

**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	OCT 18 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Fort Nuestra Senora de la Soledad

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: One Half Mile South of Umatac on Route Four and One Quarter Mile West on Access Road 5 of Umatac off Route 10

CITY OR TOWN: Umatac vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Guam

STATE: Guam

CODE: 87

COUNTY: N/A

CODE: 410

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

**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:

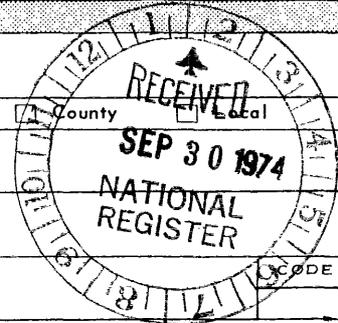
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Guam

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved     Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Little is known of the original appearance of Fort Soledad concerning its size, shape, and features. A brief description of the fort is in a 1927 issue of the Guam Observer. At that time its appearance as described is closely identical to its present appearance with the only change being repairs to the stone sentry box which was made by the parish priest in 1952.

The fort proper is located on the seaward corner of a bluff on the southern edge of Umatac Bay. It presently consists of a terrace of flagged coral limestone blocks partially encircled by a low manposteria wall four to five feet thick and one and a half feet high. At the bayside of the terrace is a stone sentry box. On the opposite side of the terrace, but on a lower level, are the walls, now in ruins, built of manposteria of the guards' quarters. The walls stand up to nine feet high to reach the level of the terrace.



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**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1802-1819**

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

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Fort Nuestra Senora de la Soledad (Our Lady of Solitude) is probably the most recent fort constructed by the Spanish in the Umatac area. Although it is not yet possible to indicate an exact date for the construction of Fort Soledad, it was in all probability constructed between 1802 and 1819.

William Haswell, first officer of the American ship Lydia described Guam in an account of his visit to Guam on January 6, 1802. In his report, he does not mention Fort Soledad as being in existence.

In 1819 the first known historical account of the existence of Fort Soledad appeared. In March the French expedition under the command of Captain Louis de Freynet anchored in Umatac Bay. A report of this expedition indicated four forts existed in Umatac. These forts were Fort Santo Angel, Fort San Jose, Fort Nuestra Senora del Carmen, and Fort Soledad.

Therefore, Fort Soledad, located on the south bluff of Umatac Bay was constructed between 1802 and 1819 by the Spanish. Thus, Fort Soledad was the last of the four forts in Umatac area that were constructed to protect the anchorage in Umatac where the Manila galleons replenished. Three other Spanish forts existed on Guam at this time namely Fort Santiago and Fort Santa Cruz in Apra Harbor and Fort Santa Agueda overlooking Agana.

However, the galleon voyages from Acapulco, Mexico to Manila in the Philippines ceased in 1815 due to the independence of Mexico. Therefore, the fort fell into disuse and was never utilized again for military purposes. During the administration of Governor Felipe de la Carte (1855-1866) it was reported that Fort Soledad had fallen into disrepair and ruin.

Finally, during the early American rule of Guam, rumors of buried treasure in the Fort contributed to its ruin by treasure hunters digging up the floor. This continued until after World War II when Fort Soledad was turned into a park.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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

National Park Service, Archaeology and History of Guam, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1952.

National Park Service, Proposed Guam National Seashore, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, 1969.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		13 ° 17 ' 37 "	144 ° 39 ' 28 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8

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, Post Office Box 682

CITY OR TOWN: Agana STATE: Guam CODE: 87

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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: [Signature]

Title: Director of Commerce

Date: January 24, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

[Signature]  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/18/74

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register  
Date: 10/17/74

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