A Brief De-Brief: Archaeology, Community, and Kids at the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park by Kären Johansson

Over the past two years, I have had the privilege of working with various SCAS members and Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park Interpreter, Julie Sidel and her assistants in a collaborative outreach project to introduce archaeology to young learners in a non-traditional, public, educational setting: the adobe museum at the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park in downtown Santa Cruz. Processes inherent in this project work were influenced by particular concepts: collaboration between two different educational entities; a focus on the integration of voices less evident in California’s historical narrative; the diversity, and ever-changing nature of community. I am pleased to say that this work became the field component of my graduate program in Applied Anthropology at San Jose State University.

What is Community Archaeology?

There are at least as many answers to that question as there are people who touch upon the subfield academically, professionally, and vocationally, and in this emergent and continually redefined subfield of the broader discipline of archaeology, there are a growing number of ways to understand what community archaeology is all about. Overlapping contexts of background, personal and political philosophy, community experience, the trajectory of one’s research, and professional constraints are formative factors, and these collectively contribute to the kaleidoscope of definitions that are found throughout the literature.

The complexity and duality of community archaeology is reflected in the Park’s setting. The Mission Adobe and adjacent park is a nationally-recognized, regionally, and locally important historic site and the Park’s compelling, historically interesting elements are heartbreakingly challenging to reconcile with this fact. While the museum displays were authentically designed, some in consultation with a member of a local Ohlone group, museum displays in general are like photographs. They appear as frozen moments in time. The dynamic nature of time and the subtlety of interactions among different groups of people may be simplified. In the outreach program, we learned that providing participants with different ways to handle and consider material objects relating to both Ohlone and Spanish presence in the Park helped broaden and enliven the interpretive stories suggested in the displays and told during museum tours.

Outreach at the Mission

While core components of the original interpretive program remained intact, adding an interactive archaeological element to the Park’s mandate for historic interpretation meant that Park staff could provide an opportunity for other voices from the past to emerge. The challenge of implementation however, was that this introduction would take place in the context of the unpredictability of drop-in...
groups of children and the adults who accompanied them. As a result of this fact, for each of the five groups that we worked with, we found that program delivery continually changed, and that different mixes of trial and error and on-the-fly adaptations to both script and interactive approaches were required. Profoundly, this produced a fluidity that for this writer became an important part of understanding what it means to work with “community.”

Concepts of community and of people living in the past are influenced by an understanding of the present. Some participants underscored that fact when they talked about ideas of prejudice and diversity, highlighting that slavery is outlawed in our country today. At this California Mission setting, introducing artifacts to young learners provided an interactive and dynamic way to integrate empathy and tolerance for those negatively impacted by the actions of others in the past. Holding on to the joy of archaeological inquiry and the harsh realities of California’s Mission Period provided teaching moments that were integral to one aspect of the program’s purpose: to enliven voices from the past by forging a stronger relationship between archaeological artifacts and museum interpretation.

**Kids on the Brink of Excitement**

That both kids and their parents seemed to move to the edge of their seats when we used words associated with the field of archaeology had both positive and negative consequences. The gauge almost always pointed to a positive reading when contagious excitement affected both docents and participants. While the program did not sustain its initial inclusion of a mock dig (difficult to manage with two leaders and unpredictable numbers of participants), the word “dig” became an opportunity to dispel archaeology’s misrepresentation in the popular press as a means of finding “treasures” (think Indiana Jones) and instead, teach archaeology as a science in its own right and as a way to use scientifically-understood objects to tell stories about a place and its past inhabitants who might otherwise be misunderstood.

**The Duality of Difficult Lessons and Teaching Opportunities**

Handling artifacts in this setting provided visual, tactile, and intellectual experiences about the Ohlone, Spanish, and Mexican inhabitants of the Mission. As evidence of multiculturalism, the artifact kits help teach compassion for people living in the present. The stories told through combinations of archaeological material, interactions between docents and participants, and materials previously selected for the displays both construct and challenge our normative narratives of Spanish Colonial history.

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Over time, in multiple settings, fourth and fifth graders learn that missionization meant the enslavement of an entire group of people and the irrevocable destruction of their culture. In this setting, archaeology helps engender respect for the complexities of that segment of human history and the challenges that people face today in light of these historic events.

**In the End**

While the summer schedule of events at the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic park is focused on a collaborative effort between California State Park’s and Santa Clara University, the archaeology outreach at the Mission will continue to be implemented at the Park. SCAS will post a schedule of outreach sessions, docent training, and Kids and Archaeology at the Mission on the SCAS website as soon as Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park’s schedule becomes available. For more information, please contact Karen Johansson at johans161@gmail.com.
UCSC Students Dig Deep into Campus History at Cabin H

by Erica Ayón

What you first see upon arriving at UCSC are the buildings of the Cowell Lime Works Historic District: the Cook’s house, worker’s cabins, carriage house and blacksmith shop to name a few. These buildings are a very familiar sight on the way to campus every morning. Many of them are falling apart and several have been repurposed by the UC; channeling their original infrastructures from the mid-19th century. Though the historic district is a familiar sight to students, the history is poorly explained. If you pulled over to read the few plaques in place, you might be familiar with a description of purpose for some of these deteriorating buildings, but their significance is not something that’s brought to the attention of students.

John Schlagheck gave the class a tutorial on mapping using a lensatic Compass. John is pictured here with student Jessica Malbrough.

As a student who attended UCSC for four years, it was very exciting to finally gain an understanding of these forgotten buildings and people. On the first field day, a brisk Saturday morning at 9am, our instructor Patricia Paramoure led us on a walking tour of the historic district describing oral accounts and interesting stories related to these once occupied buildings and the people who inhabited them.

Throughout our class Pat Paramoure often told stories about Henry Cowell, previous owner and operator of the lime works, quarries and ranch property, where UC Santa Cruz now lies. She talked about Cowell like an old friend, “Let me tell you a funny story about Henry Cowell!” she often started. It was fun to hear anecdotes about Henry Cowell and we also learned a great deal about Cowell’s industry of processing and providing lime to the building industry.

The overview of the Historic District piqued our curiosity for what we would uncover when excavating at our site: Worker’s Cabin H. We understood that we were likely to find many household artifacts: fragments of glass belonging to containers, bottles and windows, jean rivets, nails and remnants of foundation bricks. We were excited for these artifacts and their data to add to our understanding of the people living and working on the Cowell Lime Works. In addition to weekly field days, the course consisted of a lecture and lab to clean and archive the materials uncovered from our dig. The combination of lab, lecture and field days provided a well-rounded experience in which students gained a rich understanding of the site history, possible artifacts to be found and their significance to the Cowell Lime Works. We had learned a slew of terms and processes that we were told would become more familiar to us after digging and more course readings. I wrote down many of the unfamiliar terms: feature levels, dry screening, unit contour description, logs for bags and level records, soil descriptions and datum strings. I was very excited, however also intimidated and confused with all of these new terms, and how am I supposed to describe dirt? Little did I know that all of this meticulous recording and unfamiliar terminology would become second nature after a few weeks of practice.

Students Elyse Nicholls and Mariah Valdivia excavating Unit 2 at Cabin H

Our Saturday mornings began with moving our tools for the day to our site: buckets, screens, pick axes, shovels and the “doc box” where all of our recorded site data would be stored. Practicing the various
processes and tool techniques was a journey in itself. Learning how to use a pick axe was a daunting task. For someone who is used to working in a lab and using scalpels and probes, the pick axe felt extremely heavy and awkward, as many of the tools did. I soon appreciated how useful it was for moving dirt quickly, as well as the efficiency of smaller tools like the trowel.

Intact Key found in Unit 3

There were six units in total set up at Worker’s Cabin H, with two students per unit. Each of us would switch units and partners every week. We would also alternate duties such as updating posts about our progress to Facebook, writing up a project record of what was accomplished for the day on each unit, as well as our daily paperwork detailing the bags of artifacts belonging to each unit. Our notes were all carefully detailed, as we knew the importance of provenience and details in reference to the artifacts we found.

Students Alex Hirth and Erica Ayón screening with the help of field class assistant Libby Tjoa

Some of the artifacts found in multiple units were sheet metal fragments, brick fragments, milled wood, colored glass and nails. Specific units revealed an intact bottle with the words “pepper sauce” embossed on it, shoe rivets, a bullet casing, and an intact key! We often found ourselves wanting to keep digging even when the field day was coming to an end. The artifacts uncovered would continue to contribute to our understanding of the Cowell Lime Works.

The opportunity to enroll in Archaeology Field Methods as a course at UCSC has made the dream of a field school experience come true for many, and the high volume of applicants for the course demonstrates the interest and need for this field methods course to continue. With the average in-state field school costing five thousand dollars, field school is an often unobtainable wish or dream for students coming from a low-income background like myself. In many cases field experience is a requisite for CRM work and archaeology graduate schools; giving students the opportunity to take the Archaeology Field Methods class will undoubtedly prepare more students for futures in archaeology.

As budding archaeologists, we are curious and thrilled to be able to do this work; to work with our hands, and understand the pieces of history we uncover. Archaeology Field Methods course gave us that experience; being involved with this excavation on our UC campus was extremely rewarding.

The archaeology crew for Cowell Lime Works Archaeology Field Class

All photos for this article were taken by student Isabella Anderson.
A Short History of the Long History of the Mission Adobe - Micki Ryan

(Revised by Micki Ryan from a broadsheet originally published for the Adobe Coalition, October 1981)

On Mission Hill in Santa Cruz, atop a bluff overlooking the slow curve of the San Lorenzo River and the town spread out below, stands a long, narrow, adobe building. It runs half the length of School Street, crowding the sidewalk and dominating the streetscape with its white expanse of hand-smoothed plaster walls and deep shadowed windows. Among its later Victorian neighbors, this distinctive adobe structure remains a treasured relic of Santa Cruz’s early days. The Mission Adobe, the focal point of Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, is the last surviving structure of Mission Santa Cruz.

Throughout the mid and late 1800s, the rapidly growing town of Santa Cruz “Americanized” the old Spanish outpost, leaving the Mission Adobe to endure after all other mission structures had outlived their usefulness. Today, supporters of the Adobe Coalition and State Parks planners are sketching a future for this rare building. This future will reflect and satisfy the needs of the community, provided community members make known their opinions throughout the planning and development process.

Founded in 1791 by Father Fermin Lasuen, Mission Santa Cruz grew from a simple, open-sided brush ramada to a self-contained, virtually self-sufficient agricultural colony. The local Christianized Indian population who formed the Mission community supplied labor for the construction of thirty-two buildings and associated structures.

In the early years, neophytes were recruited from several native Ohlone villages in and around present-day Santa Cruz County. After the first fifteen years of operation, disease and runaways so depleted the local population that converts were brought in from Central Valley Yokuts tribes whom the priests and soldiers called Tulares. These people not only constructed the mission buildings but worked in the mission spinning rooms, iron shop, carpentry shop, granaries, cobbler, soap and candleworks, tannery and gristmill. They built their own dormitories, as well as quarters for the priests and mission guard. They planted and harvested grain, tended fruit orchards, vineyards, and gardens, and watched over the mission herds across widespread grazing lands.

Despite Spain’s ambitious plans for a series of self-supporting agricultural colonies along the politically critical western coast of Alta California, the missions faced the inherent problems of isolation. Furthermore, their attempts to colonize a new land and people were dominated by cultural naiveté. In Santa Cruz the buildings deteriorated and finally collapsed, ruinous floods and earthquakes destroyed supplies, and promised replacements never arrived. Colonists from nearby pueblos caused serious disruptions —especially those of Villa Branciforte established in 1797 just one mile from the laboring mission. And for reasons not yet clear, of the twenty-one missions, Santa Cruz had one of the highest death and runaway rates. The mission system eventually succumbed to independent Mexico’s demand for open colonization of its rich, newly-acquired lands.
Members of the Adobe Coalition’s Historical Research Committee and the State Parks Cultural Resources Management Unit continue their search for clues to the Adobe’s earliest use. Now lacking only archaeological substantiation, the structure is believed to be one described as housing for Indian converts, an adobe which once ran the entire length of School Street, reaching from the now vacant bluff edge to Emmett Street where Holy Cross Grammar School now stands. The official inventory prepared for the disposal of Mission Santa Cruz property in 1835 lists such a building, with twenty-nine compartments for “…living quarters for the natives, with adobe walls, tile roof, each one with its wooden door, all threatened by ruin…” The testimony of Santa Cruz Mission Indian Lorenzo Assisara in 1890, a pre-1854 map of Mission Hill, and preliminary archaeological work together suggest that the Adobe is a part of that dormitory. An 1845 Census indicates that two Indian families occupied the two sections of the Neary half of the Adobe, which is its western, public side. These residents were Ysidro and his wife Maria Buciru, both Tulare Indians, and their daughter Ysabel; and Victoriano, a Tulare Indian and his wife Petra who was a Santa Cruz Indian, with their daughter Refugia and two young sons, both named Jose. In 1848 Ysidro and Petra sold each of their family’s compartments to Felipe Armas, a Californio recently returned from Hawaii (one of Hawaii’s earliest paniolos). Armas consolidated the family sections and remodeled the structure as a single, two-story house. Several newly-established social clubs of Santa Cruz rented meeting space upstairs, and outside Armas offered his own brand of entertainment—an 1861 newspaper announced a bull and bear fight to be held in the pen behind Armas’ house. In 1866 the Armas half of the building was sold to the members of the Neary family.

It was during the Neary’s ownership that the gardens at the rear of the Adobe were developed into a horticultural delight known as “Nearyland”. Specimen trees, flowering shrubs, and exotic plants formed a lush backdrop for gatherings in the locally famous Victorian gardens.

In 1839, Mission Administrator Francisco Soto granted the eastern side of the Adobe to Roman Rodriguez, son of a prominent Villa Branciforte settler. Since then, the property has been occupied by successive generations of the Rodriguez family. An adopted daughter, Cornelia Lunes Hopcroft made the Rodriguez quarters her home in 1892, and under a lifetime tenancy agreement with the State Parks Department, resides there still.

Efforts to preserve the Adobe began in 1954 with Fred McPherson, Jr., who as publisher of the Santa Cruz Sentinel and then president of the Santa Cruz Historical Society instigated state and local involvement in the cause. The work of McPherson’s Adobe Committee, with publicity generated by author Margaret Koch and the urging of Assemblyman Glenn Coolidge, resulted in the State purchase of the Neary-Rodriguez Adobe in 1958. Restoration was not included in the Parks Department plans, and the building continued deteriorating until the State made efforts to stabilize it in 1965, installing a concrete bond beam and a new roof. The Adobe sat ignored for ten more years, brush choking the neglected gardens; time and the abrasive coastal weather eroding the mud plaster walls. But in 1976 a significant milestone was announced. The Santa Cruz City Council’s Adobe Task Force sought and received federal historic preservation grant funds, matching State funding won by Assemblyman Frank Murphy’s bill and a
Santa Cruz Historical Society donation. To the dismay of those who worked to obtain the crucial funding, the federal moneys sat—and still sit—untouched at the State Parks Department, earmarked for the eventual restoration of what was then ranked the lowest priority park in the system. A fire had to be lit, it seemed, and the Adobe Coalition was founded in May of ’80 resolved to do just that. At the same time, the Adobe Coalition resolved to enliven interest in full restoration of the Santa Cruz Mission State Historical Monument. With unflagging energy and enthusiasm, and donations of time and expertise, members have elicited renewed commitments from the State along with local and legislative concern for the Adobe’s future.

The Adobe Coalition is an aggregate of many community organizations united in their belief that the Neary-Rodriguez Adobe should be restored for Santa Cruzans who will benefit from its historical resonance. Under the auspices of the City’s Historical Preservation Commission, the Coalition grew out of the earlier Adobe Task Force appointed by the Santa Cruz City Council in the 1970s. Today, the list of supporters includes the Santa Cruz County Society for Historic Preservation, Inc., the Santa Cruz Indian Council, the Friends of the Octagon, the YWCA, the Santa Cruz Historical Society, the Native Daughters of the Golden West, Questers, Omega Nu, the Ohlone Cultural Association, the Santa Cruz Women’s Club, Kiwanis, SCOPE, the Santa Cruz Archaeological Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution, E Clampus Vitus, and the Santa Cruz County Cultural Commission. Included as well are a number of unaffiliated individuals, all dedicated to the notion that the revived Adobe would bond with and remind everyone of Santa Cruz’ past.

From the outset, the Coalition set goals which were deemed vital to the restoration progress. Most imperative was to spur immediate and responsible action for stabilization and interim maintenance of the building. The structure was not only weakening and subject to attacks of vandalism, but attracted uninvited guests within the faded and overgrown Nearyland gardens. Funded by a $25,000 emergency stabilization bill introduced by Henry Mello, the State Parks Department embarked on a plan in June of 1981. The work entailed structural strengthening that did not abuse or detract from the historic value of the building. It was completed just recently. In addition to the disclosure of new archaeological information confirming Native American occupancy, the State crew uncovered an original Mission period hand-adzed redwood upper framing plate at the original wall height, which had been concealed by Armas’ second story addition in the 1840s.

Determined to secure funding for restoration and development of Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, members of the Adobe Coalition successfully campaigned for passage of the Parks revenue bond act, Prop One. Next they found it necessary to defend and promote the Adobe’s right to some of those funds, a right based on a commitment from the State Parks Commission which had assigned number one priority to the Adobe restoration project. Recently, Assemblyman Sam Farr obtained a flow chart illustrating the projected schedule of work from State Parks Director Peter Dangermond. This chart specified a general plan for restoration to be drawn up in March 1982, working drawings completed by January 1985, and construction carried out in 1985 and 1986.

Early on the Coalition identified the vacant land adjacent to the Rodriguez half of the Adobe as essential to the development of the Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park. To date no provision has been made for visitor parking at the adobe, one reason State Parks personnel cite for not having restored the Mission Adobe previously. Within the vacant parcels are remains of the easternmost portion of the Adobe requiring archaeological investigation and protection. Also appealing for protection out on the bluff edge is a single olive tree, lone survivor of the Mission plantings. The property overlooks the San Lorenzo flood-plain and the bay beyond clear to Monterey, the same vista the
inhabitants of the Mission enjoyed over 150 years ago.

The Coalition considers this land enormously important to the success of the historic park and seeks its acquisition by State Parks. The State’s response to the owner’s willingness to sell has been cautious and noncommittal. Condominium development in the immediate area has already destroyed archaeological vestiges of other Mission features, in addition to disrupting the historic character of the neighborhood. Coalition activism with appearances before the State Parks Commission together with letters from supporters to elected legislators had earned funding for stabilization and restoration. They are now intent on protecting this land, and are embarking on a letter writing campaign urging its acquisition.

In addition to working closely with the State Parks Department to assist in plans for restoration, the Adobe Coalition has directed a considerable amount of volunteer time to public education about the Indian, Spanish, and Mexican heritage of Mission Hill, and to the potential of the Adobe and its grounds as a functioning State Historic Park. To this end, a sound/slide presentation was developed from the organization’s research by local State Parks Ranger Chic Gordon for use in local schools. Members of the Coalition speak to service clubs and organizations in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties to publicize the plight of the Adobe and solicit support. Members of E Clampus Vitus have organized crew labor workdays to clean up the yard, with State Parks cooperation. Bus excursions to Sonoma State Historic Park, the Petaluma Adobe, and State Parks adobe restoration projects in Monterey have been organized with great success, and more are planned to San Juan Bautista and Mission Santa Clara restorations this fall. More recently, the Coalition operated a booth at the Santa Cruz County Fair, providing a recycling service while carrying the restoration message to a wider audience.

The big event each year is the Santa Cruz Mission Fiesta, itself a revival of Santa Cruz tradition begun in 1928 by Fred Macpherson, Jr., with the late Donald Younger and friends. Now in its second year, the Fiesta celebrates early California heritage with all its ethnic diversity, commemorates the birth of Santa Cruz on Mission Hill and provides an appropriate context for public viewing of the Mission Adobe. Leading off with traditional crafts and manual arts in Mission Plaza Park, last year’s Fiesta-goers were treated to heaping servings of Indian fry bread, tostadas, grilled corn-on-the-cob, barbecued chicken, apple pie and homemade tamales. Costumed, befeathered “Indians” rubbed elbows with the genuine guardians of traditional Native American culture; cascarones filled with their perfumed confetti contents generated shrieks of delight from recipients; and strains of Spanish Baroque, bluegrass and American town band music regaled all comers. Over all, the spirit of the Fiesta was well represented by La Reina de la Fiesta and her partner, the famed Ursus horribilis, dancing a mean fandango across the official T-shirts and posters of the day.

While the high-flown goals of the Fiesta involve the generation and maintenance of community support for the Adobe and Historic Park, the immediate one is to be a joyous fancy-dress celebration of the rich and surprisingly exciting history of Santa Cruz County itself. It is a big party thrown by diverse groups united in honoring the past, intended for enjoyment by north and south county residents alike on the very ground where our community began.

Santa Cruz Mission State Park Adobe Museum.
May 28, 2015  Photo by Mary Gerbic
**Upcoming Events and General Meetings**

**Treasurer and Secretary Needed**
SCAS is searching for nominees willing to take on the role of Treasurer or Secretary in our upcoming September election. All board positions are a 2-year term commitment. Anyone with a background in bookkeeping, interested in the treasurer position, and excited about contributing to the preservation of our local archaeological heritage, should contact Cathy Phipps at archecat@hotmail.com for more information.

May 30, 2015-January 3, 2016  **Pacific Worlds: Art and Culture of the Pacific Rim.**
Oakland Museum of California. Go to: www.museum.ca.org

June 12-13, July 10-11, August 14-15, 2015  **Castro Adobe Open House Days**
Free event; 11 am – 3 pm at 184 Old Adobe Road, Watsonville. Parking is Limited. Visit Santa Cruz County’s next State Historic Park. For more information: www.thatismypark.org/calendar

August 23, 2015  **Monterey County Historical Society Annual Tri-Tip BBQ**
Boronda Adobe, 333 Boronda Rd., Salinas. 12 noon to 4 PM. BBQ served 12:30 to 2:00, Tickets are $18.00, 12 and under, $8.00. Call 831-757-8085 by August 14, 2015. There is also a silent auction, plant sale, pony rides and games for children, Country Western Music, a view of the new vault, and a Door Prize.

Explore the distinctive art, culture, and history of Hawai’i with the first exhibition of Hawaiian featherwork on the U.S. mainland. For more information: deyoung.famsf.org/exhibitions/Featherwork

September 12, 2015  **Ohlone Day at Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park**
This event takes place on Saturday, Sept 12, from 10 am to 4pm, in the group picnic area. All activities are free; day-use parking fee is $10. The main entrance to Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park is located off of Highway 9 in Felton at 101 Big Trees Park Road.

September 19, 2015  **Rancho Day Fiesta at Sanchez Adobe, Pacifica,**
Noon to 4 pm
The San Mateo County Historical Association presents the annual Rancho Day Fiesta. Families will enjoy early California music and participatory dancing. Rancho style refreshments will be available. Demonstration of bygone trades and craft activities for children will be featured. There will be a $1 suggested donation with additional charges for food and crafts. For more information, go to http://www.historysmc.org/

October 15-17, 2015  **Time Again to Gather: Celebrating 30 Years of the California Indian Conference**
University of California, Berkeley. This year we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the California Indian Conference by bringing it back to where it began in 1985! Submissions for papers and presentations on any topic focusing on California’s Native American peoples are welcome. http://nasd.berkeley.edu/cic
Call for individual papers, organized panels and forum discussions has been extended to: Aug 31, 2015.

November 6-8th 2015  **Society for California Archaeology Northern Data Sharing Meeting**
To be held in Little Basin Group Campground at Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Visit scahome.org/future-meetings for more information.
California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program

July 11-12 Initial volunteer training for the Western Divide Ranger District of the Sequoia National Forest, at Springville.

July 18-19 Advanced training for the BLM Hollister Field Office, at Santa Cruz.

Locate, identify, and record historic structures and features at the Coast Dairies near Santa Cruz. We will measure, map, draw, and photograph features, and describe them according to the guidelines of the DPR 523 forms. This work will help volunteer stewards better describe their sites.

July 25-26 Initial volunteer training at the BLM Bishop Field Office, in Bishop.

August 8-9 Initial volunteer training at the Amador Ranger District of the Eldorado National Forest, at Pioneer.

August 22 (Saturday only), advanced training at the Maturango Museum for the Kern River Ranger District of the Sequoia National Forest, in Ridgecrest.

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. Advance training workshops are designed for volunteers who have already attended the initial training. For the latest information about CASSP and these workshops, please visit www.cassp.org.

Image of California Archaeology Month Poster 2009 from: http://scahome.org/archaeology-month/archaeology-month-posters/
A very successful first season research has been completed by Cabrillo students focusing on Santa Cruz’s Mission Period. Led by Rob Edwards, who was assisted by Jacky Cooper, 15 students spent a number of long hard but exciting days excavating the Tefertiller property uncovering the foundations, tile fall and artifacts of an unknown Mission Period large adobe structure. Urged on by the mythical archaeological whip, students mapped, laid out units, excavated and preliminarily processed artifacts from SCR-217-H, The Mission Hill Historic National Register Site.

Many Archaeological Society members took advantage of this local “dig” to gain training and experience in excavation and taking of field notes. The class consisting of Rene Belling, Anne Belt, David Bieling, Marianne Bishop, Cecily Clemons, Fran Dino, Kate Harper, Caryl Kane, Gary Martingale, Lucille McKenzie, Cathy Puccinelli, Jay Richards, Char Smith, George Smith and Bob Wyde. Special allocades [sic] go to Kate Harper for her cataloging control efforts and to Char Smith for her masterful field notes. The Tefertiller family, Ruby, Jim and Casey are to be thanked for many, many reasons that not only made the excavations possible but added to the worth as research and enjoyment as a learning experience. David Bieling is doing a display for Adobe Days. There are plans for another season next July.

Detail from NOAA Historical Shoreline Survey Map T-444, dated 1853. Mission Santa Cruz is at the north (top) of this image.
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