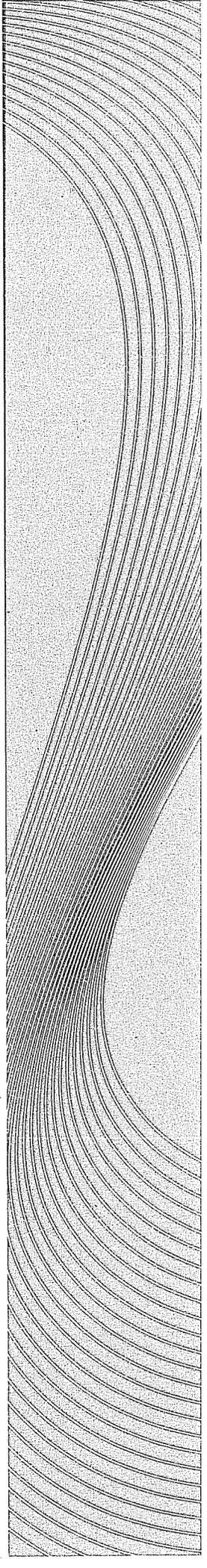




APPENDIX C
ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT



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CULTURAL RESOURCE MONITORING
AT TWO REMEDIATION SITES
AT THE
FORMER RAYONIER PORT ANGELES MILL,
CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

by

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Report Prepared for

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ABSTRACT

Rayonier Properties, LLC is completing toxic remediation at its former Port Angeles Mill site and retained Cascadia Archaeology to monitor excavations at two locations there, an underground fuel tank site and the former log debarking facility. The former mill site is in the vicinity of a nineteenth century Klallam village, I'e'nis; the Puget Sound Cooperative Colony (PSCC), dating to the late 1880s; and a mill built by the U.S. Army Spruce Division during World War I. Monitoring of the excavations took place between July 31 and August 9, 2006. Logs that appeared to have been used for cribbing were encountered at the south remediation site below several feet of fill and just above beach sediments. The logs could be related to milling activities by the PSCC, perhaps part of a log yard, but they did not appear to be part of a permanent structure.

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INTRODUCTION

Rayonier Properties, LLC (Rayonier) is in the process of decontaminating its former Port Angeles Mill site prior to selling the property. After the pulp mill was closed in 1997, the buildings and other structures were dismantled to ground level. A remediation plan for investigation of the site was then developed by Rayonier and the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) pursuant to the Model Toxic Control Act (Washington State Department of Ecology 1997; Rayonier, Inc. 1997, cited in Robbins et al. 1997:1). Because a known historic period Klallam village and prehistoric archaeological resources are located on and in the vicinity of the Rayonier property, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and Rayonier have an agreement specifying that an archaeological monitor will be present during ground-disturbing activities that could encounter intact sediments. In July 2006, Rayonier retained Cascadia Archaeology to monitor excavations to clean up two locations at the mill property.

The following sections provide a description of the project and background information relevant to the current project. This information was obtained from cultural resource reports, site inventory forms, local histories, and other sources at the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP), Clallam County Historical Society, and North Olympic Library System. Larry Dunn of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe also provided information on the Klallam village and early history of the site. The background presented in this report focuses on information of specific relevance to the current project. A more comprehensive overview of the natural and cultural settings can be found in a cultural resource assessment prepared for Rayonier by Larson Anthropological/ Archaeological Services in 1997 (Robbins et al. 1997).

Project Location and Description

The Rayonier mill parcel is comprised of 80 acres on the beach and bluff top on the east side of Port Angeles, in Township 30 North, Range 6 West, Willamette Meridian, Sections 2, 11, and 12 (Figure 1). The site faces Port Angeles Harbor on the southern shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The mill was built on the Ennis Creek delta, which extended out from the bluff as much as 500 ft. before it was altered by development (Robbins et al. 1997). The two monitored locations are in the western portion of the former mill, 1,000 to 1,100 ft. (ca. 300-330 m) west of the current channel of Ennis Creek. This area is approximately 11 ft. above sea level (asl), built partially on fill.

The two remediation locations are at a former above-ground oil tank site (Figure 2, Fuel Oil Tank No. 1) near the base of the bluff and at the former log debarking building in the northwest part of the former mill complex. Testing at the wood mill site had indicated that the soils in this area retained contaminants associated with the debarking and log handling operations. Testing had also detected the presence of petroleum contaminated soils in the vicinity of the fuel oil tank, although the horizontal extent of the contamination was not well known. Remediation at the two locations consisted of removing the contaminated soils and any buried sources of contamination such as treated pilings, pipes, etc. with mechanical excavators until laboratory tests indicated contaminant levels were below the limits required by the DOE.

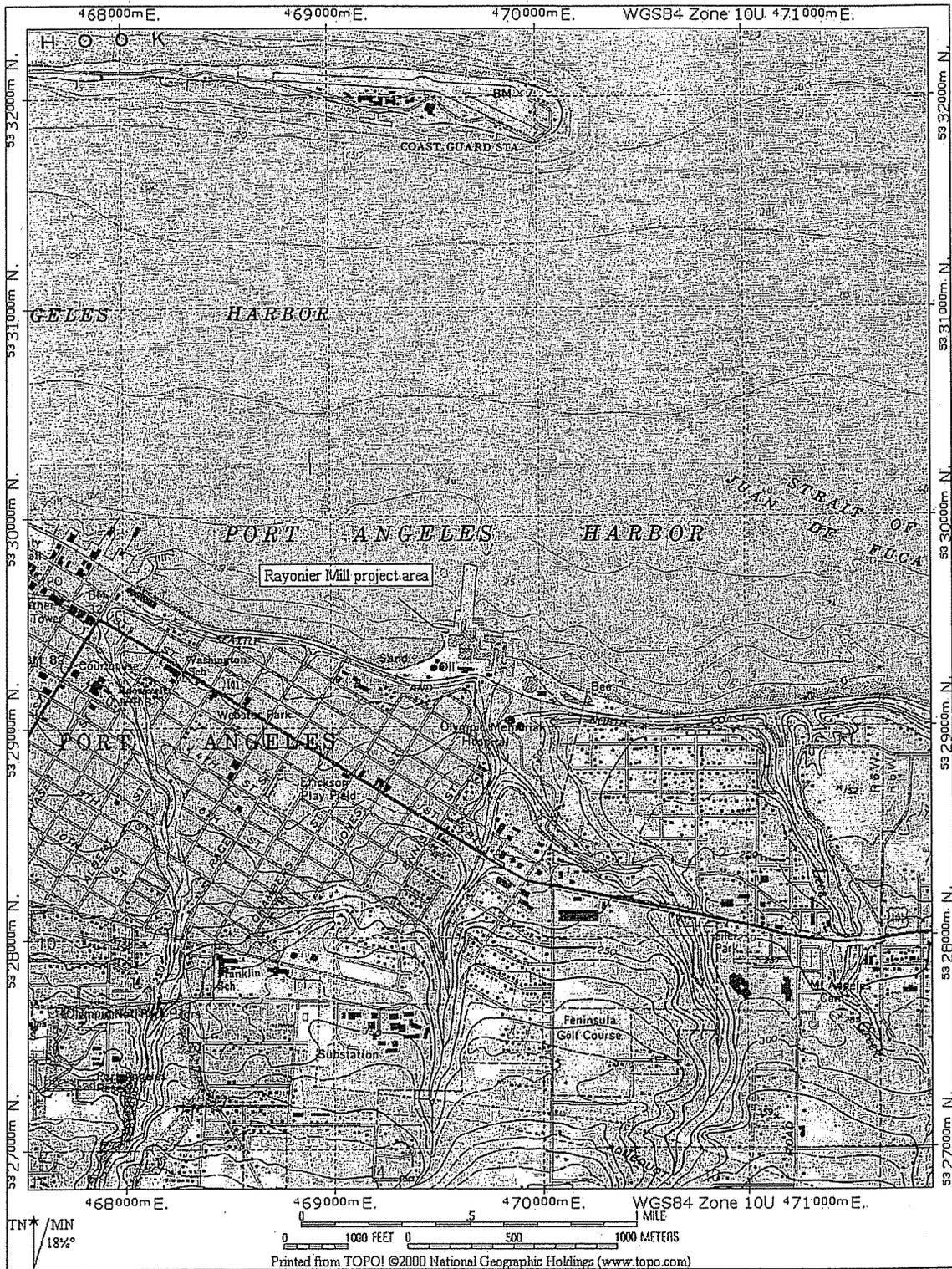


Figure 1. Project vicinity, T. 30 N., R. 6 W. (USGS 7.5 min. Port Angeles, WA., 1985).

BACKGROUND

The Rayonier Port Angeles Mill was constructed near a nineteenth century Klallam village, *I'e'nis* (or *I-eh-nus*, or *Y'innis*). According to late nineteenth century accounts by members of the Puget Sound Cooperative Colony who settled on the west side of the creek, the village was on the east side of the mouth of Ennis Creek (LeWarne 1975:33). The artist Paul Kane, who traveled through the region in 1847, arrived at *I'e'nis* on May 9 of that year. He stayed three days, during which time he made several sketches. He described *I'e'nis* as a "Clallum village or fort" consisting of a large roofed structure with "compartments or pens" for 30 or 40 families, surrounded by a double row of sharpened pickets (Harper 1971). One of Kane's sketches depicts a battle with the Makah, who had recently raided *I'e'nis* after the villagers caught a whale whose carcass had drifted away from the Makah. A painting made from the sketch shows the stockaded village and several graves a short distance to its east; the graves were not in the original sketch but appear in a separate sketch entitled "*Graves at I-eh-nus*" (Harper 1971:304; Robbins et al. 1997:11).

No known historical photographs depict *I'e'nis*, although several photos show Native Americans and canoes on Hollywood Beach, between Ennis Creek and Ediz Hook. One of these photos, taken between 1897 and 1900, shows a camp with temporary shelters and canoes on the beach west of Ennis Creek. A long wharf or pier is barely visible to the east in the background of the photo; it could be the one associated with the Puget Sound Cooperative Colony's sawmill near the mouth of Ennis Creek (Robbins et al. 1997:Figure 3).

Sustained Euroamerican use of lower Ennis Creek began when the Puget Sound Cooperative Colony (PSCC), the first of several utopian communities built in the Puget Sound region during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, was established in 1887 (LeWarne 1975). Buildings were initially constructed on the west side of the creek and included a sawmill, hotel, school, store, and residences (Figure 3). At this time, Klallam people still occupied their village on the east side of the creek. In addition to providing lumber for the growing Colony, the PSCC's mill also supplied lumber, shakes, and shingles for a number of early structures in Port Angeles built by Colony members, including the Opera House, schools, churches, and the town's first office building. The lumber market collapsed during the depression of 1893 and the same year, the PSCC sawmill burned down (Harper 1969; LeWarne 1975). Shortly afterward, the Colony went into receivership and in 1904 the site was abandoned.

The sawmill was located some distance west of the other major buildings of the Colony; according to historic maps from 1891 and 1892 and photographs (Figures 3, 4, and 5), the mill and wharf were north and slightly west of Chambers Street. This would place them about 450 ft. (140 m) west of the current project's Oil Tank No. 1 remediation location—a somewhat different location than was estimated by Robbins et al., which place the mill only about 65 ft. (20 m) west of the oil tank.



Figure 3. 1892 map showing mouth of Ennis Creek and PSCC buildings. Sawmill is building with wharf to west of other PSCC structures (North Olympic Library System, Port Angeles).

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

No evidence of archaeological deposits associated with prehistoric or historic period Native American occupation was observed at the north or south remediation sites. At the north site, intact sediments were deeply buried beneath 16 to 35 ft. of fill and hog fuel deposited during operation of the mill between the 1930s and 1990s. Excavation was terminated within fill or sawdust/hog fuel over most of the north remediation site. Intact sediments exposed in test pits appeared to be intertidal or subtidal and contained no cultural material. Pilings and structural remains removed during the remediation were from the wood mill building, although some pilings or other elements could have originated as parts of the spruce mill.

At the south remediation site, one to two courses of logs were exposed about 7 ft. bs, at the base of fill on sandy beach sediments. No other structural elements such as pilings were uncovered, and the logs appeared to form some kind of cribbing and/or decking set directly on the beach. The origin of this feature is not clear, as it is at some distance from the known or estimated locations of both Puget Sound Cooperative Colony and Spruce Mill structures, but it may have been designed to hold timber, logs, or milled lumber. According to historical sources, the PSCC mill burned down in 1893. The feature is not likely to be considered significant under criteria of the National Register of Historic Places as an individual property nor is it likely to be a significant contributing element of the PSCC, which is listed on the Washington Heritage Register.

This report should be submitted to the appropriate agencies, including the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, for comment.

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