

35-LA-8, Lane 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-LA-8, Strawberry Hill site

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2. Location

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street & number Neptune State Park not for publication X

city or town Searose Beach vicinity X

state Oregon code OR county Lane code 039 zip code 97498

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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 X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally X statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick
Signature of certifying official Deputy SHPO
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

July 20, 1997
Date

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
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:
 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): _____

Signature of Keeper _____
Date of Action _____

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5. Classification
 =====

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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<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 site

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-LA-8 is a large *shell midden* situated in Neptune State Park, Lane County, central Oregon Coast. This area provides access to a variety of environments, including rocky and sandy outer coast intertidal habitats, various nearshore communities, dense coniferous forest, and occasional stream and riparian environments. A broad rocky intertidal platform located just below 35-LA-8 is a favorite haulout for harbor seals, sometimes containing over 100 individuals. This is one of several sites in Neptune State Park that contain a priceless record of central Oregon Coast landscape and cultural developments over the millennia. 35-LA-8 was first recorded by Lloyd Collins (1953) who estimated its size at 100 m x 25 m, with shell midden deposits almost a meter deep. The site was also examined by Richard Ross (1976) during his survey of archaeological sites in Oregon Coast State Parks. Ross noted shell midden deposits covering an area about 80 m x 40 m, with depths reaching up to 1.5 m. A decade later, Rick Minor (1986:59) examined 35-LA-8, observing shell midden deposits up to a meter deep exposed along the sea cliff for a distance of about 100 m and inland for up to 25 m. Minor suggested that the size and depth of the site indicated that it was the scene of "long-term settlement" and speculated that housepits might be present. Finally, Jon Erlandson and Madonna Moss (1993:45-47) evaluated 35-LA-8 and obtained several radiocarbon samples for dating. They found shell midden deposits over an area stretching for 125 m east-to-west (and extending east of US Highway 101) and 65 m north-to-south. The primary midden constituents were described as mussel (*Mytilus californianus*) and barnacle (*Balanus* sp.) shells, burned rock, and charcoal. A sample of burned mussel shells from a 5-15 cm thick shell midden stratum (55-60 cm below surface) exposed in the seacliff just south of the parking area was radiocarbon dated to 410 ± 60 RYBP (Beta-64621), or about AD 1700. A paired sample of charcoal and shell from the base of the shell midden exposed in the seacliff in the southwestern site area produced dates of 1160 ± 50 RYBP (Beta-64620) and 1180 ± 70 RYBP (Beta-63743), respectively (Erlandson and Moss 1993:83). After calibration, these two dates suggest that the southwestern site area was first occupied between about AD 900 and AD 1050. Thus, the available evidence suggests that 35-LA-8 is a multicomponent site occupied during the Late Holocene Precontact period, and possibly into the Postcontact period.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance: Archaeology: Prehistoric
 Ethnic Heritage: Native American

Period of Significance: Late Holocene Precontact
 Late Holocene Postcontact?

Significant Dates: 410 + 60 RYBP (AD 1700)
 1160 + 50 RYBP (AD 920)
 1180 + 70 RYBP (AD 1050)

Significant Person: N/A

Cultural Affiliation: Alsea

Architect/Builder: N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance: 35-LA-8 is a large and multicomponent *shell midden* with archaeological deposits up to a meter deep in some areas. Three radiocarbon dates from the base of shell midden exposures in two different site areas suggest that the occupation of the site began by at least AD 900 and continued intermittently until at least AD 1700. Thus, 35-LA-8 contains extensive deposits from the Late Holocene Precontact period and may have been occupied into the Postcontact period, as well. Minor (1986:53) described the research potential of 35-LA-8 as high. Despite disturbance associated with park and highway construction and erosion, the site remnants are extensive and retain their fundamental spatial integrity (Erlandson and Moss 1993:47). With stratified and well preserved shell midden deposits, this highly significant site has the potential to yield valuable data on a variety of aspects of past Alsea environments, subsistence, settlement and demography, site structure, and technology. 35-LA-8 is one of several sites in Neptune State Park that together span the transition from the Precontact and Postcontact periods. These characteristics suggest that 35-LA-8 can contribute valuable scientific data relevant to a variety of important questions under Research Topics 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Finally, as a tangible link to the past, 35-LA-8 is highly significant to descendants of the Alsea and other Oregon Coast tribes.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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Collins, Lloyd R. (1953) *Archaeological Survey of the Oregon Coast from June 1951 - December 1952, Final Report*. Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon. Eugene.

Erlandson, Jon M. and Madonna L. Moss (1993) *An Evaluation, Survey, and Dating Program for Archaeological Sites on State Lands of the Central Oregon Coast*. Department of Anthropology, University of Oregon. Eugene.

Minor, Rick (1986) *An Evaluation of Archaeological Sites on State Park Lands Along the Oregon Coast*. Heritage Research Associates Report No. 44. Eugene.

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

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 1.7 acres USGS Quadrangle: Yachacts, Oreg. (1984), 1:24,000

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Description of Point
1:				

Boundary Justification: Site boundaries, defined during multiple episodes of surface reconnaissance (Collins 1953; Ross 1976; Minor 1986; Erlandson and Moss 1993), are based on the distribution of archaeological materials typical of Oregon Coast shell midden sites (shellfish remains, animal bone, burned rock, artifacts of stone or other materials, and/or dark culturally enriched soils). The site boundaries are also defined in part by geographic features such as the steep seacliff on the west.

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11. Form Prepared By

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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) 346-6076</u>
street & number	<u>Department of Anthropology</u>		
city or town	<u>Eugene, OR 97403-1218</u>		

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Property Owner

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name	<u>State of Oregon</u>	telephone	<u>(503) 378-5001 ext. 226</u>
department	<u>Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department</u>		
street & number	<u>1115 Commercial Street NE</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-LA-8, Lane County, Oregon
Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast

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Photograph 1 of 2

- 3. Photographer: Madonna L. Moss
- 4. June 20, 1993
- 5. University of Oregon State Museum of Anthropology
- 6. View from wave-cut terrace along point, looking east to shell midden exposed in seacliff along south bank of point and below U.S. Highway 101. The drainage pipe exposed in seacliff and the fence around the parking area are shown.
- 7. Photograph 1 of 2; Black and White Roll 6, Frame 29

Photograph 2 of 2

- 3. Photographer: Madonna L. Moss
- 4. June 20, 1993
- 5. University of Oregon State Museum of Anthropology
- 6. View of slumping shell midden in an area laced with beach access trails along southwest tip of eroding dune; looking north
- 7. Photograph 2 of 2; Black and White Roll 6, Frame 24

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-LA-8
STRAWBERRY HILL
SITE

COUNTY LANE

TOWN/VICINITY SEAROSE BEACH

EVALUATOR ATHERTON

DATE FEB 13, 1987

- 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

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

<u>Factors</u>	<u>Relative Importance</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Weighted Rating</u>
1. <u>Integrity of site</u> - Site is essentially undisturbed, unencroached.	5.0	X	<u>3</u>	= <u>15</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>4</u>	= <u>20</u>

TOTAL 35

Scoring on Scale of 1 to 5

RATING 42.5

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

PRE-HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE 35LA 8

COUNTY LANE

TOWN/VICINITY NEPTUNE STATE PARK SEAROSE BEACH

EVALUATOR SCOTT E. STUEMKE

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

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
1. Does the testing strategy provide adequate information on integrity and content of site?	<u>→</u> X	_____
2. Have site boundaries, horizontal & vertical, been adequately determined?	<u>→</u> X	_____
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?	<u>X</u>	_____

<u>Factors</u>	<u>Relative Importance</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Weighted Rating</u>
1. <u>Integrity of site</u> - Site is essentially undisturbed, unencroached.	5.0	X	<u>4.25</u> =	<u>21.25</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>4.25</u> =	<u>21.25</u>

TOTAL 42.5

**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.**