

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	

**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

Anangula Archaeological Site (AHRs SAM-012)
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ananiuliak Island

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Nikolski

VICINITY OF

Alaska

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Alaska

02

Aleutian Islands Div.

010

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Aleutian National Wildlife Refuge (907) 579-8418

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 5251

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Adak

___ VICINITY OF

Alaska 98791

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Alaska State Office
U.S. Bureau of Land Management

STREET & NUMBER

555 Cordova Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Anchorage

Alaska

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRs)

DATE

June 9, 1971

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Alaska Division of Parks, 323 East 4 Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Anchorage

Alaska

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially Excavated	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Anangula is located on a small island (Ananiuliak) off the southwestern tip of Umnak and is separated from the National Landmark of Chaluka by a mere 4.5 miles geographically but over 4,000 years temporally. It is within the Aleutian Islands which during the Pleistocene formed the southern margin of the Bering Land Bridge and of that entire landmass, this coasted area maintained the most constant climate and best year around food supply (Black 1974a: 127). Occupied during a time of rapidly rising sea level from a low of perhaps -100 meters, it was not destroyed by the sea owing to a unique local geographic situation. Strandflats, which provide abundant food resources of invertebrates making up the great midden accumulations of more recent Aleutian sites, are felt to have been in an initial stage of formation when Anangula was occupied (Black 1974b: 280).

At this time, the village of Anangula was possibly still connected to Umnak Island, forming the northern cape of Nikolski Bay and overlooking the first deep, ice free pass between the Bering Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The nutrient-rich waters provided a lush habitat for sea mammals including whales, fish and birds, while rich salmon streams existed in the vicinity. Immediately below and above the archaeological remains, which are entirely lithic, are ash falls, demonstrating that active volcanic eruptions played a role in the life of the ancient inhabitants. Black (1974a: 127) suggests that one of the catastrophic eruptions of Okmok Volcanoe may have induced the Aleuts of Anangula to migrate west and thus begin the peopling of the central Aleutians.

Site Type: Based on the clustering houses, concentration of tools, and other factors it is suggested that this site represented a large and permanent village (Aigner 1974: 15).

Cultural Group: No data from physical anthropology nor linguistics can be applied in this instance. It seems most reasonable on the basis of geographic location to assign Anangula to ancestral Aleuts.

Dates of Occupations: A large cluster of radiocarbon dates places this site at c. 8400 years ago. Although the extensive artifact count might argue for a long period of occupation, volcanic evidence and the thin cultural stratum argue for a relatively brief occupation of from c. 500 years (Aigner 1974: 15) to less than 100 years (Black 1974b: 269).

Present Condition: Coastal erosion has caused some destruction on both north and south shores but the estimated extent is still some 75-100 by 300-400 meters consisting of an occupational stratum commonly 1-3 cm thick at a depth of over two meters below the surface.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 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 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 6400 B.C.

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance

Anangula is the oldest coastal site known for Beringia as of 1975, dating to c. 8400 radiocarbon years ago. The site was occupied during the Hypsithermal, a period of warmer and drier climate than prevails at present, and just prior to a plus two meter high stand of sea level between 8000 and 3000 years ago. Most, and possible all, other archaeological sites located on the coast and occupied before 8000 B.P. have thus been lost by erosion.

Ananiuliak Island is under the control of the Aleutian Nat'l Wildlife Refuge with public access unrestricted. Ananiuliak Island is located four and one half miles northwest of the village of Nikolski.

Background

Lamellar flakes and polyhedral cores found from a surface collection in 1938 led, after the recovery of similar artifact types in the Denbigh Flint complex levels at Iyatayet, to further investigations (Laughlin & Marsh 1954) but it was not until 1962 that the deeply buried cultural layer was located and one radiocarbon date obtained which hinted at great age (McCartney & Turner 1966). In 1969 a multidisciplinary research project designed to study the Aleut population and its adaptation to this ecosystem was initiated to cover Nikolski Bay's 8000 year history to the present day. This study included geology and other disciplines relevant to the period of the Bering Land Bridge (Aigner 1974).

This site is significant in terms of New World Origins. The recovered lithic materials bear little resemblance to contemporaneous sites in the interior of Alaska and elsewhere. Early regional diversity in implement manufacture suggests that some of the inhabitants of Beringia were adapted to interior hunting and others to maritime hunting with Anangula exemplifying the latter. The Aleuts were able to maintain continuity in subsistence activities because the coastal ecosystem did not change drastically (except for its increase in total area) during the Holocene.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Aigner, Jean S.

1974 "Studies in the Early Prehistory of Nikolski Bay: 1937-1971."
ANTHROPOLOGICAL PAPERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA 16(1):9-25.

Black, Robert F.

1974a "Geology and Ancient Aleuts, Amchitka and Umnak Islands,
Aleutians."

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 47

UTM REFERENCES

A	0,2	6,3,9	6,6,1	5,8	7,4	0,7,9	B	0,2	6,4,0	6,5,4	5,8	7,2	6,2,4
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		
C	0,2	6,4,0	2,4,3	5,8	7,3	2,9,2	D	0,2	6,3,9	5,1,9	5,8	7,3	8,2,8
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The south end of Ananiuliak Island is within the boundary as indicated on the enclosed map. The four corners of the property lie offshore in Nikolski Bay.

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

Karen Wood Workman, State Archaeologist

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Alaska Division of Parks

December 15, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

323 East 4 Avenue

(907) 272-4401

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Anchorage

Alaska

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The unique lithic technology yields information on manufacturing procedures and some biological information such as determination of right or left handedness in the making of burins. More than 30,000 artifacts have been recovered and in certain areas artifact density is c. 500 per cubic meter. Eight apparently contemporaneous houses have been sampled or excavated completely. The houses were semi-subterranean, apparently single family, c. 3 x 5.5 meters, with root entry and subfloor storage pits.

Preservation of the site will be served best by scientific excavation. The Ananiuliak Island Archaeological District was entered in the National Register March 24, 1972.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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ARCTIC ANTHROPOLOGY 11(2): 126-140.

1974b "Late-Quaternary Sea Level Changes, Umnak Island, Aleutians-
Their Effects on Ancient Aleuts and Their Causes."
QUATERNARY RESEARCH 4: 264-281.

Laughlin, William S. and G. H. Marsh

1954 "The Lamellar Flake Manufacturing Site on Anangula Island
in the Aleutians." AMERICAN ANTIQUITY 20(1): 27-39.

McCartney, Allen P. & Christy G. Turner II

1966 "Stratigraphy of the Anangula Unifacial Core and Blade
Site." ARCTIC ANTHROPOLOGY 3(2): 28-40.

SAMALGA ISLAND

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