

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 24 1979  
DATE ENTERED FEB 14 1979

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Asan Invasion Beach

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER North edge of Asan

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN  
Asan

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Guam

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE  
Guam

CODE  
66

COUNTY  
N/A

CODE  
410

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME See continuation sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Department of Land Management

STREET & NUMBER Administration Building

CITY, TOWN  
Agana

STATE  
Guam 96910

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Guam Historic Survey

DATE  
1974

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Department of Parks and Recreation

CITY, TOWN

Agana

STATE  
Guam 96910

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Asan Invasion Beach is located between Asan and Adelup Points on the W central coast of the island N of Asan Village on USGS Agana Quadrangle Map (1968). It may be reached by driving to Asan Village on Highway One (Marine Drive). The site lies primarily to the N of the highway. It was one of the two beaches selected for the invasion of Guam. Here the reef is fairly close to the shore (about 100 m) and the bottom and beach are sandy. The Japanese had fortified the reef with cribs of coconut logs, barbed wire, and possibly mines. Just beyond the road were dried up rice paddies; today the village of Asan is located there. Few remains exist today except for a destroyed pillbox near Asan Point and one on Adelup Point; the former forms part of the breakwater on the N side of Asan Point. A marker commemorates the invasion. In addition, a submerged American LVT lies in sixty feet of water within the site.

This site includes within it, the Memorial Beach Park which is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

See verbal boundary description and sketch map for boundary.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 1

Owner of Property

- a. Government of Guam  
Agana, Guam 96910
- b. Commander U.S. Naval Forces Marianas  
U.S. Pacific Fleet  
FPO San Francisco 96630

Major Bibliographic References 10 1

Arthur, Lt. Robert A. and Lt. Kenneth Cohlma. The Third Marine Division.  
Infantry Journal Press. Washington, D.C. n.d.

Arthur, Lt. Robert A. Guam, Operations of the 77th Division (21 July-10  
August, 1944) American Forces in Action Series. Historical Division,  
War Dept. Washington, D.C. n.d.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On the morning of July 21, 1944, the longest American bombardment of the war was lifted and the 3rd Marine Division aboard LST's headed toward shore, Asan Beach. All three regiments of the division landed abreast on the landing beach; the 3rd on Red Beaches 1 and 2 in the N; the 21st on Green Beach in the center; the 9th on the Blue Beach in the S. The Japanese 320th Independent Infantry Battalion defended the area between Adelup and Asan Points. They occupied the high ground overlooking the beaches and also Pillboxes on the points at Asan and Adelup. By 1300 most of the division was ashore and had fought to the foot of the high ridges which over looked the beaches. The Marines came under heavy flanking fire from both Asan and Adelup Points. At 1715, General Turnage came ashore and established his command post on the left bank of the Asan River.

The invasion marks the first time that war has touched Guam intensely since the Chamorro wars 250 years previously. It also marks the beginning of the American liberation of the island--July 21st is still a holiday on Guam--and the end of Japanese rule. Militarily, the Asan Beach was regarded by both sides as the most important; the Americans landed their best assault division of the 3rd Amphibious Corps there and the Japanese reinforced their units on the high ridges above the beaches. Later, they directed their strongest counterattacks against the 3rd Marine Division on the beachhead.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crowl, Philip A. Campaign in the Marianas. Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., 1960.

Lodge, Major O.R. The Recapture of Guam. Historical Branch G-3 Division, Headquarters, USMC, 1954.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 124

UTM REFERENCES

A	5,5	25,3	28,5	1,4	9,0	9,5,0	B	5,5	25,3	3,4,0	1,4	9,0	8,0,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	5,5	25,1	6,7,0	1,4	9,0	1,0,0	D	5,5	25,1	7,5,5	1,4	9,0	6,0,9
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site boundary includes the beach area up to the property lines or up to Route One, whichever is further inland. It also includes Guam owned lots within the site boundary. It does not include structures since they are all non-contributing. It includes the water area. Also see attached sketch map.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David T. Lotz, Assistant Park Administrator

ORGANIZATION

Department of Parks and Recreation

DATE

January 10, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2950

TELEPHONE

477-9620/21

CITY OR TOWN

Agana

STATE

Guam 96910

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE     

LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Abel ASP* ✓

TITLE

Director, Department of Parks and Recreation

DATE

1/11/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Bill Labovitch*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

2/14/79  
8 Feb 79