Guide to the Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Collection
1914-2011
(bulk dates 1983-2002)

California State Parks Archives
Sacramento, California

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Records processed by Lola Aguilar
Date Completed June 2011

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Descriptive Summary

Title
Inventory of the Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Collection

Collection Number
CSPA-701

Creator
Anderson Marsh State Historic Park

Extent
8 linear feet, including 2 linear feet of photographic material.

Repository
California State Parks Archives
Sacramento, California

Language
English

Abstract
Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is a California State Historic Park located at the southeast corner of Clear Lake, at the formation of Cache Creek, on Hwy 53 between the cities of Lower Lake and Clearlake, in Lake County, California. The park’s prime resources, the Native American features and the wetland habitats were the chief reasons the Department of Parks and Recreation acquired the property in 1982, which also contains the Anderson Ranch complex. The Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Collection is arranged in eleven series: 1. Reports, 2. Publications, 3. Correspondence, 4. Legal Documents, 5. Histories, 6. Subject Files, 7. Ephemera, 8. Cartographic Material, 9. Artifacts, 10. Photographic Material and 11. Media. Items span the years 1914 to 2011 with the bulk of the collection from 1983 to 2002.

Physical Location
California State Parks Archives
Administrative Information

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Collection, CSPA-701: [box: folder number], California State Parks Archives, Sacramento, California.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Cultural and archaeological site maps are restricted. Reports with sensitive data may be restricted. Consult repository for details.

Acquisition Information

Anderson Marsh SHP donated this collection in 2003. William Salata, California State Parks Clear Lake Sector Superintendent, Northern Buttes District, Denise Rist, California State Parks Regional Interpretive Specialist, Northern Buttes District, and the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association added to this collection in December 2010. Northern Buttes District Associate Archaeologist Leslie Steidl added reports in May 2011.

Accruals

The repository continues to add materials to this collection on a regular basis.

Processing Information

Lola Aguilar processed this collection and created and encoded its finding aid in 2011.
Administrative History

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is a California State Historic Park located at the southeast corner of Clear Lake, at the formation of Cache Creek, on Hwy 53 between the cities of Lower Lake and Clearlake, in Lake County, California. The park’s prime resources, the Native American features and the wetland habitats were the chief reasons the Department of Parks and Recreation acquired the property, which also contains the Anderson Ranch complex. Anderson Marsh SHP is a nature preserve, which protects the habitat of a tule marsh, itself an integral part of the Clear Lake ecosystem. The marsh offers food and breeding habitat for mammals, fish, birds and amphibians. The park protects several additional habitats including freshwater marsh, oak woodland, grasslands, and riparian woodland.

One of the largest groups of people in prehistoric California, the Southeastern Pomo, knew this land as home. Today, descendants of those people still live nearby. Anderson Marsh’s archaeological sites hold clues to the lives of the Pomo, with some sites over 10,000 years old. The cultural resources of the site prompted California State University, Sonoma archaeologist John Parker to conduct a field survey in 1976 that began a campaign for the creation of Anderson Marsh SHP.

In 1982 the State of California acquired Anderson Marsh and the DPR began evaluating what steps could be taken to include the property in the State Parks system. On October 15, 1983 the park was dedicated in a ceremony which included the park’s first ranger Floyd Lemley and new DPR Director William Briner. The 3,000 guests that attended the dedication visited Indian village sites, hiked nature and archaeological trails, rode the stagecoach, and took boat tours.

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is named for John Still Anderson who bought the 750 acre ranch in 1885. Anderson, his wife Sarah Laidlaw Anderson and their six children moved from Scotland to California in 1884. Through purchase and homesteading, Anderson soon added 1,300 more acres and enlarged the ranch house. The ranch remained in the Anderson family until 1964 when the property was purchased by an investment company.

Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association was formed in 1984 by park staff and volunteers. The organization promotes educational and interpretive activities at the site and plays an important role in funding projects that the state would otherwise be unable to provide. These include conservatory work, construction, trail work, interpretive displays, rehabilitation of facilities and historic objects, purchasing interpretive items, acquiring furnishings, and providing interpretive information. AMIA has sponsored many fundraising annual events over the years including the Blackberry Festival, Tea & Musicale, Native American Days, Heritage Days, Christmas at the Ranch, and more recently, Old Time Bluegrass Festival, and Old Fashioned Day in the Park.
Scope and Content


Series one, Reports, consists of fifty-three file folders and is arranged alphabetically by first letter of the report to coincide with the parks internal Unit Data File system. Report subjects include archaeology, cultural and natural resources, general planning, and furnishing plans. Reports with sensitive data may be restricted. Series two, Publications, consist of fifty file folders and is arranged chronologically within type. Subjects represented include histories, manuals, directories, news releases, and news clippings.

Series three, Correspondence, includes letters from elementary schools, donors, and docent organizations to the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc. and is arranged chronologically. Series four, Legal Documents, contains a signed copy of a contract between the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc. and the Anderson Marsh SHP. Series five, Histories, is arranged chronologically and includes histories of the park and individual histories of area pioneer families such as the Grigsby family.

Series six, Subject Files, is arranged chronologically and include park furnishing plans, exhibit notes, and entrance kiosk and visitor center files. Series seven, Ephemera, is arranged by type and then chronologically and includes Park Dedication, Blackberry Festival, and Tea & Musicale programs, tickets, and flyers. Series eight, Cartographic Material, is arranged chronologically. Five maps are restricted due to sensitive information. Series nine, Artifacts, contains a remnant of wallpaper from the ranch house. Series ten, Photographic Material, is arranged chronologically and contains photographs and negatives of Anderson Marsh SHP and the park’s various events, staff, and volunteers. Series eleven, Media includes an informational VHS tape and four meeting and oral history audio cassette tapes.

Related Collections

Clear Lake State Park Collection CSPA-218

Indexing Terms

Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association
Anderson Marsh State Historic Park
Archaeological parks
California. Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Clear Lake (Calif. : Township)
Cultural parks
Historic parks
Pomo Indians--California--Lake County--History.
Series Description


Reports are arranged alphabetically by first letter of the report to coincide with the Unit Data File system. Report subjects range from archaeology, cultural resources, natural resources, general planning, furnishing plans, exhibit design, inventories, and interpretation. Check with archivist for restricted status. Archaeology is spelled two ways: archaeology and the alternate spelling, archeology.


04  An Archaeological Survey of Anderson Marsh and Anderson Flat, Lake County, CA, 1977.


Box 2: 01  Anderson Marsh: Anderson Flat, Lake County, CA, 1977.

02  Anderson Marsh: Anderson Flat, Lake County, CA, 1984.

03  Anderson Marsh Project and Proposed Natural Preserve, Proposed Cultural Preserves: Summary Inventory of Features, (Preliminary) 1984.

04  Anderson Marsh Project and Proposed Natural Preserve, Proposed Primary Historic Zone: Resource Summary, 1984.

05  Anderson Marsh Project: Inventory of Cultural Features, 1984.

Box 3: 01  Anderson Marsh Project: Inventory of Features, 1977-1978.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Anderson Marsh SHP: General Plan, 1989.</td>
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<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Archaeological Evaluation of 14 Acres South of Anderson Marsh, Lake County, CA, 1982.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Archaeological Investigations at the Lewis Ridge Site (CA-LAK-589) in Anderson Marsh SHP, Lake County, CA, 1986.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Archaeological Survey Report for a Proposed Widening on Hwy 53 from Lower Lake to 3½ Miles North in Lake County, CA, 1984.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Archaeological Site Boundary Delineation in the Anderson Marsh Vicinity, Lake County, CA, 1980.</td>
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<th>Box 5:</th>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Clear Lake State Park Resource Inventory, 1976.</td>
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<th>Box 6:</th>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>County of Lake General Plan: Technical Appendices, 1981.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Early Prehistory of the Clear Lake Area, Lake County, CA, 1980 (pp. 309-314).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>How to Populate and Use the Resources of the Clear Lake Basin: A Prehistoric Example, 1992.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Intensive Cultural Resources: Survey and Evaluation, Cache Creek, Lake County, 1989.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Lichen Dating Methods, 1996.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8: 01</td>
<td>Resources Report: The Fish and Wildlife Resources of Anderson Marsh, Clear Lake, Lake County, CA, 1975.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Results of a Test Excavation at CA-Lak-589 Anderson Marsh SHP Lake County, CA, 1988.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
05  The Archaeology of LAK-510, Near Lower Lake, Lake County, CA, 1984.


Material is arranged chronologically within type and includes histories, manuals, handbooks, directories, newsletters, news releases, and news clippings. One oversized, fragile book was relocated to its own box.

OM Box 15  History of Mendocino and Lake Counties California with Biographical Sketches of the Leading Men and Women of the Counties who have been Identified with their Growth and Development from the Early Days to the Present, 1914.

Box 10: 01  Clear Lake Pomo Society, 1926.


03  The Pomo Indians of California and their Neighbors, 1969.


05  Clear Lake Clarion, vol. 1 no. 3, 1983.


08  Northern Region Interpretation, 1987.


02 Guidelines for the Curation of Archeological Collections, 1993.


08 Sharing the Neighborhood: Peoples of the Lake and Uplands, Clear Lake, undated. (2 copies).


10 News Releases, 1983-1994


Correspondence includes letters from elementary schools, donors, and docent organizations to the park and the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association and is arranged chronologically.

Box 13: 01 Correspondence, 1981-1998.

This series includes the signed district copy of the contract authorizing the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association, through its president, for the provision of services within the scope of Public Resources Code 513 to the Anderson Marsh SHP. Also includes an incomplete record of donations to the park.


This series is arranged chronologically and includes histories of the park, as well as individual histories of pioneer families of the area such as the Grigsby family.


Files are arranged chronologically and include park furnishing plans, exhibit notes, brochure mock-ups, and entrance kiosk and visitor center files.


02 Plant Research, 1986.


05 Furnishing Plan, 1993.


07 Anderson Marsh SHP Brochure, undated.

08 Visitor Center, undated.

This series includes Park Dedication Ceremony, Blackberry Festival, Old Time Bluegrass Festival, and Tea & Musicale programs, tickets, and flyers as well as blank Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc. stationary and certificates. Items are arranged by type and then chronologically.

Box 14: 09  Brochures, Programs, and Flyers, 1986-2006, undated.

OM Box 16  Posters, 1985-2006.


This series is arranged chronologically with oversized maps relocated to Map Drawer 1A. Five maps are restricted to researchers due to the sensitive nature of the information contained therein.

Box 14: 10  Anderson Marsh Project (Clear Lake) Native American Sites: Inventory of Features (Appendix B) DPR, 1973. MD 1A

RESTRICTED

Anderson Marsh Project (Clear Lake) Cultural Resource Sensitivity: Inventory of Features DPR, 1973. MD 1A RESTRICTED


Anderson Marsh Project (Clear Lake) Acquisition Plan Proposed Addition DPR-777 Drawing No.19259, Sheet No.1 of 1, 1983. MD 1A


Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Resource Constraints Soil

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park Allowable Use Intensity: Land Use Element DPR Drawing No. 20805 Map 8, 1986.


Location and Map of Anderson Marsh, undated. (photocopy)

Clear Lake Highlands Quadrangle: Proposed Boundary, undated. (photocopy)

Clear Lake Highlands, CA: Approximate Locations of Known Archeological Sites, undated. (photocopy) **RESTRICTED**

Anderson Marsh Cultural Preserve, undated. MD 1A **RESTRICTED**

**Series 9. Artifacts, undated.**

This series contains a remnant of wallpaper with the cheesecloth backing which was found behind the west wall of the Anderson Marsh Ranch House on July 15, 1985.

Box 14: 11 Wallpaper and Cheesecloth Fragments, undated.


This series is arranged chronologically and contains photographs and negatives of Anderson Marsh State Historic Park and the Ranch House. Also included are photographs of events such as the Blackberry Festival, Tea & Musicale, Christmas at the Ranch, and Heritage Days. The collection contains images of Anderson Marsh SHP restoration, staff, docents, Anderson Marsh Interpretive Assoc. members, and copies original photographs of pioneer family members.


Box 19 Negatives, undated.


**Series 11. Media, 1988-1999.**

This series includes one informational VHS tape and three audiocassette tapes of the California State Park and Recreation Commission approval of the Anderson Marsh SHP General Plan, an interpretive overview of Anderson Marsh SHP, and interviews of Percy Norman Baylis, Russell Anderson, and Alice Fanny Baylis Breslin. Items have been relocated to Media storage.

VHS Box 1  “Sharing the Neighborhood for 5,000 Years,” 1999.

Audio Box 1  Percy Baylis, Alice Baylis Breslin, and Russell Breslin, 1988.


Commission meeting at Clear Lake, General Plan approval, 1988.