

35-TI-46, Tillamook County, Oregon  
Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name \_\_\_\_\_

other names/site number 35-TI-46, Smuggler Cove Shell Midden

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2. Location

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street & number Oswald West State Park not for publication

city or town Neahkahnie Beach vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Tillamook code 057 zip code 97131

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

*James Hamrick*

July 20, 1997

Signature of certifying official Deputy SHPO  
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Classification  
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Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

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6. Function or Use  
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Historic Functions: Cat: Domestic Sub: Camp

Current Functions: Cat: Recreation and Culture Sub: Outdoor recreation

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7. Description  
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Architectural Classification: N/A

Materials: foundation N/A  
roof N/A  
walls N/A  
other N/A

**Narrative Description:** 35-TI-46 is a *shell midden* situated on \_\_\_\_\_ on the shore of Smuggler Cove in Oswald West State Park, Tillamook County, on the northern Oregon Coast.

the site is found on a thickly vegetated terrace about 4-6 m above the beach on the south side of the creek. 35-TI-46 was first recorded by Richard Ross (1976), who found a shell midden about 30 cm thick covering an area about 36 m x 6 m wide. Ross described the shell midden as "badly damaged by campground construction" and noted that "considerable erosion has taken place from the seaward side." The campground once present in the site area has since been moved and much of the area has become heavily overgrown with thick underbrush. Rick Minor (1986:22) found no remnants of 35-TI-46, in fact, and considered it "highly likely that this site has been completely destroyed by erosion and park construction." In 1994, however, Moss and Erlandson (1995:21-23) identified remnants of the site on a relatively level terrace above a thickly vegetated storm beach covered with old drift logs. Archaeological deposits were found scattered over an area about 25 m x 6 m wide, but thick brush obscured much of the southern site area. Archaeological materials were also found on the slope leading down to the beach to the west. The total site may encompass an area about 40 m north-south and 10 m east-west. Moss and Erlandson (1995:23) described the site contents as "dark brown/black organic soil with crushed mussel (*Mytilus*) shell." Barnacle (*Balanus* sp.) and chiton (*Katharina tunicata*) shell was also noted, along with burned rock and charcoal. The analysis of mussel shell fragments, from 0-10 cm below the surface in a small trowel probe excavated on the terrace, produced an uncorrected radiocarbon date of 480 ± 50 RYBP (Beta-80055), calibration of which suggests that the site was occupied about AD 1660 (Moss and Erlandson 1995:98). This date suggests that 35-TI-46 was occupied at roughly the same time as a shipwreck is thought to have occurred on Nehalem Spit about 6-8 km to the south (Woodward 1986). Thus, the occupation of this shell midden may span the transition between the Late Holocene Precontact and Postcontact periods along the northern Oregon Coast.



Ross, Richard (1976) *Archaeological Survey of State Park Lands along the Oregon Coast*. Department of Anthropology, Oregon State University. Corvallis.

Woodward, J. A. (1986) Prehistoric Shipwrecks on the Oregon Coast? Archaeological Evidence. In *Contributions to the Archaeology of Oregon 1983-1986*, edited by K. M. Ames, pp. 219-264. Association of Oregon Archaeologists Occasional Papers 3.

Woodward, J.A., J. White, and R. Cummings (1990) Paleoseismicity and the Archaeological Record: Areas of Investigation on the Northern Oregon Coast. *Oregon Geology* 52(3):57-65.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: University of Oregon, State Museum of Anthropology

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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Acreage of Property 0.3 acre USGS Quadrangle: Arch Cape, Oreg. (1985), 1:24,000

UTM References:            Zone Easting Northing Description of Point  
 1:

**Verbal Boundary Description:** 35-TI-46 is situated on a terrace just east of and above Short Sand Beach on the south side of Necarney Creek in Oswald West State Park, Tillamook County. The site is found in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 7, T. 3N, R. 10W, Willamette Meridian. The site is bounded by a roughly rectangular 40 m x 10 m wide area, with its long axis parallel to the beach, which encompasses the relatively flat terrace above the beach and the slope leading down to it. The 40 m long western site boundary is delineated by the base of the slope leading down to a thickly vegetated and driftlog-covered storm beach. The 10 m wide northern site boundary is marked by the intersection of the south bank of Necarney Creek and the terrace. The 40 m long eastern boundary is marked by a steep slope that rises towards Neahkhanie Mountain. The 10 m wide southern boundary of the site is located approximately 50 m south of Necarney Creek.

**Boundary Justification:** Site boundaries have been defined during two episodes of surface reconnaissance (Ross 1976; Moss and Erlandson 1995), by examining soil and stratigraphic exposures in foot trails, cut banks, and seacliff profiles. Site boundaries are based on the horizontal distribution of archaeological materials typical of Oregon Coast sites: marine shell, burned rock, artifacts made from stone or other materials, and/or dark culturally enriched (anthropic) soils. The margins of 35-TI-46 are also defined by natural geographic features such as the extent of relatively level and inhabitable ground, the seacliff that forms the western site boundary, Necarney Creek which borders the site on the north, and a steep slope that rises to the east of the site.

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
 =====

name/title	<u>Jon M. Erlandson and Madonna L. Moss, Assistant Professors</u>	date	<u>August 31, 1996</u>
organization	<u>University of Oregon</u>	telephone	<u>(541) 346-5098</u>
street & number	<u>Department of Anthropology</u>		
city or town	<u>Eugene, OR 97403-1218</u>		

=====  
**Property Owner**  
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name	<u>State of Oregon</u>	
department	<u>Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department</u>	
street & number	<u>1115 Commercial Street NE</u>	telephone <u>(503) 378-5001 ext. 226</u>
city & state	<u>Salem, OR 97310-1001</u>	

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photographs Page 1 35-TI-46, Tillamook County, Oregon  
Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

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Photograph 1 of 1

3. Photographer: Madonna L. Moss
4. August 11, 1994
5. University of Oregon State Museum of Anthropology
6. View of shell midden exposed north of trail (to left), with benchmark in upper right; facing east
7. Photograph 1 of 1; Black and White Roll 2, Frame 19A

Scoring on Scale of 1 to 5

- 5 - Excellent
- 4 - Very good
- 3 - Good
- 2 - Fair
- 1 - Poor
- 0 - Nonexistent

RATING 35

PRE-HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

35-TI-46  
SMUGGLER COVE  
SHELL MIDDEN

COUNTY TILLAMOOK

TOWN/VICINITY OSWALD WEST STATE PARK  
NEAHKAHNIE BEACH

EVALUATOR ATHERTON

DATE FEB. 13, 1997

Final Rating

- 50 - 45 Of prime significance
- 44 - 40 Significant
- 39 - 35 Noteworthy
- 34 - 30 Also considered

NATIONAL REGISTER SELECTION RATING SHEET

Checklist on Methodology

1. Does the testing strategy provide adequate information on integrity and content of site?
2. Have site boundaries, horizontal & vertical, been adequately determined?
3. Has site function been determined?
4. Have the temporal boundaries of the site been established?
5. Has context been provided by relating this site to previous archaeology?

Yes No

✓      
✓      
✓      
(✓) only one date  
from shallow deposit  
✓    

Factors

Relative Importance

Score

Weighted Rating

- |  |     |   |          |   |           |
|--|-----|---|----------|---|-----------|
| 1. <u>Integrity of site</u> -<br>Site is essentially undisturbed, unencroached.  | 5.0 | X | <u>3</u> | = | <u>15</u> |
| 2. <u>Interpretive potential</u> -<br>Site has yielded, or has potential of yielding important information related to an established body of knowledge about prehistory and/or prehistoric environments. | 5.0 | X | <u>4</u> | = | <u>20</u> |

TOTAL 35

Scoring on Scale of 1 to 5

RATING 35

- 5 - Excellent
- 4 - Very good
- 3 - Good
- 2 - Fair
- 1 - Poor
- 0 - Nonexistent

PRE-HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE 35 T 146

COUNTY TILLAMOOK

TOWN/VICINITY OSWALD WEST STATE PARK  
NEAHKAHNE BEACH

EVALUATOR

[Signature]  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

- Final Rating
- 50 - 45 Of prime significance
  - 44 - 40 Significant
  - 39 - 35 Noteworthy
  - 34 - 30 Also considered

NATIONAL REGISTER SELECTION RATING SHEET

Checklist on Methodology

- |   | OBSERVATION                    | Yes               | No                |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Does the testing strategy provide adequate information on integrity and content of site? |                                | _____             | <u>✓</u>          |
| 2. Have site boundaries, horizontal & vertical, been adequately determined?                 | HORIZONTAL<br>VERTICAL         | <u>X</u><br>_____ | _____<br><u>X</u> |
| 3. Has site function been determined?   |                                | <u>X</u>          | _____             |
| 4. Have the temporal boundaries of the site been established?                               |                                | <u>X</u>          | _____             |
| 5. Has context been provided by relating this site to previous archaeology?                 | EURO CONTACT<br>ETHNO HISTORIC | <u>X</u>          | _____             |

Factors	Relative Importance		Score	Weighted Rating
1. <u>Integrity of site</u> - Site is essentially undisturbed, unencroached.	5.0	X	<u>3.5</u>	= <u>17.5</u>
2. <u>Interpretive potential</u> - Site has yielded, or has potential of yielding important information related to an established body of knowledge about prehistory and/or prehistoric environments.	5.0	X	<u>3.5</u>	= <u>17.5</u>

TOTAL 35



**Portions of this file have been redacted to  
meet Oregon State law (ORS 192.501(11)).**

**More information may be available upon request.  
Contact the Oregon State Archaeologist for details.**