousand Hills: Southern California 1850-1870 (San Marino, CA: Huntington Library, 1941). Ellison, p. 113, footnote #113.

26. Bean, p. 61.

✓ 27. The Rancho System began during the gubernatorial administration of Pedro Fages in 1782. A total of 20 rancho grants were given in the Spanish period but over 500 ranchos were parceled out after secularization, primarily by Mexican governors Alvarado, Pico and Micheltorena. (See Cleland p. 8 and Bean, p. 70)

✓ 28. During the Spanish and Mexican periods real political authority rested in the hands of a small group of ranchero families. Two factions dominated-- the Southern California politicians including Jose Antonio Carrillo and Pio Pico. Northern California interests were represented by Juan Bautista Alvarado, who had first granted Santa Rosa to Jose Castro. As Castro had not yet conformed to the colonization provisions that the grantee occupy the land, build a house and put 100 head of cattle on it, Governor Micheltorena regranted the land to Carrillo, who was a powerful southern California politico. Mexican governors had an increasingly difficult time with those conflicting political interests. From 1831 to 1836 there were 11 distinct administrations compared to 10 in the previous half century of Spanish rule.

(See Bean, pp. 61, 70, Cleland, p. 32)

29. Manuela Carillo married John Coffin Jones and Francisca Carillo married Alpheus B. Thompson. John C. Jones was the U. S. consul to the Hawaiian (Sandwich) Islands. A native of Boston, he was for some years a merchant in Honolulu and master of at least eight vessels. When he married in 1841, he became a resident of Santa Barbara. In 1846 Jones sailed for Boston and died there a few years later.

(See Ross Gast, Contentions Consul: Bio of John Coffin Jones (L. A.: Dawson Books, 1975, in Santa Barbara Historical Society), p. 190.)

See also Glassow, pp. 101-102; Ellison, p. 113, footnote #132.)

Alpheus B. Thompson was a schooner captain. A native of Brunswick, Main, Thompson arrived in California perhaps as early as 1825. Mexican authorities believed Thompson to be a smuggler. Like Jones, he was a Sandwich (Hawaiian) Island merchant. In 1834 he settled in Santa Barbara and married Francesca Carillo.

(See Glassow, pp. 101-102; Ellison, p. 109, footnote #109, p. 105, footnote #88.)

29. Ellison, p. 113, footnote #132.

30. See Cast, p. 189.

31. See Cast, p. 188.

For a detailed account of the Legal Dispute, see Cast, especially 189-190. Additional materials on the dispute are in "Fernald and Stearns Collections at the Huntington Library case #205, "Jones v. Thompson," (Fernald) and Case #205, Report of the Receiver (Stearns). See also "SRI" file, Office of the Monterey County Clerk, Salinas, California, and Santa Rosa Island File in the Bancroft Library. See Ogden Hoffman, Reports of Land Cases Determined in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, June term, 1853, to June term, 1858, inclusive (San Francisco, 1862), 17; United States District Court, Southern District of California, No. 56 Docket, the United States vs. Manuela Carillo de Jones et al. "Isla Santa Rosa," Transcript of the Record from the Board of Land Commissioners in Case No. 117, filed August 30, 1854, W. H. Carter, Cler. as cited in Cast, p. 113, footnote #132.

32. Cast, p. 190.

The transfer of the land title of Santa Rosa to the More brothers is complex. In 1858-1859, Chase E. Huse, Attorney for T. Wallace More, purchased at public auction Thompson's one-quarter island interest for \$3,000. Manuela Jones and children sold their half interest in the island to Alex P. More in 1865 for \$18,000. From 1865-1870, the six Thompson children separately sold their interests in the island for various amounts to T. Wallace, Alex P. and Henry More. One of Thompson's children, Albert, stated the attitude of all Thompson's children when he wrote in 1869:

"The island has never yielded us anything.
Could not sell to nobody but More. Could
not sustain an action, and if More did not
want to purchase it he could enjoy the
possession of the same for a lifetime with-
out interruption."

✓ (See Santa Barbara Historical Society, file "SRI." and

Owen O'Neill, History of Santa Barbara County (Union Print Co., 1939), p. 366.)

Several years later T. Wallace exchanged with A. P. More his interest in the island for a one-third interest in the well known Rancho Sespe. A. P. More in 1870 sold his now one-half interest in the island to H. H. More, Mrs. H. H. More

sold the land back to A. P. in 1881. From then on the island was leased to various members of the More family before being sold in the early 1900's.

(See Doran, pp. 197-198 and Holland, p. 57.)

33. See Part II: STRUCTURE, "Rancho Viejo" of this report.

34. Cleland, p. 32. Holland, p. 56.

~~by the~~ 1963 field survey team.

Thompson's first house, which was built in the "Rancho Viejo" area was not located. Thompson's second house probably rested on the site of the present cowboy bunkhouse. Bill Wallace remembers finding a flagstone foundation of an earlier structure when the old bunkhouse burned to the ground in 1969. (personal conversation: Bill Wallace, 1982). Paul Collins of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History suggests that the location of Thompson's first house marked on the so-called "Voy map" is incorrect. ~~Being Does the Collins note, the~~ location of the fresh water marsh and suggests that Thompson's first house (Rancho Viejo) probably was near the site of the dilapidated East Point Shack. (See Section II of this report)

35. Holland, p. 56; O'Neill, p. 366; Gast, p. 190.

Santa Rosa is host to a number of introduced species. A recent study by John T. Mayer of the University of Connecticut concludes that the present day wild boar are the descendants of domestic pigs. Utilizing comparative morphometric analysis, Mayer demonstrates that the pigs of Santa Rosa are not European boar rather they are of a domestic stock. (Personal communication Paul Collins, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History). The Santa Rosa Island boar have been described as "formidable creatures, fast, powerful and savage." Most likely, they were introduced by Thompson sometime between 1844 and 1857. In an unpublished manuscript, Rev Stephen Bowers writes that "Cattle were introduced on this island in 1842, hogs in 1853." (See Paul Collins, "The Origin and Present Status of Feral Pigs on the California Channel Islands," paper in Santa Rosa Island history files, Channel Islands National Park.) Other introduced species including Snow deer, Tule (or Roosevelt) elk were brought to the island as early as 1883. (See Thompson and West, History of Santa Barbara County, Howell North 1961, p. 256.) A proposal to bring ostriches failed to materialize (ibid.). In the 1930's, Canadian elk from Yosemite National Park were introduced; the mule deer is from Kanab, Utah.

36. Satterfield, et al., pp. 82, 114. Bean, pp. 103-105.

37. Bean, p. 70

In 1860 barbed wire had not been invented and the prohibitive cost of lumber in southern California virtually precluded the use of board fencing on ranchos. The cost of fencing in New York was \$96 per mile; in California the same fence would cost \$700. Most fences in 1859 were 7-foot redwood posts, 18 inches deep, 6 feet apart, 4 boards, 2 feet from the ground with a ditch and bank on either side. (Cleland, p. 87, footnote #29.)

See

38. Cleland, pp. 137-148; Pedro Carillo to Abel Stearn, June 6, 1861, p. 168.

✓ 39. Gast, p. 1901①

The More brothers, who bought the island from Jones and Thompsons' heirs, were vigorous entrepreneurs. The Gold Rush brought thousands of people to California. Some, including the four More brothers--Andrew, T. Wallace, A. P. and Henry--were shrewd enough to recognize that all the prospectors needed to eat. When the Mores heard that a pound of beef fetched one ounce of gold in Sierra Nevada boom camps, the four Ohioans rounded up a trail herd, a crew of California vaqueros, and headed north. In the Mother lode towns they obtained fabulous prices and reinvested their profits in cattle and land. In 1854, T. Wallace More bought six square leagues of Ventura bottom land from the Carrillo family--"a place called sespe." The other brothers bought ranchos in Santa Paula, Saticoy and several had interests in Santa Rosa Island. At the peak of their power, the Mores had a piece of California the size of the state of Delaware.

✓ (See Thomas Sterke in collaboration with Walter Tompkins, California Editor (News Press Publishing Co., 1966), 3rd ed., pp. 23-26.)

40. Cleland, p. 162, from Santa Barbara County Tax Assessment Roll, 1860.

41. Cleland, pp. 166-167.

42. Cleland, pp. 169, 173, 179, 180.

43. Cleland, p. 186.

44. It is not known what type of sheep were raised on Santa Rosa. Native California sheep were considered inferior to imported "fine sheep" as the comparative prices attest:

merino	.25-.28 \$/lb
half merino	.21-.25 \$/lb
American	.19-.21 \$/lb
half American	.17-.19 \$/lb
Mexican	.12-.17 \$/lb

✓ (See Cleland, p. 188.)

✓ 45. Cleland, p. 189. The quote is from Charles W. Towne, Sheperds Empire (Norman: University of Okalahoma Press, 1945), "Sheep Against the Sea," p. 212.

46. Cleland, pp. 188-189, 191. See also "Shearing Time on Santa Rosa Island," Overland Monthly, May 1893, p. 494.

47. O'Neill, p 366. Holland, p. 58.

STRUCTURES

NOTES

1. See Glassow, p. 112-113 and Holland, p. 56.
2. Glassow, *ibid.*
3. Personal Communication, Bill Wallace.
4. *Ibid.*, see photo sheet #1.
5. Holland, p. 56. *for details on*
- ✓ 6. Personal Communication, Bill Wallace. On the death of the cook, see "Channel Islands Archives," Item no. 01752, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. See Glassow, p. 114-115.

David Banks Rogers in Prehistoric Man of the Santa Barbara Coast sheds some light on the "flagstone" foundation. He notes that "about the mouth of Ranch House Creek are numerous remains of a very important settlement. Near the center of this small flat, beneath a series of flagstones, were found several skeletons. . . ." (See Rogers, p. 326.) It is entirely possible that Thompson used such "flagstone" grave markers as a foundation for his structure, or perhaps there is an Indian cemetery underneath the structure.

7. Glassow, p. 115-116.
8. Glassow, p. 116.
9. Glassow, p. 116-117.
10. Glassow, p. 117-118.
11. Glassow, p. 119.
12. Glassow, p. 118.
13. Glassow, p. 119, and Austin's comments in Noticias (Santa Barbara Historical Society, vol. V, #3, Fall 1959).
- ✓ 14. See Gast, p. 190-193.
15. Noticias, Channel Islands Issue, Fall 1959, p. 9.
16. "Channel Islands Archives," Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, accession #1788, p. 39.

17. The Overland Monthly, "Shearing Time on Santa Rosa Island," in 1893 reported "The pier has been washed away." p. 493.

18. See Jones, p. 202.

19. Glassow, p. 119-120.

20. See Part I of this report and Ellison, p. 40.

✓ 21. See Hillinger's article, "Santa Rosa Island Main Job: ~~defense~~," in L. A. Times, Dec. 13, 1953.

22. Glassow, p. 120.

23. Glassow, p. 120-121.

24. Glassow, p. 121.

25. Glassow, p. 121-122.

26. Glassow, p. 122.

✓ Bill Wallace also noted that the China Camp area was once used as an abalone camp. He also remembers that he found a tea pot there. (Personal communication: Bill Wallace) *re*

✓ According to the Santa Barbara Morning Press of May 17, 1892, a "gang of Chinamen" were brought to the island to collect abalone shells. They used "long flat bottom boats." The present shack has some oars hanging on a wall that according to Wallace come from an old whaling boat; they could ~~scanty~~ be the oars of the Chinese abalone fishermen.

During the More era, the Chinese were also brought to the island to help shear sheep. Some 10 percent of Santa Barbara's population in the 1870s-1890s were Chinese. Whether they were segregated from the rest of the shearers at China Camp is unknown.

27. Glassow, p. 123.

28. Glassow, p. 123.

✓ 29. See Robert Anderson, "Geology of ^{North} Santa Rosa," in American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletins, vol. 33, part 2, #12, p. 2062

30. Glassow, p. 124-128.

31. See Jones, entry Tuesday, March 5, camp #4.

32. See Jones, p. 218.

33. Ibid., p. 207.

34. Ibid., p. 269.

35. Ibid., p. 224.

36. See Noticias, p. 9-10.

✓ 37. ² The National Park Service guidelines for the list of Classified Structures may be found in NPS-29, Chap. 3:

Category A - Structures that must be preserved.

Category B - Structures that should be preserved and maintained.

Category C - Structures that may be preserved and maintained.

Category D - Structures that should be disposed of, demolished, or altered for some other management purpose.

38. Chapter V of NPS Management Policies categorize cultural resources as follows:

Ia: Resources that individually possess national significance.

Iib: Resources that, while not individually possessing national significance, contribute to the established significance.

IIa: Resources that meet the basic criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and one of State or regional significance.

Iib: Resources that meet the basic criteria for listing in the National Register of historic places and are of local or park significance.

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Answers to these questions entailed the development of a thematic classification into which each structure or site group could be categorized. Many of the known historical resources fall under more than one category. the classifications were:

1. Economic
2. Architectural
3. Ethno-Cultural
4. Military
5. Industrial and Technical

Research potential is one of the primary Federal criteria of significance (35 CFR 60.6). In dealing with the research values of historic sites and structures on Santa Rosa Island, a problem was faced in that academicians normally have not been interested in questions of a subregional nature. While general histories of California abound, broad research questions on the historical development of more localized units such as the Channel Islands have not yet emerged.

With the exception of certain urban histories and community studies, local history is frequently written by journalists or long-time residents of an area, rather than by trained research scholars. The history accounts therefore most often take the form of a general chronological narrative, or they utilize a topical framework instead of providing a retrospective analysis of comparative data or attempt-

- o ing to develop a systematic approach to analyzing the processes involved in the cultural development of a smaller region.

This pattern often holds, even when local history is written by those with graduate training in history, as evidenced in such works as Adelaide L. Doran's The Ranch That Was Robbins: Santa Catalina Island (1963) or the more recently published book, Anacapa Island (1983) by Lois W. Roberts. This is perhaps beginning to change, albeit slowly, as public historians are joining archaeologists and geographers in looking at subregions.

Because the cultural resource value of a site or structure can only be adequately assessed when it has been compared to others in the region of which it is a part, the dearth of past data about the Channel Islands in general, and Santa Rosa Island, specifically, makes the task of assigning significance difficult. The discussion section which follows, therefore, is not meant to exhaust the full range of possible research values so much as to provide examples of how the historic resources on Santa Rosa Island might elucidate current or potential research interests and problems.

Personnel Conversations

Bill Sullivan

Al Vail

Doug Cornell

Paul Collins

Michael Glasgow

Greg King

Larry Wilcoxen

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21:492-50

Shearing Time ON Santa Rosa Island.

There was but a small party that drove the dusty bit of road between Santa Barbara and Goleta one bright October morning, to take passage in the schooner Santa Rosa for the channel end of the same name. As the top of the mesa was reached, the little vessel could be seen swaying lazily at her anchorage in the little harbor, and the sail boat on the beach ready to transport the passengers and their belongings over deck. While the baggage was being put out, the idle ones of the party investigated the asphaltum mine at More's siding.

Many tons of the glittering semicircular black blocks of the mineral were piled about ready for shipment. The great ledge jutted down into the sea, and being cut through it to transport material to the pier. A shining cliff above, bright fragments unbroken, each splitting from the mass in the same curve to catch the light. A portion of a great tree trunk, still in place, was seen embedded in the yet unbroken mass, a forgotten forest king stranded there while yet time was young, and before man was.

Some of the party felt a slight misting as they stepped into the boat and left the solid earth behind, trusting themselves to the thirty miles sail in the little schooner. She looked so small, but she was a good boat to ride on, and

blue on the still water of the channel it could not be very far away. When once on the deck they found the schooner commodious and comfortable, and being unused to the ways of fickle wind, the anxious were cheered by the captain's prophecy that "we would be there in a few hours if the wind would come up." This gallant officer soon made the ladies comfortable upon the deck with mattresses and pillows from the cabin, for they unanimously decided that they would not go below,—before the wind began to blow.

When the sails were set, the boat moved so slowly that motion was hardly perceptible. The sails flapped limply, the rudder clanked, conversation grew scarce. The kelp passed, the heavy regular swell of the deep channel water swayed the craft as regularly as a pendulum, and some of the party began to move about uneasily on their pillows as they watched the Santa Ynez Mountains move up and down the vivid blue sky in a manner that seemed abnormal to the vision, and strangely disturbing to the interior and generally unconscious processes of the human organism. The captain at the wheel was whistling for the wind, but it did not seem to hear him. Conversation died entirely. The small boy fished silently in the smooth water that looked as if covered with oil, and collected sharp sparkles of bright light.

The philosopher curled up on the deck and said that unless someone had something very important to say, he hoped they would make no remarks to him. Another member stopped her observation of the unquiet mountains long enough to observe—through large, round, bitter tears—how many fish could be seen in the clear green water, and wondered why that imperturbable boy did not catch some; but the only real interest was in the progress of the ship, which at noon was hardly perceptible: they were in a calm and must wait, —no help for it. The Portuguese cook handed out plates of mutton broth, which, though excellent doubtless, seemed to add insult to feelings already deeply injured, and was met by groans of protest from among the pillows.

Others, who were not ill, ate things and talked about them in an unfeeling manner for a time, but until one is thoroughly used to it the silence of a calm sea is quieting; one cannot talk trivialities in the near presence of the great glittering plain of slow-heaving swells, unbroken, and sinking softly into each other as they whisper by. A whale could be seen spouting now and then. When the small boy asked what they threw up the water that way for, the philosopher answered that it must be because they were sea-sick. And he turned over and groaned.

All the afternoon they hung midway of the channel without the power to move. As the sun grew low in the west, he seemed to be making arrangements for some unusual display; all the colors of nature seemed to be ranked about him in vast armies of tint and tone. Serried ranks of brilliancy, for which the palette has no pigments and language no name, suddenly appeared in the light fleecy clouds, sprang up from behind the island, and streamed along the shining track in the glittering sea, that now seemed to throb with opalescent, changing tints.

The display was magnificent, and the reticent captain, who had seen sunsets in Santa Barbara channel more than half his life, exclaimed with astonishment. Those who were ill forgot to eat and sat up speechless with the awe and beauty of it all, as the sun, nearing the top of San Miguel, seemed to change shape of that mountain peak to a tall land, with abrupt high bluffs jutting blackly into the sea of fire. The colors deepened and brightened every moment until the disk sank out of sight behind the island, and they thought the show was over,—but no, he again appeared, shining apparently through a large hole directly in the solid land, which showed dark on either side and above! It was a very curious exhibition of the miracle that is often seen about these islands, though Anacapa is generally the favorite one in that respect.

After sunset a deliberate breeze came and slowly moved the schooner into the harbor between the islands; the air grew cold and colder, large sails were spread over the prostrate forms on deck to keep it off,—these grew heavier every hour as they grew more damp,—every hour that seemed longer than the others to at least one sea-sick and sleepy watcher, who saw the constellations rise and wheel across the indigo sky, and the pallid old moon sail wearily up the gray edge of the coming day.

Anchorage was made at half past eleven, but landing was impossible until daylight, for the pier had been washed away, and the tide was too high to be going through the heavy surf.

The wind bore a soft but constant sound of the bleating of sheep, and the smell of them, both dead and alive, was a self-evident fact to the now winter-tossed voyagers.

At half past six the captain took a long breath of relief, when the boatload of women folk was safely on the sand for he was a bachelor of discretion, an unaccustomed to such heavy responsi-

reached the shore safe and
 Mrs. Philosopher, who stum-
 bled the thwart into a breaker,
 the skill was heached. She was
 al however, and being carefully
 before the cheerful fire, made
 at the cozy ranch house, she was
 to be neither shrunken or faded
 action of salt water.
 heavy surf was now tumbling in
 steep beach piled with immense
 of sand, sifted by the wind against
 gh bluffs of the hold headland. A
 was coming, and, the spray from
 running water rose like steam
 the banks. The mariners, seeing
 from the windows, were glad to be
 land, although said land was soon
 with rain, the fulfilled promise of
 irage of the previous evening. It
 at intervals for some days, and
 een lanes of an army of wild oats
 d through the trampled dust of
 grasses and bur clover seed on the
 sides of the sloping pastures.

te a little village composed of the
 storing barn and shearing room,
 s, pens, and sheds, and the dining
 leeping rooms of the men, stands
 ell. Across the little stream is a
natural cave in the sandstone and
dry and water tight, where many
men are comfortably housed at

A quarter of a mile away stands
 nch house, behind a group of high-
 lered Monterey cypress, squeezed
 shape by the wind which blows
 ly and hard most of the time.
 The owner of the island lives when
 ne in his island kingdom, which is
 the finest sheep ranches on the
 Coast, and on it is perhaps one
 largest flocks of sheep now owned
 e man in California. That year
 hearers handled forty-five thou-
not including the lambs; they now
ge nearly sixty thousand; besides
 are raised many horses and hun-
 of fine blooded cattle for the San
 ison market.

Santa Rosa has an area of sixty-four
 thousand acres, well watered, and inter-
 sected by deep valleys where the ani-
 mals may always find shelter. Like
 the others of this group it is evidently
 of volcanic origin. Masses of black con-
 glomerate stone, evidently fused by
 great heat, show themselves frequently,
 and lava can be found in places. Some
 trees are in the cañons, and a variety of
 small oak covers much of the steep hill-
 sides; it is cutiously twisted in its
 growth and seemingly never decays, as
 the bleached stumps cover large places
 where the sand drifts, and nothing now
 grows. A kind of iron wood, peculiar
 to the islands, is found here; it has
 beautiful fern-like leaves, with a slight-
 ly aromatic smell. Another large plant
 with leaves like sweet anise, rising in a
 green parasol from a thick fleshy stem,
 was also a stranger to the visitors. The
 wild flowers were not in bloom, but are
 said to carpet the ground in great pro-
 fusion. The constant action of the wind
 has worn the sandstone and clay cliffs
 and exposed edges everywhere into
 strange caves, grotesque carvings, and
 little nooks: in the latter the foxes find
 a charming home, and in one boulder
 standing apart in Cañon Verdi is a room
 large enough for half a dozen sheep to
 stand, and keep their fleeces dry during
 a sudden shower.

Several picturesque natural bridges
 are formed by the action of the tide and
 the surf, that is so much heavier there
 than on the main land in that vicinity. In
 the crannies of the rocky shore are
 thousands of abalones, of whose dried
 flesh and shells the Chinese fishers ship
 many tons to their countrymen. When
 alive the abalone is a pound or less of
 very unpalatable looking black crusta-
 cean life, and dried it looks and feels
 like the heel of an old boot. Immense
 sea urchins and star fish, anemones,
 crabs, and spiky little fish, are in the
 pools. Excellent fish of several kinds
 are to be had for the fishing, and for

some reason are better than those caught
 nearer the main land. Clams, mussels,
 and sometimes crabs, are to be had, but
 the large ones were very wary, perhaps
 because the men had then so much time
 to hunt them. There were over seventy
men employed, — more than usual, for
 the broken pier was being mended labo-
 riously from the sea end, where the pile
 driver was left standing when the rest
 was washed away.

All hands were catered for by Ah
 Ming, the Chinese cook. Wrinkled as
 a walnut shell is he and gray as a druid;
 he must be very old, and deserves spe-

cial mention on account of his faithful
 service and his romantic history. He
 has been on Santa Rosa for sixteen or
 eighteen years, seldom if ever coming
 to the main land.

He was first found by the owner in a
 half starved condition on one of the re-
 mote beaches, where he had been wan-
 dering for days after reaching the shore
 and finding himself the only survivor
 of the crew of his wrecked junk. Hav-
 ing lost all he possessed, he attached
 himself to the service of those who
 cared for his needs, and has now been
 for years the most trusted scutiver on
 the place.

As soon as the fleeces were dry, the
 shearers, some, forty in number, were
 at work again. In a long shed, with
 small pens just beyond and separated
 by a low fence, they stand within easy
 reach of the woolly creatures with their
 silly slant eyes all gazing with indiffer-
 ent helplessness as the men enter, and
 each seizing one of their number, drag
 him under the shed, and the sharp snip-
 snip, of the shears goes quickly over
 him as he is deprived of his six months'
 old coat, and all the dirt and hurs he
 has collected in it during that time, in
 a very few minutes. Some of the ex-
 perts shear over a hundred a day. The
 man gathers up the fleece and throws
 it on the table, calling out his tally num-
 ber at the same time. It is passed on
 to the packer, who stands in a wool
 bag tied about a hole in the floor, and
 he tramples it in tight with his feet.
 The former owner gets on his feet and
 creeps meekly back to his fellows, and
 hides among them: sometimes one will
 bound into the air like a released spring,
 but none make any outcry, though the
 skin is sometimes badly cut by haste or
 awkward handling.

The sharp continuous sound of the
 shears, and the monotonous calls to the
 tally man, make an accompaniment of
 sound to the songs they sing nearly all
 the time.



...art in the corner, perhaps,
...ase in volume as one and an-
...takes up the air, until even the
...cheking shears are unheard.

Their leader was a nimble young Cal-
...ornian, with a bright color in his olive
...kin, sparks in his black eyes, and a
...enor voice that would have made him
...petted darling in a fashionable draw-
...ing room, if fate had not decreed that
...e should be a clever sheep shearers in-
...stead.

There was but one wholly white man
...among them; all the others were swart
...spanish-Californians, and a picturesque
...lot of men they were, with old ragged
...clothes, bits of rag or a bright bandanna
...tied over the unkempt hair and about
...rawny bare throats. Some looked like
...the bloodthirsty pirates who sailed these
...waters a hundred and fifty years ago,
...and were, I have no doubt, direct de-
...scendants of those worthies, though
...they were in reality very cheerful and
...good-natured. One man looked like a
...wildified mixture of a gorilla and an
...amiable Japanese dragon. Another had
...shelf-like underjaw that worked in
...unison with his shears, and hung limply
...in its hinges during his moments of in-
...action. Others were bearded like Turks
...dearly to their eyes, with hair and beard
...black as a crow's wing. Younger men
...were there with clear, straight features,
...and beautiful lazy eyes of their race, yet
...inclined by want or dissipation. One
...old looking fellow had been given a
...motherless lamb that he tied near him
...where he was at work, and at frequent
...intervals he would pause to caress it,
...tossing its guileless little face to his and
...kissing it as a child might have done.
...But ashore, and half tipsy with the
...whisky they are not allowed to have
...here, he would be a different creature,
...and on short notice the knife he carries
...hidden about him would come out.

There is a store-room in the barn,
...where all the things the men need are
...put, and here also is a perfect arsenal

of fire arms, — one might think there
...was danger of a foreign invasion, but
...they are only used to shoot birds, foxes,
...and wild hogs. The latter are very
...numerous, and sometimes attack and
...kill the lambs. They are dangerous
...things for an unmounted and unarmed
...man to meet. Many hundreds are shot
...every year, but it seems difficult to ex-
...terminate them. The foxes are small,
...hardly larger than a domestic cat, and
...almost as tame.

But now we will follow the sheep we
...left in the pen by the shearers. When
...all are sheared, in one of these enclos-
...ures, other men drive them through a
...narrow lane that leads to the dipping
...tank, which is, twenty feet long by five
...or six deep, and is filled with enough
...liquid to swim the sheep. It is a vile-
...smelling mixture of caustic soda, sul-
...phur, and lime, kept at a temperature of
...one hundred and twenty degrees in a
...great cauldron. A man stands by the
...tank with a long crook wherewith he
...pokes under the unfortunate sheep, and
...helps any that may fail to reach the
...landing of the slanting, grooved floor,
...where they emerge, dyed a bright green,
...and stand to drain, assisting as much as
...possible by squeezing together in a com-
...mon sympathy. It must be a terrible
...experience for the poor creatures, as the
..."dip" is so strong that it smarts if
...splashed on the hands, but they are free
...from disease for the next six months, if
...they survive the chill night that may
...follow the bath. Many of the lambs die,
...and even the curly horned fathers of the
...flock oftentimes make up their minds
...that life with "dip" in it so often is not
...worth living. All night the crying of
...the chilled creatures is heard, a depress-
...ing sound, not cheered by the raucous
...croak in the early dawn, of the count-
...less ravens who are waiting to pick
...their bones when the dead are gathered
...up and dumped over the bluff.

During the days of enforced indoor
...life, the Flippant Member sang, "Wait



"Till the Clouds Roll by, Jennie," until
...threatened with sudden death. The
...ladies killed spiders and gathered up the
...skeletons, — not of the spiders, but of
...some previous human organisms. Skulls
...turned eyeless sockets upon them
...from unexpected places, and jaw-bones
...grinned from book shelves and writing
...desks. They wanted to have a funeral,
...but the philosopher said they had
...been buried for a thousand years or
...so. The relatives were also dead, and a
...ghost so old as that would not be coming
...back to see about his old clothes, any way.
...So they were allowed to stay clothed in
...shrouds of newspapers. But it seemed
...when the wind drove seeds of rain across
...the hills that an army rose from the
...ground, fantastic, shapeless, but once
...human, and hurried over the old hunt-
...ing ground in the arms of the dripping
...mists. Was it not the spirit of some
...old king of Nicalque who lived yet in

the feather coat of a woodpecker,
...tried every morning to transfer a
...message in his own telegraphy to
...sleepers by the window under the
...press? It sounded like that, — dot-
...dot-dash, two dots, and so on.
...When the sun shone again, the ho-
...were brought around, and those who
...went riding felt amply repaid for all
...discomforts of the trip. The air was
...crisp and cool, washed by the rain,
...fresh from the sea. The mounts were
...sturdy and sure-footed, carrying
...riders over the rocky trails as nimbly
...as goats. A vaquero would ride at a
...gallop down a trail so steep that he
...would think the horse would go he-
...over head by sheer force of gravity.
...The others soon learned to trust the
...horses, and go wherever the vaquero
...did, but not in a gallop; that pace was
...reserved for the long sweep of the high
...pastures, over miles of springy turf,
...fence in sight, no gopher holes to look
...out for, grayish white flock of sheep
...scattered here and there, like fall
...clouds from a wintry sky. A red fox
...scampering now and then, or sitting
...calmly until the hoof-beats went by.
...We skirted a patch of prickly pear
...with its pink or yellow fruit held up for
...the birds to eat, who, it is said, al-
...build their nests among its thorns to
...avoid the predatory foxes. Great eagles
...soared in the blue above, and hawks
...were numerous, but the number of
...ravens was something astonishing; they
...wheeled overhead everywhere, and
...when the party stopped to open a gate
...they lit on the stones and scolded ag-
...gressively. They were as big as hens,
...and as black in character as coals. The
...watch the sheep constantly, and if a
...weakly lamb falls behind, they pick out
...its eyes, and when it falls from pain or
...exhaustion, they tear it to pieces.
...Soon the party thought it no fatigue
...to ride from ten to twenty-five miles
...without leaving the saddle. There were
...many points of interest to visit: the

fishers' camp, the seal rocks, the rocky beach and parti-colored cliffs of the farther end, and the little river that runs through a green valley, where they saw hundreds of wild geese, making an elaborate toilet after their long journey from wintry northern weather. As we came near they rose, but when they saw that none of our party carried guns, they lit a hundred yards away, and resumed their occupation. Judging from the amount of white feathers they left on the ground, the boys said they were taking off their winter flannels.

Many canons were visited, each with a picturesque Spanish name far more musical than its translation would be. The top of Monte Negro, the highest point of the island, was not reached, but from many of the surrounding plateaus the view was magnificent. Two South American steamers and a brig were seen one day on the far blue rim of the Pacific. The coast line showed three ranges of mountains, the Coast Range looking like mere foothills in the foreground. And once, the lighthouse at Point Concepcion, which can only be seen on a clear day with a glass, was reflected in the magic mirror of the mirage larger than any fabled castle on the Rhine.

Indian tumuli are very numerous in many places, and in passing them the riders were sure to find something of interest. Heads there were,—perhaps made from the finger bones of some enemy or hated rival, and presented to a low-browed maiden wearing a few feathers in her hair and a smell of *passiflora* fish, by a dusky brave in a coat of whale-oil varnish and red ocher. The ocher banks are still there, with parts missing,—it may be said in passing,—as proof of the surmise above stated.

The human remains, found in such quantities on this island, have been covered in places by many feet of earth that formed over them in the course of

evidence of great antiquity. Large, well formed, with finely developed skulls, they must have led a happy life, for food was plenty and climate bland. But now they are utterly gone, these people who were once glad of the sunshine, lived, loved, hated, and died, leaving no trace of their existence but these piles of bleached shells, broken implements, and crumbling bones, about a circle of stones that yet mark where their hearth-fires burned. Dozens of skulls may be seen on the surface and the loose sand is full of the fragments of bones. Tradition says they called their island Nicalque, and that they built their houses of whales' ribs set in a circle and covered with the skins of animals. Many whales yet come ashore dead, as five or six at a time have been found on the beaches, within a few years past.

Stones of various sizes with a hole through the center were often found. Mrs. Philosopher said she thought they must have been muffin rings. Her lord said she was nearly correct, the change of one letter would make them puffin rings, and puffins were cousins of the dodo, being themselves a sort of sea parrot and rarely found in this latitude now, though once very numerous, and "the end of a stick placed in the hole in this pebble would send it a long distance and kill the birds noiselessly."

"You may be right about the tufted puffin rings," said the Flippant Member, "but you can't prove that these little abalone disks, with a hole in one side, are not aboriginal poker chips. You see, they carried them on a string about the person somewhere, because they had no pockets. It must have been a relief to sit at a quiet game of draw after having the demerit grind of making holes in those hard stones with their primitive tools. And look at the macaroni!" he exclaimed, picking up a handful of the curious white tubers standing up everywhere through the sand, that did resemble the delicacy he

mentioned in shape, size, and color, but made of cement, apparently.

Again the rain came, the rides were discontinued, and the horses turned out in the corral, where they were soon joined by the pet elk, who scorned the society of any other four-footed creatures on the place, and any fences however high that kept her from her desire. She weighed as much as an ordinary horse, and was apparently awkward but astonishingly agile when she wanted to get anywhere or after any one, for her temper was none too amiable.

The shearers were again idle. They fished, hunted, and got up entertainments for their own amusement. They were always allowed the use of the shearing barn and a lantern one or two nights a week for this purpose, any way, and at this time they intended to prepare something more elaborate in honor of the infrequent presence of ladies on the island. All one morning there were silent preparations being made, and late that afternoon a motley procession reached the ranch house. It was headed by a farm wagon, in which was a figure clad in a petticoat made of wool bags and trimmed with shreds of red flannel, for which some of the party had evidently sacrificed their underwear. The face was tinted with red ocher, the flowing locks were horsehair, and it was fringed about with striped toweling. Whether it was to represent the goddess of the sheep raising industry, or a heathen deity, none could find out.

Other figures dressed queerly, elaborately decorated with ocher and feather head-dresses, and carrying spears, bows, and arrows, walked on either side, chanting a strange, slow refrain,—the four intervals of a chord descending, then a high, sharp note,—bending their bodies nearly to the earth and lifting the feet high when the figure flew back like a spring in accord with the refrain. It was like some weird Indian incantation. A mounted marshal, the picturesque lead-

er of the shearers, paused, as the procession countermarched before the gate and invited the ladies to honor their entertainment that night.

This was as curious as the prelude. The principal number was an Indian medicine dance, all in pantomime, with a guttural chanting accompaniment by two or three voices. It represented a magician or medicine man, gotten up immensely with hair and feathers, and appearing to be extremely old, brought in to see a sick man who lay motionless on the floor. The magician gesticulated wildly, and waved a wand of hair and sticks over him. The sick man woke sat up, rose slowly to his feet, and then began to dance about with the other figures, presumably of his friends or relatives. Around and around they went, faster and faster,—but all at once doctor and patient seemed to have a quarrel about something—the former's bill, perhaps,—and the latter was killed by one touch of the magic wand. Then the others expressed in a very realistic way the emotions of fear, anger, and revenge—the doctor was threatened more and more fiercely, the arrows were pointing at his bent and shrunken figure, he was about to lose his life, but begged to try his skill once more. The others withdrew a little, he bent over his victim, waved arms and body to and fro, then lifted the head, and slowly the whole body to its feet. The man was alive, and apparently well; he embraced all his relatives, and amid the wild dance that followed the magician was restored to his dignity, and retired with glory, as they shot their arrows in the air.

The songs that followed were many and varied, all in Spanish, the jokes were minstrel in fashion and local in flavor, put into the funniest English, that the hearers might not lose the point. Fancy dancing was another frequent feature, and as all these people dance as naturally as the Sandwich Islander swims, it was a pleasant and graceful one.

There was no stage setting whatever, but one light, which threw the swift shadows along the high rafters like fantastic goblins, and gleamed on the shining eyes and teeth of the non-performers who stood close about the back to lend their encouragement in a quiet way. As many men from that class of any other nationality would have yelled, and given noisy directions in language that would neither point a moral nor adorn this page.

When the sun again appeared, all merrymaking was laid aside quickly, and the delayed work pushed through. The relieved sheep were again turned into their wide pastures for another six months of peace, undisturbed by any foes except their own fears. Sometimes the sudden appearance of a horseman among them, or the near discharge of a gun, will set a few in a panic; they will run, and all the others in sight will follow, the tumult of their own flight adding to their terror, until they plunge into the nearest arroyo, or over the steep bluff, every silly beast following, until all are crushed to death. Five or six hundred may be lost in a few moments by the inconsiderate or unknowing stranger, and for this reason campers are never allowed on the premises.

The shearers sailed home one morning, and the visitors felt that a return to civilization and the daily mail was imminent. They had known of no murders, cyclones, strikes, or politics, for three weeks; the world and its news seemed far off and unimportant. A few more rides and walks, the consumption of a little more delicate island mutton and dainty surf fish, and they must again trust themselves to the mercy of Neptune, and the misery of that

"Deep, inevitable pang, by which fish, and game, and soup, and sauce, and all within are lost."

quote the Miltonian paraphrase of the Flippant Member.

A visit on foot to Steamboat Point

was taken, under the impression that it was only two miles or so distant; but after the natural bridge had been looked at, and the roar of the water rushing through a hole in the rocks whence it shoots into the air in vapor, making the sound of a steamer whistle that gives the locality its name, the party found they were very tired, and grew steadily more so in the long homeward climb up the steep hillsides covered with dry grass-stems, slippery as ice. The gentlemen at last went on ahead and sent back saddle-horses for the ladies, but they refused them with indignation. They had started to walk and walk they would, though the fact that they were in sight of the house before Santiago reached them with his horses may have had something to do with their firmness of resolve. They still believe that it was five miles over there and ten to return.

The last day was close at hand, the last ride must be taken, and it was to the far point where the most populous Indian tumuli are found, and where another natural bridge spans a deep embasure with caving edges that overhang the sea. The trail was rough and devilous part of the way, but the day was perfect. The tireless trade wind was pausing on its endless journey; little flecks of cloud shadow wandered slowly over the soft waves of the pastures, now clothed with a tender green like early spring.

In and out of the long lines of grass-fences fitted the small, brown birds, fences unmarred by advertisements and undisgraced by barbed wire. Here and there on the posts were masses of red lady bugs, like long washes of vermilion paint. Why the little creatures were there in such numbers, unless for pictorial effect, the combined wisdom of the party failed to surmise.

It was with regret that they turned their faces at last from the red and gold sunset, and toward the far blue coastline of the shore where life's duties were

waiting their return in the white-winged ship, then tacking a slow way between the cliffs.

With infrequent speech they watched their grotesquely lengthened shadows walking on uncertain legs along the steep hill slope beside them, disturbing an occasional family of wild hogs that were gathering the acorns under the vine-like masses of scrub oaks. They would show the gleam of their savage fangs before a hasty exit with great clat-

ter of sharp hoofs among the stones and dry leaves.

An early luncheon had been eaten at the ranch-house and it was now growing late, so when the Boy suddenly exclaimed with an earnestness that proved he had been entertaining the thought for some time, "I wonder what we are going to have for supper," the Flippant Member answered with instant appreciation, "Let's hurry up and find out." And they did.

Probably
Martinette Kinse
(see Doran 1980
183)

PROVERBS FROM THE PORTUGUESE.

Proverbs are much more popular among Portuguese speaking people than they are in this country. Theophilo Braga says in effect that they embody the experience and wisdom of the common people, and are handed down from one generation to another as a sort of hereditary science. They usually take on poetic and rhythmic forms, or have a certain jungle that readily attracts the attention and fastens them in the memory. Of course much that is catching about them is lost when they are translated into English, for it not infrequently happens that there is a play upon words which gives a proverb its only title to popularity.

Anyone who has seen much of the Portuguese, whether in Portugal or in the colonies, must have been struck by the faith of the common people in their proverbs, and by their dependence upon them for guidance under all the circumstances of life. It is not at all uncommon to meet persons who are given to turning every bit of information that comes within their hearing into some sort of philosophical reflection. The aptitude that is attained at this sort of

rendition is sometimes quite striking. In the interior of Brazil I once met a man who had this habit. He was a man of but little education, and knew nothing of the Protestant religion; on one occasion he asked me to what saints the people of my country prayed. I told him that the majority of my fellow countrymen did not pray to the saints, but to God himself. Some one remarked that he could not understand that; he answered that his countrymen thought that, "O que Deus não quer, os santos não arranjão."—"What God does not wish the saints can't bring about."

Among those of the people who read but little, there is this advantage in the proverb and maxim form of wisdom, that the form fixes it in the mind as perhaps nothing else would. For example, at Macapá, a little town immediately under the equator on the north side of the Amazon near its mouth, the time and condition of the tides is a matter of interest to everyone, for the life

There are several Portuguese proverbs with a somewhat similar meaning: one of them says that "What God does not want, the saints don't ask for." Another says, "Let God do his way, he's an old saint."

PART 6:

THE POTENTIAL FOR HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Introduction

Santa Rosa Island, like the other Channel Islands, has a rich historical legacy. The earliest historical contact was made by the Spanish navigator Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542-1543. In fact, some have speculated that he may have been buried on this island in 1543 instead of neighboring San Miguel Island (Heizer 1972).

The history of Santa Rosa Island after such early contacts is a chronicle of people and how they have settled and developed the island to meet their needs. Cognizant of the importance of recognizing and identifying this heritage, an attempt was made to collect information on the island's man-made environment during the Mexican and Anglo-American periods of California history. This era of occupation and land use on the island began in the 1840s, roughly twenty-five years after the last Chumash left Santa Rosa Island for the mainland to be baptized by Franciscan missionaries.

The objective of the historical research reported here was to identify the nature and locations of historical archaeological resources. These resources might include remains of buildings no longer standing or extensively modified, remains of facilities associated with ranching and

other activities, discard areas adjacent to buildings and facilities of historical importance, and trash dumps adjacent to or some distance from the locations at which the trash was generated. Shipwrecks around the coastline of the island are another class of potential historical archaeological resources.

The significance of historical archaeological resources is very difficult to define in light of the present status of knowledge. Much of the significance depends upon the amount of written or oral information regarding the resource. If little or no documentation exists for a given resource, as was the case with the initial phase of ranching activity on the island, its significance as an archaeological resource is enhanced because only through archaeological investigations may information be generated. Significance is also defined in terms of the resource's association with important historical events or eras. On Santa Rosa Island, even relatively recent events such as the military use of the island during and just after the Second World War are relatively important. Finally, significance is defined in terms of the information potential of the resource. Some historical archaeological remains on the island may yield only very ambiguous information that cannot be effectively put into a historic context, whereas others may yield a wealth of data pertaining to past activities.

This study presents an inventory of those historical resources that may have some significance to the island's history. Some of the identified buildings and facilities are essentially modern and are of little or no historical value. They are included since their documentation helps to separate them from those that do have historical value. Other resources in the inventory may or may not be of historical importance; the available data are not sufficient to make such an assessment. Still other resources are undoubtedly significant; however their nature and location are currently unknown. In the absence of an historic sites field survey, the inventory must be considered preliminary. Furthermore, there are some areas of archival research that could yield additional information but were beyond the scope of this study. Additional archival research may result in expansion of the inventory and a clearer identification of the nature and locations of the historic resources so far identified.

Sources of Information

Published Literature

The investigation began with a thorough survey of the relevant literature on Santa Rosa Island. This included reading standard County histories, portions of books, and a few select articles concerning the Channel Islands. County

O histories that we have consulted include: Jesse D. Mason, History of Santa Barbara County, California (1993); Yda A. Storke, A Memorial and Biographical History of the Counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California (1891); Charles M. Gidney, History of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties, California (1917); Michael J. Phillips, History of Santa Barbara County (1927); and Owen H. O'Neill, History of Santa Barbara County (1939).

Chapters on Santa Rosa Island contained within Charles P. Holder's The Channel Islands of California (1910) and Adelaide L. Doran's Pieces of Eight Channel Islands (1980) provided some information useful to this survey. Several articles dealing with aspects of the Island's past were also read, but the most valuable overview remains Francis R. Holland's "Santa Rosa Island: An Archaeological and Historical Study" published in Journal of the West (1962).

Most of these works were obtained from the Special Collections Library of the UCSB Library, the Santa Barbara Public Library, and the Santa Barbara Historical Society. Each of these institutions also had a small file of information on Santa Rosa Island, but the bulk of the material was not pertinent to this preliminary study.

In general, these published sources provided only a broad profile of the island's development and frequently represent a later interpretation rather than a contemporary record of events. Perhaps even more important, the various

accounts were primarily general in nature and seldom discussed the buildings or other structures. When architectural features were mentioned, little detail was provided. Historians and writers have not traditionally been interested in structures that were not occupied by elite personalities or families. Indeed, it is only in recent years that historic preservation has been broadened to include all of the historic resources that contributed to a given area's living environment. In other words, researchers are asking different questions today than they were in the past.

Public Records

In order to determine whether information of an historical nature was generated by local government, visits were made to various County of Santa Barbara public agencies. These included the County Recorder's office, County Assessor's office, Clerk of the County Board of Supervisors, County Hall of Records, and the County Surveyor's office. Very little information was gained from these offices.

Museum of Natural History

The Channel Islands Archives at the Museum of Natural History were also consulted. This collection, so far as Santa Rosa Island is concerned, consists predominantly of xeroxed public records: wills, property transfers, mort-

48. Glassow, p. 103. Storke, p. 80, 366.

Thomas Stork was a well-known Santa Barbara journalist. He owned the Santa Barbara News-Press, served as a U. S. Senator and was an influential regent of the University of California. Stork "endured" an interlude of a few months managing his great uncle's, A. P. More, Santa Rosa Island sheep ranch. (See Storke, pp. 80, 366.) According to Towne, however, the Santa Rosa ranch had a maximum of 80,000 sheep grazing at any one time (See Towne, p. 208).

49. Towne, p. 207.

50. Thayer as quoted in Towne, p. 207.

51. For an excellent discussion of sheep shearing, see "Shearing Time on Santa Rosa Island" in Overland Monthly, May 1893.

52. Stork, p. 80 and 366.

Other notables to visit the island include Governor Earl Warren. (See Channel Islands archives, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, photo #01353.)

53. Santa Barbara Historical Society, p. 219, vol. II, Rouse "Olden Days" file, "Big Potential is Seen in Santa Rosa Island." Appendix II of this report contains the full text of Brown's proposal.

54. Ibid.

55. Ibid.

56. Towne, p. 212.

57. Doran, p. 198. O'Neill, p. 366.

While cattle in the 1930's "came lean from Mexico and when taken off in spring are ready for the slaughter house," Vail and Vickers island ranch today is no longer devoted to finishing beef stock. Today the cattle are merely fattened up on the island "for two wet seasons" before being taken to the mainland where they graze on a feed lot before being sold. ("An Islandian on the Islands," Southern California Quarterly, March 1963, vol. XIV #1, p. 5.)

58. Personal Communication: Paul Collins, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

59. Personal Communication: Bill Wallace. The history and significance of the oil company's presence on the island is a research topic which deserves further explanation. EXPLANATION.

60. Santa Barbara Historical Society Collection #37, Channel Islands Ships Story, dated Dec. 13, 1953, "Santa Rosa Island Main Job: DEFENSE," Chuch Hillinger, Los Angeles Times.

61. Ibid.

See

62. In February 1946, the U. S. Navy requested that they be allowed to construct two observation sites for "pilotless aircraft units;" electronic tests were allowed and entry permits were issued by the landowners. (Channel Islands Archives: Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, folder 0887 and 1783.)

63. The Army negotiated with Vail and Vickers in 1941 to lease six acres atop Soladad Peak as a "site for a listening post;" the lease was for \$100 a year and the Army was to construct a by-pass road, rebuild chutes and corrals at the ranch and add to and repair the wharf at Beechers Bay. The cattle boat, Vaquero, was requisitioned by the War Production Board to transport cattle which was raised on Santa Rosa Island for the war effort. Ibid.

64. Glassow, pp. 5, 132.

65. Ibid., pp. 131-194.

Orr introduced certain modern analytical approaches including radio carbon dating to establish chronology. Orr was also the first archeologist in the region concerned with the analysis of regional distribution of sites which according to Glassow today "comprises a major segment of all archeological endeavor." (See Glassow, pp. 5-6.)

66. Doran, p. 200.

John Constock, "Contribution from the LA Museum--Channel Islands Bio Survey" (Bulletin: Southern California Academy of Sciences, 1946) vol. 45, part 2, p. 107.

Bulletin

gages, and court documents. While some of the instruments were useful, most were not. The collections include a report entitled "San Miguel Island and Santa Rosa Island" by C. D. Voy, circa 1893, an unpublished manuscript xeroxed from the original at the Bancroft Library. Although the report is oriented to geology, the author does make some reference to structures on the island.

Also within the holdings of the Channel Islands Archives is a folder of xeroxed field drawings done by Ronald and Loretta Morgan when the former had a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to assemble a photographic collection on the Channel Islands for the Archives of the Museum. The drawings identify the footprint of various buildings on Santa Rosa Island and give size dimensions. These drawings are each on a separate 8 1/2" x 11" sheet and include:

1. China Camp
2. Buildings on Old Ranch
3. Bunk houses on Santa Rosa Island (old and new)
4. Large barn
5. Small barn
6. Bill and Prue's house
7. Big house
8. Red house and outhouse
9. School House
10. Lighthouse
11. Line shed and platform
12. Large outhouse
13. Old Army barracks
14. Scale and dehorning chutes
15. Stairs
16. Garden shed to main house

Future research would be greatly benefited by the use of

these plans, cataloged under accession #2777. Efforts to obtain permission to make copies of the drawings for this report was neither confirmed nor denied by the Museum because the Vail family, which reserves the right to restrict access to materials, did not respond to earlier staff requests for clarification as to which materials should be restricted.

UCSB Map and Imagery Laboratories

The UCSB Map and Imagery Laboratory (housed in the Main Library) contains black and white aerial photographs of the island taken in 1929 (scale 1:19,000). The main ranch buildings are visible in Frames E-11, E-12, F-11, and F-12. Other structures may be visible in Frames B-10, and A-5, but the Rancho Viejo seems to have already disappeared from the landscape. The map and imagery collection also includes U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Maps dating from the 1870s (U. S. Coast Survey 1872-73, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey 1934-35).

Personal Communication

Historians have increasingly realized the value of oral testimony to reconstruct the past. Not only are many decisions and actions such as constructing a workmen's bunkhouse not recorded in written form, but responses to specific questions may sharpen our knowledge of an area's history.

Unfortunately, Al Vail of Vail and Vickers Company, which owns the island, was not available for interview. However, Mrs. Margaret Vail Woolley kindly gave of her time one Saturday afternoon to explain what she remembered of the island's structures. Mr. Edward Smith, the son of C. W. Smith, an early day foreman of the Santa Rosa Island, has been familiar with the island since his birth in 1916. He, too, offered valuable assistance. Mrs. Woolley was interviewed in person on March 17, 1982, and Mr. Smith by telephone on April 28 and 29, 1982.

Historic Overview

Santa Rosa Island was originally granted to José Castro in 1841 by the Juan Alvarado, Governor of Alta California. In 1842, Manuel Micheltorena became Governor, and the island was re-granted by the Mexican Government to Carlos and José Carrillo in 1843. Soon thereafter, the island passed into the hands of the two daughters of Carlos, each of whom had married an American. John C. Jones, the U. S. Consul to the Hawaiian Islands (then known as the Sandwich Islands), and Alpheus B. Thompson, a schooner captain, became part owners of Santa Rosa Island in the 1840s. Jones and Thompson formed a partnership and stocked the island with sheep (Mason 1893:250; Letter from A. B. Thompson to T. Wolcott, June 12, 1857).

Jones eventually left the management of the business in the hands of Captain Thompson and returned to Boston. This led to complications, and a lawsuit. Thompson disavowed that the other had any financial stake in the ownership of the island. After years of litigation, Jones emerged victorious, but Thomson had since died (Pernald 1954:103-104).

Thomson's sons sold their half interest in the island in 1869 to two of the More brothers--Alex P., and Henry H. Albert. Thomson wrote to John F. Dana that he was lucky to find somebody to buy it. "The island has never yielded us anything, could not sell it to anybody but More" (O'Neill 1939:366). Similarly, the Jones' interests were purchased by A. P. More.

The Mores were vigorous entrepreneurs, and they made extensive improvements on the island. They increased the stock of sheep and introduced race horses for a lucrative San Francisco market. Family-owned steamships regularly operated between the Bay area, More's Landing at Goleta, and the island, especially after construction of piers at both of the latter locations in 1873. At that same time, it was reported that "roads for wagons and carriages now traverse the most important divisions of the island" (Anon. 1874:210).

By 1874 there were 60,000 sheep on the island, and wool sales amounted to over \$100,000 (Mason 1983:257). Dominance of the sheep raising activity on the island had two

important consequences: it established the Mores as Santa Barbara's most powerful merchant family; and it meant that a combination of ranch buildings pertaining to the business of shearing and raising sheep had to be constructed, including barns, sheds, and bunkhouses. Unfortunately, the wool market began to decline steadily after 1876. Nevertheless, it was the central economic activity of the island as long as the Mores owned it (see San Francisco Call November 19, 1893). Indian, Mexican, and later, Chinese men were brought over to the island from Santa Barbara until the turn of the century to shear sheep. Matanzas and colorful celebrations to mark their success were held (Hoffer 1910:285; Santa Barbara Morning Press January 26, 1899, Austin 1953:10). But a letter by C. E. Sherman in the Santa Barbara Weekly Independent of June 15, 1895, on the rundown condition of A. P. More's ranch on Santa Rosa Island testifies to the declining profitability. Meanwhile, other economic activities, like the gathering of abalones and their shells, had brought the Chinese to the shores of Santa Rosa Island during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

While cattle had been introduced to Santa Rosa Island as early as 1842 by Captain A. B. Thompson, and had also been included among the Mores' inventory, it was not until the island was sold in 1901-1902 to Walter L. Vail and John C. Vickers of Los Angeles that raising and feeding beef cattle replaced sheep as the principal commercial enterprise.

A field report in 1930 stated that the Vail and Vickers Company "brings cattle there when the fall rains begin and takes them off in the spring. The cattle come lean from Mexico and when taken off in spring are ready for the slaughter house" (Wright 1963:5). A small portion of the island, near the main ranch complex, has at various times been under cultivation. Over the years new structures were built and the Vail and Vickers Company continues to use the island primarily for livestock grazing.

Themes of Historical Significance

The purpose of the historical research was to determine the location and nature of historical archaeological resources associated with Santa Rosa Island. Several general research questions were asked in order to help identify these cultural resources:

- 1) What important historical trends and events occurred on the island?
- 2) What important individuals or groups were associated with the island?
- 3) What specific structures or facilities were constructed on the island and are no longer standing?
- 4) What known shipwrecks occurred in the nearshore waters of the island?

Answers to these questions entailed the development of a thematic classification into which each structure or site group could be categorized. Many of the known historical resources fall under more than one category. The classifications were:

1. Economic
2. Architectural
3. Ethno-Cultural
4. Military
5. Industrial and Technical

Research potential is one of the primary Federal criteria of significance (35 CFR 50.6). In dealing with the research values of historic sites and structures on Santa Rosa Island, a problem was faced in that academicians normally have not been interested in questions of a subregional nature. While general histories of California abound, broad research questions on the historical development of more localized units such as the Channel Islands have not yet emerged.

With the exception of certain urban histories and community studies, local history is frequently written by journalists or long-time residents of an area, rather than by trained research scholars. The history accounts therefore most often take the form of a general chronological narrative, or they utilize a topical framework instead of providing a retrospective analysis of comparative data or attempt-

ing to develop a systematic approach to analyzing the processes involved in the cultural development of a smaller region.

This pattern often holds, even when local history is written by those with graduate training in history, as evidenced in such works as Adelaide L. Doran's The Ranch That Was Robbins': Santa Catalina Island (1963) or the more recently published book, Anacapa Island (1983) by Lois W. Roberts. This is perhaps beginning to change, albeit slowly, as public historians are joining archaeologists and geographers in looking at subregions.

Because the cultural resource value of a site or structure can only be adequately assessed when it has been compared to others in the region of which it is a part, the dearth of past data about the Channel Islands in general, and Santa Rosa Island, specifically, makes the task of assigning significance difficult. The discussion section which follows, therefore, is not meant to exhaust the full range of possible research values so much as to provide examples of how the historic resources on Santa Rosa Island might elucidate current or potential research interests and problems.

Q 1) Economic

Ranching activities in California have received a fair amount of treatment, but no one has taken a closer look at the differences in activities between those ranchos on the mainland and those on the Channel Islands. Were conditions on the Island of Santa Rosa such that only one means of livelihood--sheep or cattle ranching--seemed favorable? Was it a case of merely transporting mainland economic activities to the island? What is the relationship of economic interactions on Santa Rosa Island to Santa Barbara, or to San Francisco? What were the effects of the island's transportation obstacles on the procurement, distribution, maintenance, and replacement of goods and materials, and how did these impact island activities? What accounts for the fact that Catalina Island developed a small town center, while Santa Rosa Island has no more than a ranch center?

Other research might investigate the island's historic hidden economy: tracing the evolution of smuggling activities. From the days of privateers during the Spanish Period to rum-runners in the days of Prohibition (perhaps to today's drug traffic), the Channel Islands have been a convenient location to engage in operations the government disfavored. Answering such questions will help us better understand the development of California's early economy; it is likely that Santa Rosa Island's historic archaeology can help address such research interests.

O 2) Architectural

The study of the American family unit is becoming an increasingly important focus on local history. It is likely that the structures and sites of the More family on Santa Rosa Island can inform us in important ways as to how the family changed over time, especially in the context of its ascension and eventual decline in prosperity. Such questions as how did members of the family interact with each other, and how did the needs of the family change over time, can be partially explored by analyzing such things as the spatial arrangement of the rooms in the "Upper" Ranch House and noting the architectural modifications made to the house over the years. Interesting comparisons might be made in seeing how the needs of later occupants of the structure were different from those of the original owner by conducting archaeological research at the site. "Old Ranch," which was built for Captain Alpheus Thompson, was later inhabited by the Mores and possibly the Vails after them.

The houses on the ranchos, as well as those in the pueblos, were generally made of adobe. Lumber was not widely used as a building material in Southern California in the mid-nineteenth century, but the record indicates that the earliest houses on Santa Rosa Island were of wood. Why? Was the builder merely influenced by construction methods from another locale, or was he attempting to anticipate problems unique to the island setting? It would also be

interesting to know more about the decision by Thompson to abandon his first house on Santa Rosa Island ("Rancho Viejo") and move to another point on the island near Beechers Bay.

There are a number of structures on Santa Rosa Island that date back well over a century. Are architectural details on the oldest structures related more to the building's functions, the extreme environmental conditions present there, or a scarcity of building materials?

3) Ethno-Cultural

Historians within the last decade and a half have given more attention to the "inarticulate," that is, to those people or groups who have been largely ignored in the historical records. While the "New Social History" frequently relies on comprehensive census data to focus on various groups of people heretofore excluded from traditional historical studies, certainly fruitful data must also be garnered from materials preserved in archaeological sites. Santa Rosa Island can provide such laboratories. For example, little is currently known about the Chinese and the development of the abalone industry on the Channel Islands in the late nineteenth century. Who were these people? How numerous were they? What was their social organization like? Under what circumstances did they come to the island (e.g., economic opportunity, escape from anti-Chinese laws

passed on the California mainland)? Where did they come from (e.g., San Francisco, directly from China)? It is likely we could learn a great deal about the inter-relationships of the Chinese and other groups, including not only the Anglo-European culture, but also the Mexicans and Japanese who also came to Santa Rosa Island to work on the ranch or to fish.

The secluded nature of the islands may also have controlled comparisons of relevant data concerning the Chinese abalone camps established on most, if not all, the Channel Islands. The Chinese are among several groups which played a significant role in the development and settling of the West, and such historic archaeological investigations can fill significant gaps in the records.

4) Military

The military uses of the Channel islands have not been systematically examined. There is strong evidence that Santa Rosa Island and the other Channel Islands were used in war game exercises during the middle 1930s. The Navy's Pacific Fleet simulated war with an island enemy, not unlike Japan (personal communication, Dr. John Talbott, January 28, 1983). In what such ways was Santa Rosa Island utilized by the military? Is there any correlation between these activities and later structures and facilities that were placed on the island? Future historians interested in mili-

tary policy may want to evaluate actual preparedness measures prior to the outbreak of World War II. While the government maintains adequate records, there is undoubtedly useful data which can only be gathered in situ.

5) Industrial and Technological

This aspect has not been developed. However, some structures on Santa Rosa Island might clarify questions related to industrial and technological innovations. Two examples might be the sheep industry (for instance the brick sheep dip built in the late nineteenth century), and the development of the early oil industry (oil wells were placed on the island in the 1920s and 1930s). Yet none of the significant resources described in this chapter related directly to this classification.

Structures and Sites and their Significance

The identification of structures and sites of historic significance on Santa Rosa Island has been made difficult because no site inspection was made. However, personal interviews with individuals familiar with the tangible remains of the island, as well as written sources, has provided information upon which this preliminary assessment of the historic resources has been made.

Rancho Viejo - No Longer Standing

Captain Alpheus Thompson constructed the first house on Santa Rosa Island. A ship brought lumber in as well as a carpenter, and in the fall of 1844, a "good plank house" was built on a mesa. According to court documents, the dimensions were: 24 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 9 feet high. The structure had one door, one glass window, one corridor, and a shingle roof. Two corrals were built in the early years, and there may have also been a short pier nearby. Rancho Viejo was standing as of 1855, but its history after this date is uncertain. Thompson had built another house by this time. Rancho Viejo may have still been standing in the early 1890s when C. D. Vov made his sketch of the island, although he very possibly mis-located it on his map.

Both Mrs. Margaret Woolley and Mr. Edward Smith remember a shack located somewhere in the vicinity of an old road at the end of the island referred to on old maps as "Rancho Viejo." Whether this shack, which apparently was very weather-beaten and "old" by the 1920s was "Rancho Viejo," cannot yet be conclusively determined. Dixie Thompson mentioned the "olde house" on the mesa in a letter to A. B. Thompson, November 26, 1853 (Brown 1947:63). The 1872-73 U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Map already calls this area "Rancho Viejo," perhaps to distinguish it from Thompson's second house.

It is also not known whether the sketch of "Rancho Viejo" contained in the Museum of Natural History's Channel Islands Archives is correct, since it is not known if the Morgans, who mapped the dimensions, knew where Rancho Viejo was located. Furthermore, the recently-drawn sketch, "Buildings on old ranch, Rancho Viejo," indicates that the two structures were an old bunk house and a garden shed. These were located at Beechers Bay, not the geographical area of the island known as "Rancho Viejo." There is also a notation on the sketch, "well hand-dug by Moore (sic)." The Mores were never known to occupy Rancho Viejo. Also the dimensions of the structure depicted in the plans drawn by the Morgans differ greatly from the measurements indicated in the Court records of the period. I believe the evidence supports the thesis that the sketch represents the second home built by Thompson, discussed below, which apparently has been called "Old Ranch" by the Vail family (Holland 1963:55; A. B. Thompson to T. Wolcott, June 12, 1857; Dixie Thompson to A. B. Thompson, November 25, 1953).

The site of Rancho Viejo is of historical significance as the oldest known structure on the island. Information on the nature and location of Rancho Viejo would help elucidate the cultural context in which Thompson's house was built and the changes in land use in which owners of the island were involved.

Thompson's Second House, "Old Ranch"

A second house was built by Aloheus Thomason between 1845 and 1853. Thomason wrote to his attorney "... I have built another House and a number of corals in various parts of the Island, placed a large number of Brood Mares thereon together with a Fine American Stallion, a lot of Hogs, Rabbits, and Etc." But Thompson did not indicate the location of this house.

According to the historian who has done the most thorough historical research related to the island, Francis Holland Jr., Thompson had the large ranch house built near a cypress grove at Ranch House Canyon, and it existed as late as 1939. Additionally, Arthur Woodward, an archaeologist who visited Santa Rosa Island in 1939 and 1941, drew a sketch in his field notes of the main ranch complex at Beechers Bay (cited elsewhere in this report). One of the structures he plotted was labeled "Old Ranch."

The drawing done by the Morgans shows the dimensions to be 16 feet by 12 feet with a door opening approximately 4 feet by 7 feet. If Holland is correct in his placing the second Thompson structure at Beechers Bay, it is possible that the Mores moved into this same house in 1959 and lived in it while their own larger ranch house was being constructed.

According to Ronald Morgan, this structure may have burned down. Whether it is still standing or not, the site

is potentially significant because of archaeological deposits and historic artifacts likely to be encountered which would help explain the cultural evolution and adaptation of an Anglo-European family in early California between the 1840s and 1860s.

Mores' "Upper" Ranch House - Still Standing, Beechers Bay

Voy refers to A. P. Mores' dwelling house located on a plateau and being surrounded by pine trees. An Overland Monthly article appearing at about the same time in 1893, mentions "the hacienda or ranch house of the Mores stands near the grove of cypress trees," and this is repeated in Holder's account as well as O'Neill's history (Holder 1910:285; O'Neill 1939:356).

According to Mrs. Margaret V. Woolley, the house is a New England salt-box type, painted white. It is believed to have been originally built by the Mores in the 1870s. It contains two bedrooms, a living room and a kitchen. It has been altered often. An extension was first added to the western side of the house, apparently in the late nineteenth century. An outdoor kitchen was also added before the turn-of-the-century, so it is told. During the late 1940s or early 1950s, another wing of the house was added with a bedroom and bath. A modern kitchen was enlarged from the old kitchen during the 1970s. The building has a fence around it.

This house reflects the changing nature of American society and its attempts to modernize. While the house has been greatly altered, the building may still embody significant historic values relating to an earlier lifestyle on the island. Also, the Mores were an important family in southern California for many years, and this structure is only one of two used by them which is known to still exist (the other is in Goleta). Deposits of historic archaeological value associated with the occupation of the house are undoubtedly in the immediate vicinity.

Bunkhouse - Rebuilt

The bunkhouse, built by the Mores for the men who came over to the island to shear sheep, was ell-shaped and two-storied. A dining room and a living room were located downstairs and bedrooms were located upstairs. Apparently there was no kitchen in the original bunkhouse, but one was later attached. Approximately fifteen years ago a fire broke out in the kitchen and soon engulfed the entire structure. The cook died in the mishap. A wash shed next to it also burned. A smaller one-story bunkhouse was rebuilt on the same site within a couple of years.

It is possible that historic archaeological remains associated with the original building and its use as a residence and bunkhouse exist in the vicinity of the modern building. This site may have significance in its associa-

tion with residential activities of the average worker of the past.

Barns - Still Standing, Partially Rebuilt

Approximately 300 feet northwest of the main ranch house are two large barns which are believed to have been built during the More period of the nineteenth century. One contains a metal workshop and large old sheep vats. The other has a saddle room, a manger for horses, a garage (put in after 1932), and another workshop. This structure apparently partially collapsed in the 1950s, and most of it has been replaced.

These barns are examples of structures associated with the early day ranch activity and thus serve as important links to the past. They are undoubtedly associated with archaeological resources indicating their original form and use.

"Red House" - No Longer Standing

It was described as a red house or shack standing near an eucalyptus grove. No information is available regarding its builder, its age, or its function. The structure contained three small rooms where Mrs. Margaret V. Woolley recalled cowboys or their families stayed. Later dynamite was stored in it, and the building was set afire to avoid an accident in about 1970.

The nature and age of this structure apparently can only be studied archaeologically. Its significance to history is not completely known.

"Bill and Prue's House" - Still Standing

A foreman, Bill, and his wife, Prue, built a new tract-like house west of the pier in the late 1950s. This building has no historical significance.

The U. S. Army Buildings

The Army established a small base on Santa Rosa Island in 1943. The small complex contained four or five buildings, a water tank, and a flag pole. It was located on the flat lands one-half mile off Pecho Peak, east of the road running from the main ranch area. Most of it has been leveled, although some of the foundations still are visible. The tank is still there, and piles of wood lay close to the flat and protected area where the small base stood. The barracks building was moved near the ranch complex.

Given the date of construction, the condition of the site, the existence of intact military establishments elsewhere in the nation dating from this period, one must conclude that this is not a significant site; however, it would certainly be of historic interest.

o Former School House - Still Standing

A little white school house stood at Beechers Bay. It was used for Mores's children and those shearers who brought their children to the island (Austin 1954:9). Although its date of construction is unknown, the building most likely dates from the 1870s or 1880s. It was converted to the residence of the ranch foreman during the Vail and Vicker period. During the 1930s the structure was extended to include a kitchen. It is now used as a house for cowboys.

One does not know whether the subsequent remodeling has taken the building far from its original design. However, this one-room school house served the island for many years and would at the very least be a point of historical interest. It is presumed not to be associated with historic archaeological resources.

Associated Ranch Structures

There are a number of smaller buildings associated with the ranching activities of the Mores and/or Vail and Vickers. A scale house with dehoring chute is presently located near the two barns at the main ranch and is probably about a century old. A furnace made of brick was constructed in 1997 for the manufacture of a sheep dip (Santa Barbara Morning Press, March 9, 1997). A line shed and platform are also evidence of an earlier economic activity-

-sheep-raising--on the island. A large outhouse (three stalls) and a windmill have been removed.

These structures may qualify as significant cultural resources as a representation of technological innovation related to the raising of sheep. Some are probably associated with historic archaeological deposits reflecting their former uses.

Air Force Base

Orr (1958:266) mentions that the abandoned Air Force Base located on the south coast at Johnsons Lee was built in 1950-51. A dozen or so wood frame buildings were constructed, and most are still standing although heavily vandalized. The base was occupied for ten years before abandonment (Orr 1958:277).

Although this base is of interest in terms of the history of land use on the island, the buildings are not of unique historical significance. There is undoubtedly a substantial body of information about this base in military archives.

Orr's Camp

Just west of Skull Gulch at the head of a short coastal gully on the northwest coast of the island Phil Orr and his colleagues constructed three spacious sheds. Their roof lines are nearly flush with the ground level surrounding the

gully for protection from the prevailing wind, and their floors are supported by posts descending to the sides of the gully. Their construction is of boards covered with tar paper. The camp is currently in a very deteriorated condition.

Although recent in age, these buildings help document a significant period of archaeological research on the island. The buildings are perhaps the most ingeniously constructed on the island.

Shacks

A number of shacks still stand on various parts of the island; others may have existed at one time but are no longer standing. Below is a list of known structures.

a) Johnsons Lee Shack - located below the lighthouse which was built in 1925. It was maintained by the lighthouse service for landing parties until the Air Force Base was built at Johnsons Lee on the south side of the island in 1955. Mrs. Margaret V. Woolley believed it still stood, but Mr. Edward Smith felt the shack was no longer standing. Regardless, the shack was probably built at the time of the lighthouse.

b) Wreck Canyon Shack - located in a flat above the canyon. It is still standing but is apparently in a much deteriorated condition. Both Mrs. Woolley and Mr. Smith stated that the shack was probably military-related.

built by the U. S. Army during World War II.

c) China Camp Cabin - A structure which dates back to at least the 1920s. It started out as a shack, and then in the late 1930s it was enlarged slightly and nearby corrals were built. It was once again expanded in the 1950s. Mrs. Woolley stated that the house is still occasionally used, and that its origins may go back to the More period of island ownership. A writer in Overland Monthly (Anonymous 1874) had called the site "Abalone Fisherman's Camp," which is located on the east side of Cañada Acapulca. A "gang of Chinamen" were brought over to the island to collect abalone shells at various times (see Santa Barbara Morning Press, May 17, 1891). According to a contemporary account, the Chinese abalone fishermen used "long, flat-bottom boats, like the shaple of the northeast coast, save that it was steered by a clumsy oriental-looking sweep tied to the stern instead of the ordinary oar or rudder" (Santa Barbara Morning Press, May 10, 1895). Chinamen also were brought to the island to help shear sheep under the ownership of the Mores. The sale of Santa Rosa Island to Vail and Vickers in 1901 eventually curtailed the sheep business and the need for shearers, and there was most likely increasingly less Chinese contact with the island (Santa Barbara Morning Press, July 23, 1900 and May 16, 1903).

d) East Point Shack - may not still be standing. Mrs. Woolley remembered a shack that was falling apart but not anything about the structure. She thought it was probably built by Vail and Vickers in the early years. Mr. Smith could not recall a shack near the east portion of the island.

e) West End Shack - A sheepherder's shack stands on the flats at the west end of the island. Mr. Smith believes it dates to the More period--pre-1900. This may be the shack which Austin Wright mentioned to his brother in 1930, a house "near the west end" which he had heard about, but not seen (Wright 1963:6). Mrs. Woolley did not mention it.

Significance: These sites and structures are important to the history of the island. They include structures associated with early and continuing economic activity on the island and early settlement by certain peoples. Many are undoubtedly associated with historic archaeological deposits reflecting activities which took place at the shacks or which included using the shacks as a base of operations. Some of the archaeological remains undoubtedly reflect use by specific ethnic groups such as the Chinese.

Shipwrecks off Santa Rosa Island

There have been a number of shipwrecks adjacent to the shores of Santa Rosa Island over the years. Shipping has been a vital component of economic development in California since the beginning, and salvage of shipwrecks have the potential to yield valuable information to those studying the evolution of trade patterns.

Known shipwrecks near Santa Rosa Island (as well as in other locations along the California coast) have been identified in: Archaeological Literature Survey and Sensitivity Zone Mapping of the Southern California Bight Area, Volume II, Appendices (Science Applications, Inc. 1978:VIII.B-500 - VIII.B-523). According to Dr. Steven Horne, who has conducted underwater archaeological research in the Santa Barbara Channel, this document is the most complete source of information on shipwrecks. This compilation was supplemented with other data sources.

Newspapers proved a valuable supplement, although prior to the 1870s there were few newspapers covering the local scene. Newspapers for the dates of shipwrecks mentioned in secondary sources were checked. In instances where known shipwrecks occurred in earlier years, shipping claims records of insurance companies have been useful to those conducting research, although none was consulted in this preliminary survey.

Of course, many of the large ships that sank off Santa Rosa Island were not in any manner connected to activities on the island; they just happened to be in the vicinity when misfortune such as thick fog or stormy weather occurred. Those local traffic boats engaged in the earlier economic activities of the island, such as steamers carrying cattle, abalone fishing flat-bottom boats, or junks transporting Chinese shearers or sheep, often received mention in the local newspapers, but they do not show up in the records of insurance companies, which are biased toward insurable shipping. For example, a June 12, 1902, item in the Santa Barbara Morning Press indicated that a gasoline-powered schooner, "Francine," valued at \$3500, sank between Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands. The same newspaper reported on May 15, 1903, that a 28-foot boat owned by Chinese had sunk on the lee side of the island. No other information was given; oral histories would be necessary to learn more about these smaller schooners that sank. As far as can be determined, a list of these smaller crafts has never been compiled.

The previously-mentioned BLM study assessed the cultural resource value of each shipwreck based on a) rarity of the vessel, b) age of the vessel according to the date it was constructed, and c) the probable status of its preservation (Volume I, Technical Report, p. IV-118). It then assigned a numeric value to each resource as follows: a)

significant, 2) moderately significant, 3) insignificant, and 4) unknown. The following preliminary list of known ships that have sunk or gone ashore utilized this study's classification of significance. Where an asterisk appears (*), the BLM study did not include information on this shipwreck. The list is in chronological order.

The Golden Horn-- (Moderate significance) July 25, 1893.
British, four-masted iron. Carrying cargo of coal. Located 1/4 mile off S.W. shore of island. Partially salvaged. Sources: Santa Barbara Morning Press, July 25, 1893; Santa Barbara News-Press, July 25, 1969, March 9, 1970.

Crown of England-- (moderate significance) November 7, 1894. British. Gave Wreck Canyon its name. Off South side of island. Sources: Santa Barbara Morning Press, November 13 and 14, 1894.

Magic-- (*) August 21, 1899. Probably an American schooner or fishing boat. Belonged to Catalina Conserving Company. Source: Santa Barbara Morning Press, September 6, 1899.

Aggie Norge-- (*) 1915. Norwegian Registry. 1575 tons. Sank off West end of island on

Dora Bluhm--

Talbott Shoal. Source: Santa Barbara News-Press. August 22, 1971.

(moderate significance) May 25, 1910.

Schooner of 330 tons, built in 1883. Carrying lumber from Coos Bay, Oregon, to San Pedro. Sank off West shore.

Sources: Santa Barbara Morning Press, May 28, 1910; Bruce D. Berman Encyclopedia of American Shipwrecks (Full citation in bibliography), p. 208.

Thornton--

(significant) 1910. Source: Science Applications, Inc., Archaeological Literature Survey, Volume II, Appendices, p. VIII.3-513.

Blue Fin--

(insignificant) September 3, 1944. 94 tons; built in 1930. Ran on oil, screw propeller. Local newspaper did not cover it (defense reasons?) Sources: Bruce D. Berman, Encyclopedia of American Shipwrecks, p. 210.

Aristocratis--

(moderately significant) December 1949. Salvaged. Source: Science Applications, Inc., Archaeological Literature Survey Volume II, Appendices, p. VIII.3-502.

Golden Gate--

(insignificant) 1952. Built in 1944, oil screw type. Source: Science Applications Inc., Archaeological Literature Survey, Volume II, Appendices, p. VIII.9-505.

Patricia--

(insignificant) June 21, 1954. Panamanian-registered freighter. Carrying 10,000 tons of coal, was enroute to Japan. Wrecked on a reef off the island near Skunk Point. Sources: Santa Barbara News-Press, June 21, 1954, June 21, 1974.

Chickasaw--

(insignificant) February 7, 1962. C-2 type freighter, registered in Alabama. Was enroute from Japan to Wilmington. Steel vessel, 6,131 tons. Ran on steam, screw propeller. Built in 1914. Wrecked between Cluster Point and South Point, southwest part of island. Sources: Santa Barbara News-Press, February 7, 1962; Bruce D. Barman, Encyclopedia of American Shipwrecks, p. 205; Adrian L. Lonsdale and H. R. Kaplan, A Guide to Sunken Ships in American Waters,

OLDEN DAYS: Big Potential Is Seen in Santa Rosa Island

By Stella Overland Bruce

In 1874 J. Ross Brown wrote an article for the Overland Monthly about Santa Rosa Island, then owned by A. D. and H. H. Moore.

The narrator, who was the guest of H. H. Moore, had some ambitious dreams for this attractive 62,000-acre body of land:

"Captain Chase promised us that we would reach Santa Rosa in four hours — if the breeze held out.

"He had crossed the channel in three and a half. The Star of Freedom was capable of doing it in three and a quarter, but she was a little peculiar, and required plenty of wind to develop her best sailing qualities.

"The breeze deserted us long before we reached the northern point of Santa Cruz, and we had the pleasure of partaking of his good cheer and sleeping that night on board his wayward little craft, lulled by the song of the gulls and the drowsy swell of the sea.

"It was not until the next day at noon that we were enabled to make a landing at the wharf of Moore's Harbor.

"A large proportion of the soil is adobe, packed hard by the rains of bygone centuries, giving, in the absence of timber, rather a bleak appearance to the island.

"All it requires, however, is cultivation to make it productive.

"THE VALLEYS consist of alluvium and sedimentary deposits, washed down from the adjacent hills, intermixed with shells and debris, originally deposited by the ocean, forming a succession of strata extending a depth of 15 or 20 feet.

"The natural fertility of this soil is remarkable. Each valley is filled with an almost impenetrable growth of alfalfa, wild oats, bur clover, native grasses, weeds and various nutritious herbs, suitable for pasturage.

"The hills are gently rounded, with spacious vistas on the tops, destitute of trees, and extending broad, easy slopes with slight declivity toward

important divisions of the island.

"Estimates made of the arable land show that not less than 20,000 acres may be regarded as susceptible of cultivation.

"THE SOIL is adapted to the growth of wheat, barley, oats and other cereals.

"It is easily worked after the first rain, and so far as tests have been made, has proved prolific.

"Being a virgin soil, it may be relied upon for heavy crops during the next 26 years.

"With proper rotation of crops, it probably would be inexhaustible.

"Barley has already been successfully cultivated, with a yield of 60 or 70 bushels to the acre.

"In the sheltered valleys most of the fruits known to temperate climates would flourish.

"Apples, peaches, pears, plums, apricots, cherries, quinces, etc., would seem to be well adapted to this region.

"There are many sheltered nooks where figs, olives, almonds and walnuts would probably attain perfection.

"Grapevines might also yield good crops where they are not too much exposed to the cool sea-breezes of summer.

"Divided into farms of 200 or 300 acres each, Santa Rosa would be an excellent field for a grand colonization enterprise.

(The writer had little thought of the marketing or transportation problems of such a venture.)

"There is no place in California where a more equable and healthful climate is combined with so large an area of available land, subject to individual control."

"IN MY RAMBLES about the island, I was impressed with its capabilities for many novel and interesting experiments in addition to the homely though profitable pursuit of sheep raising."

Mr. Moore suggested to him the possibility of establishing a tourist attraction there, and he let his imagination wander

a preserve for the wild game of the continent.

"It would be easy to divide the elevated portions of the island into 10,000 or 15,000 acres, and to stock such subdivisions with buffalo, elk, deer, antelope and other graminivorous animals common to the remote and thinly settled parts of our continent.

"These animals would find congenial ranges in the hills and canyons of the island, isolated from the intrusion of man, they would in a short time largely increase in numbers.

"Chinese cattle and Mongolian sheep, Japanese pheasants, the Australian kangaroo, the English leopards, rabbit, the llama of Chile and Peru, and various other rare and curious animals from foreign countries might also be introduced, so that in the course of a few years an area of 15,000 or 20,000 acres would be stocked with an abundance of game.

"Once carried into effect, there is no reason to doubt that such an enterprise would not only pay in the shipment of game to San Francisco, but would render Santa Rosa a place of popular resort for travelers from all parts of the world.

"When the English, Russian or German tourist can, in a few hours, be landed on a beautiful island, where he can chase the buffalo, the elk and the deer, and always be sure of some trophy of his skill, few would pass over this coast without spending a day or two at Santa Rosa."

HE POINTED OUT that the climate was suitable, the grazing abundant, and the range ample. Sheep and cattle had adapted themselves to the island environment, and other animals would, too.

"It is too common an error in California to disparage all novel conceptions, and therefore to disregard upon new enterprises.

"California offers the best field for the introduction of novelties in agriculture, stock raising and kindred subjects.

"Where is the limit, and

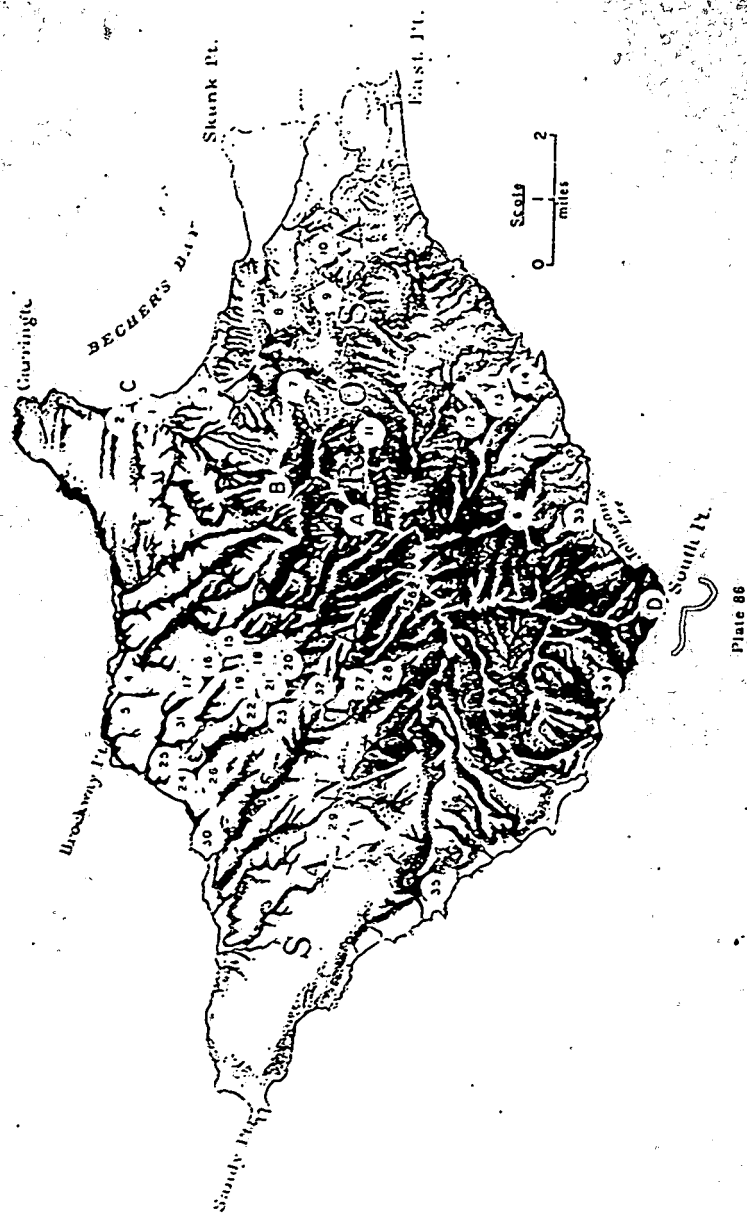


Plate 86

SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL

WILSON-JENNINGS DAY 11.2.

