

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

Guam

COUNTY:

N/A

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

AUG 7 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

Memorial Beach Park

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Route One

CITY OR TOWN:

Asan

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Guam

STATE

Guam

CODE

87

COUNTY:

N/A

CODE

410

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

(Check One)

- ☐ District ☐ Building
☒ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☐ Occupied
☒ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
☐ Restricted
☒ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☒ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify) _____
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious _____
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Government of Guam

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Agana

STATE:

Guam

CODE

87

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Department of Land Management, Government of Guam

STREET AND NUMBER:

Administration Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Agana

STATE

Guam

CODE

87

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal ☐ State ☒ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

Guam

COUNTY:

N/A

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Presently, Memorial Beach Park is an open grass covered area from Route One, Marine Drive to the shoreline in the village of Agat. Running parallel to the shoreline is a row of young palm trees and in one corner of the park is a memorial consisting of an upright artillery shell and flagpole.

Prior to the war, the site was the location of Governor Shapley School, which was removed during the invasion of Guam.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1944

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Memorial Beach Park is a portion of one of the invasion beaches where on July 21, 1944, the Armed Forces of the United States commenced the Liberation of the Territory of Guam, the only permanently inhabited possession of the United States to be occupied by enemy forces during World War II. This invasion landed on Guam at two locations - Agat and Asan.

The Asan beachhead was the object of the 3rd Marine Division which consisted of the 3rd, 21st, and 9th regiments and landed at Beaches Red 1 and 2, Beach Green, and Beach Blue respectively from east to west. One segment of Beach Green where the 21st regiment landed is the Memorial Beach Park.

The day before the invasion, underwater demolition teams had marked the paths for the amphibtracs and landing craft to follow. At 8:29 a.m., the 3rd Marine Division landed at Asan following the naval bombardment. Once ashore, the Marines were in precarious situation, being confined between Asan and Adelup Points and faced with the steep hills set in an irregular area beyond the gravel road along the beach and the dry rice paddies beyond, with the hills being held by the enemy in prepared positions.

Once ashore, the Marines brought the artillery and situated it near the mouth of Asan River, near the present Memorial Beach Park. At day-break of July 22, the Japanese counterattacked, but were repulsed, whereupon small combat units of the 21st Regiment began probing up the hills. By the 24th, the crest of the hills had been reached. However, on the night of the 25th, the Japanese delivered their most serious counterattack and succeeded in reaching the rice paddies and almost the divisional artillery command post, but were repelled by hand to hand fighting which broke the attack by noon July 26.

Thus, the most serious battle for Guam ended with the Marines exploiting their advantage by taking the hills surrounding Asan and the Fonte Plateau beyond. Subsequently, the Marines linked up with Agat invasion forces and drove the Japanese north to liberate Guam.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beaty, Janice J., Discovering Guam, Faith Book Store, Agana, Guam, 1967.

Guam Recorder, April-September 1972, "Liberation of Guam" by Paul Carano, University of Guam.

National Park Service, Proposed War in the Pacific National Historical Park, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		144° 42' 44"	13° 28' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.3

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: David T. Lotz, Planner

ORGANIZATION: Parks and Recreation Resources Division

DATE: January 8, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 682

CITY OR TOWN: Agana

STATE: Guam

CODE: 87

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

Title Director of Commerce

Date January 24, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Memorial Beach Park - - - Guam

WORKING NUMBER

2.11.74.217

TECH REVIEW

Photos 1

Maps 1

CONTROL REVIEW

~~late + busy can't be checked~~

Let's accept this on
pith. ~~and~~

cm

2.12

74

HISTORIAN

I think this merits waiting the 50 yr. limit.
justification good for battle, but weak on effect of
victory on the war as a whole. - Enough there though to

Accept
W.R. Case
6/6/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

Acceptable in all details except for 50 year limit.
However, local interest should override this consideration

Accept ~~CONFERENCE~~
M. BARNES 21 JAN 74

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Conference
Accepted

Colr 174

BRANCH CHIEF

accept 7/30/74
Herrington
7.31.74

KEEPER

Wm
8/1

National Register write-up October 1, 1974

Federal Register entry Oct. 1, 1974

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

AUG 7 1974



1878



AGANA QUADRANGLE
 MARIANA ISLANDS—ISLAND OF GUAM
 1:24 000 SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

144° 42' 44"
 13° 28' 18"

SCALE 1:24 000



UTM correction 3/19/08

55/252342/1490344

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE GUAM

Date Entered AUG 7 1974

Name

Location

Memorial Beach Park

Asan

Also Notified

Hon. Antonio Borja Won Pat
State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Jose D. Diego
Director
Dept. of Commerce
Government of Guam
P. O. Box 682
Agana, Guam 96910

Regional Director, Western Region

PR

MMott/row

8/14/74