

Preservation CNMI

Caring for the Past in an Uncertain Future

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Historic Preservation Plan
2011-2015

Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

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Message from the Historic Preservation Officer



Dear Reader,

The Marianas were settled over 4000 years ago. Our ancestors developed a unique culture in the islands. The remains of prehistoric villages with standing architectural features can be found throughout the islands. European and Asian cultures have left their imprint on our islands over the past 400 years. Events that took place here in the mid-20th century changed the course of history.

Our islands are well known for the tropical climate, friendly people, variety of international and local cuisine, scuba diving and other recreational opportunities. We also have a variety of historic and prehistoric properties that can provide information about our history, important events, and the influences that shaped our culture.

This document, *Preservation CNMI: Caring for the Past in an Uncertain Future*, is appropriately titled. Recent events and inevitable changes challenge us to find ways to make our vision for historic preservation become a reality. *Preservation CNMI* states our goals and objectives for realizing that vision. If we are to attain our goals, we will need the participation of our local and federal agencies, educators, businesses, and the public. *Preservation CNMI* provides suggestions about how you or your organization can help.

If you are reading *Preservation CNMI*, then you have an interest in our cultural history. Whether you are a preservation professional, teacher, student, businessman, resident or visitor, there are actions you can take to assist HPO in the identification, interpretation, and preservation of our important cultural resources.

This Plan addresses some of the challenges we anticipate facing in the coming years. HPO consists of a small staff of dedicated preservation professionals. Time and funding are limited. The success of our efforts depends on the support of the community. I ask you to read through the Plan and think of ways you can become involved. Thank you for your interest in preserving and promoting our cultural heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Melvin L. O. Faisao'. The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with a large loop at the end.

MELVIN L. O. FAISAO

Secretary, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
CNMI State Historic Preservation Officer

Introduction

Preservation CNMI: Caring for the Past in an Uncertain Future will guide historic preservation efforts in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) for a five-year period. Its aim is to effectively integrate historic preservation into the broader planning and decision-making arenas and to make historic preservation necessary and relevant within the context of social, cultural, and economic realities in the CNMI.

It is the latest in a series of statewide historic preservation plans developed for the CNMI over the past decade. The first covered the period 1999 to 2003, and the second 2004 to 2008. The second plan was extended through the end of fiscal year 2010 to consider the changing preservation environment in the CNMI. The current plan will guide preservation activities from 2011 to 2015.

When developing this plan, the CNMI Historic Preservation Office (HPO) sought input from a wide variety of stakeholders in the Commonwealth. Public comment reinforced the fact that historic preservation has played and will continue to play an extremely important role in the CNMI. Historic resources are important links with the islands' past and possess the potential to significantly expand our understanding of and appreciation for the rich history and cultures of the islands. They are also resources with considerable economic potential particularly with respect to the CNMI's visitor industry.

This plan will help to ensure that these historic resources are protected and utilized to their fullest potential for the benefit of all the people of the CNMI.

The Physical and Cultural Environments

The Northern Mariana Islands and its People

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) comprises fourteen separate islands arranged in two gently curving arcs between 13 and 21 degrees north latitude and approximately 145 degrees east longitude. The CNMI is roughly 2,400 kilometers east of the Philippines and 2,500 kilometers southeast of Japan, and is the northernmost group in a region of the Pacific commonly referred to as Micronesia. Although the island of Guam is the southernmost island in the Mariana archipelago, it is politically separate from the CNMI and administered as an unincorporated territory of the United States.

The CNMI's climate is marine tropical with distinct dry and wet seasons. Located in the primary storm track of the western Pacific, the archipelago is routinely affected by tropical storms and typhoons, the most powerful of which are capable of generating winds of over 250 kilometers an hour. Large storms generate high winds and storm surge that knock down vegetation, destroy buildings and structures, and reconfigure coastal environments.

The CNMI's population is concentrated on the main southern islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Saipan is by far the most populous (estimated 60,608 in 2005) and developed. It also possesses the bulk of the infrastructure that supports the tourism industry, the mainstay of the CNMI's economy. Saipan also serves as the seat of the Commonwealth government.

Tinian, lying only five kilometers south of Saipan, has a much smaller population (estimated 2,829 in 2005) which resides in the southern one-third of the island. The northern two-thirds of the island are leased by the U.S. government

and used for military training. Permanent military facilities are expected to be constructed on Tinian as a part of the transfer of U.S. forces from Okinawa. With the exception of a casino and hotel, which opened in 1998, Tinian possesses little tourist infrastructure.

Rota, the southernmost island in the CNMI, also possesses a small population (estimated 2,490 in 2005). Physically, Rota is the most pristine of the main southern islands with substantial stands of undisturbed limestone forest and well-preserved prehistoric archaeological sites. Rota has one golf resort that attracts a modest number of visitors, primarily from Guam and Japan. There is interest to boost economic activity and casino gambling was formally approved for the island in 2007. No casino development has been started, however.

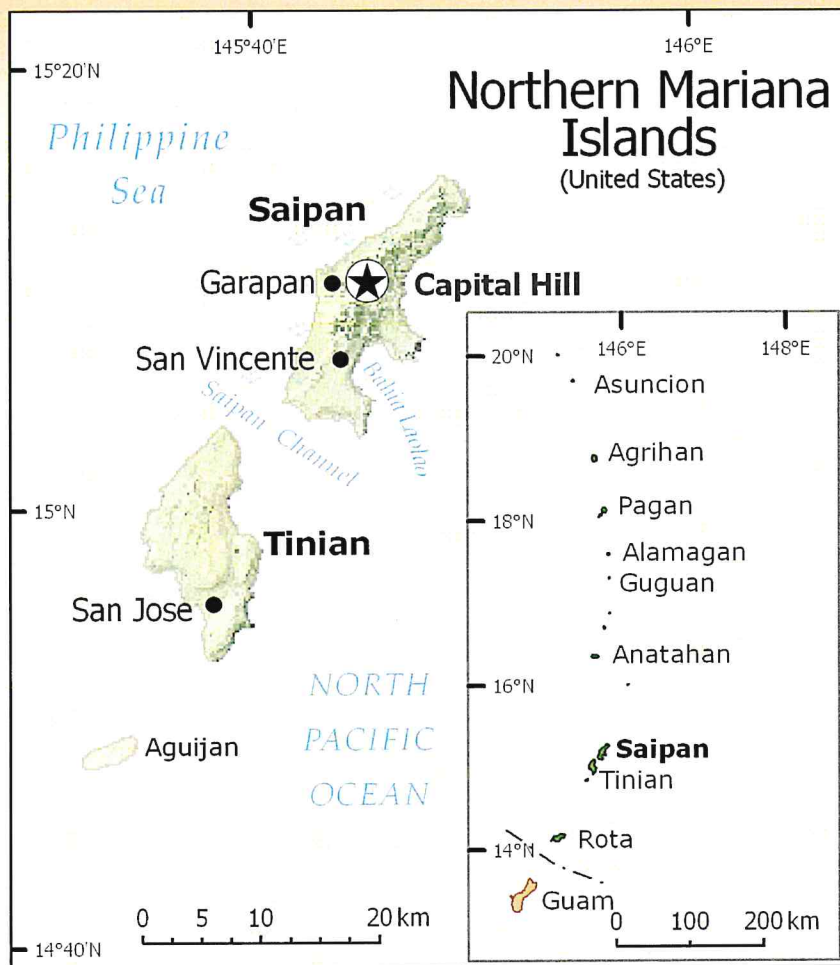
The other islands of the southern arc are the small, cliff fringed island of Aguiguan, five kilometers south of Tinian, and tiny Farallon de Medinilla, located 65 kilometers north of Saipan. Both islands are uninhabited. Aguiguan is visited from time to time by subsistence hunters and fishermen. Access to Aguiguan is controlled by the municipality of Tinian. Medinilla is leased to the military and serves as a target for aerial bombardment training. It is off-limits to the general public due to the dangers of unexploded ordnance.

To the north of Medinilla are nine islands commonly referred to as the “Northern Islands.” These islands are geologically more recent than the islands of the southern arc and volcanic in origin. Several possess active volcanoes. In general, they are small, rugged, and lack beaches, flat land, developed reef systems and protected anchorages. Currently, only two of these islands are occupied – Agrigan (estimated 9 persons in 2005) and Alamagan (estimated 7 persons in 2005). Two islands, Pagan and Anatahan have been declared off-limits for settlement due to recent volcanic eruptions. Although the government has plans to open homesteads in the northern islands, logistics, volcanic activity and a lack of funding will probably combine to postpone this program for the foreseeable future.

In January 2009, President Bush signed an executive order creating the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. A component of this monument, the “Islands Unit,” includes the waters and submerged lands of the three northernmost islands (Uracas, Maug and Asuncion). The Secretary of the Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has primary management responsibility for fishery-related activities in the waters of the Islands Unit. The CNMI government maintains exclusive authority for managing the three islands above the mean low water line.

The indigenous residents of the CNMI, the Chamorros, are the descendants of the original settlers who successfully colonized the archipelago approximately 4,000 ago. A second indigenous population, established in the mid-1800s, comprises the descendants of immigrants from the small atolls and islands of the Central Carolines located to the south of the Marianas between Chuuk and Yap. Due to rapid economic development and the resulting demand for outside labor, indigenous residents are a minority population in the CNMI (representing roughly 35% of the 2005 population). Reflecting the multi-cultural makeup of the islands, the CNMI Constitution establishes three official languages: Chamorro, Carolinian and English.

Although the CNMI is tiny in terms of population and land area when compared to U.S. mainland jurisdictions, it is both culturally diverse and physically spread out over thousands of square kilometers of ocean.



Map of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Data on the Northern Mariana Islands

Island	Area (Square Kilometers)	Peak Elevation (meters)
Rota	85.20	485
Aguiguan	7.17	178
Tinian	101.76	177
Saipan	122.92	473
Medinilla	.90	81
Anatahan	32.32	787
Sariguan	4.99	548
Guguan	4.16	301
Alamagan	11.26	744
Pagan	48.30	569
Agrigan	47.37	964
Asuncion	7.30	890
Maug	2.09	227
Uracas	2.04	319



The developed west coast of Saipan, the largest island in the CNMI. Military supply ships are present in foreground.



Uracus, one of the rugged and volcanically-active Northern Islands.

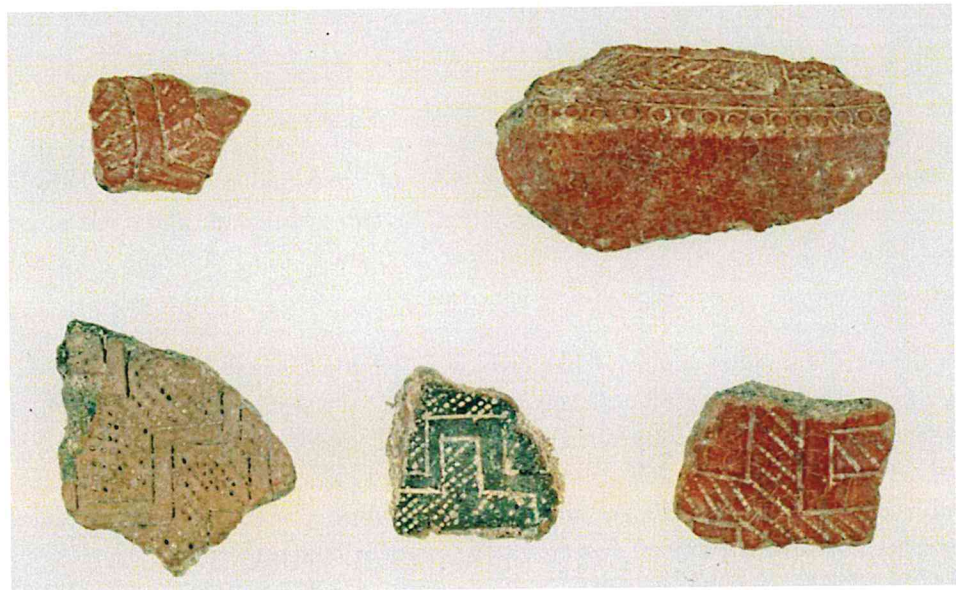
An Overview History of the Northern Mariana Islands

Human settlement in the Northern Mariana Islands began over 4,000 years ago with the arrival of seafaring explorers from Island Southeast Asia. These immigrants are the ancient ancestors of the modern day Chamorros, the indigenous residents of the Mariana Islands. Ancient Chamorros were skillful horticulturalists, mariners and fishers who adapted to an environment made challenging by periodic droughts and powerful tropical storms.

Reflecting their maritime orientation, these early settlers built their first villages along sandy shorelines offering protected fishing grounds and nearby sources of fresh water. Early settlement sites have been found on Tinian and Saipan, suggesting that the large islands of the southern arc were settled first and at roughly the same time. Currently, there is no archaeological evidence suggesting that the small, rugged volcanic islands of the northern arc were settled at this time although it is likely that they were visited periodically for resource exploitation by foraging parties from the southern islands.

Very little is known about the early settlement period. It may be assumed that the initial colonists brought sophisticated ceramic and canoe technologies and the basic tropical cultigens such as banana, taro, sugarcane, breadfruit and coconuts. Rice, which played an important role in Chamorro society late in the prehistoric sequence, apparently was not brought with the initial colonists. Also apparently absent were domesticated animals such as dogs, chickens and pigs.

For the first roughly 3,000 years, Chamorro communities lived exclusively in villages in coastal areas of the large islands of the southern arc. By 1000 AD, however, there is archaeological evidence documenting a dramatic expansion of settlements into previously unoccupied interior regions of Rota, Tinian and Saipan. The tiny beach-less island of Agui-guan south of Tinian and the rugged volcanic islands of the northern arc also were settled at this time.



Sherds of incised redware pottery which are diagnostic of early settlement sites in the Mariana Islands.

The expansion into previously unsettled areas coincided with the appearance of a new architectural form consisting of paired, two-piece foundation stones known as *latte*. *Latte* foundations supported Chamorro residences and perhaps other specialized structures including canoe houses. Villages containing multiple *latte* structures were situated in both coastal and inland locations. Large basalt grinding stones are commonly found in association with *latte* houses.

This settlement expansion has been credited to a significant increase in population and, possibly, to major social and economic transformations within Chamorro society. The causes behind this expansion, however, have not been conclusively determined. They may have resulted from the adoption of new subsistence practices, possibly the introduction of rice cultivation around 1000 AD. While archaeological and historical evidence confirms that rice was being cultivated in the Mariana Islands prior to and at European contact, the timing of its initial introduction in the archipelago remains unclear.



Sea turtle pictographs from a site on Rota.

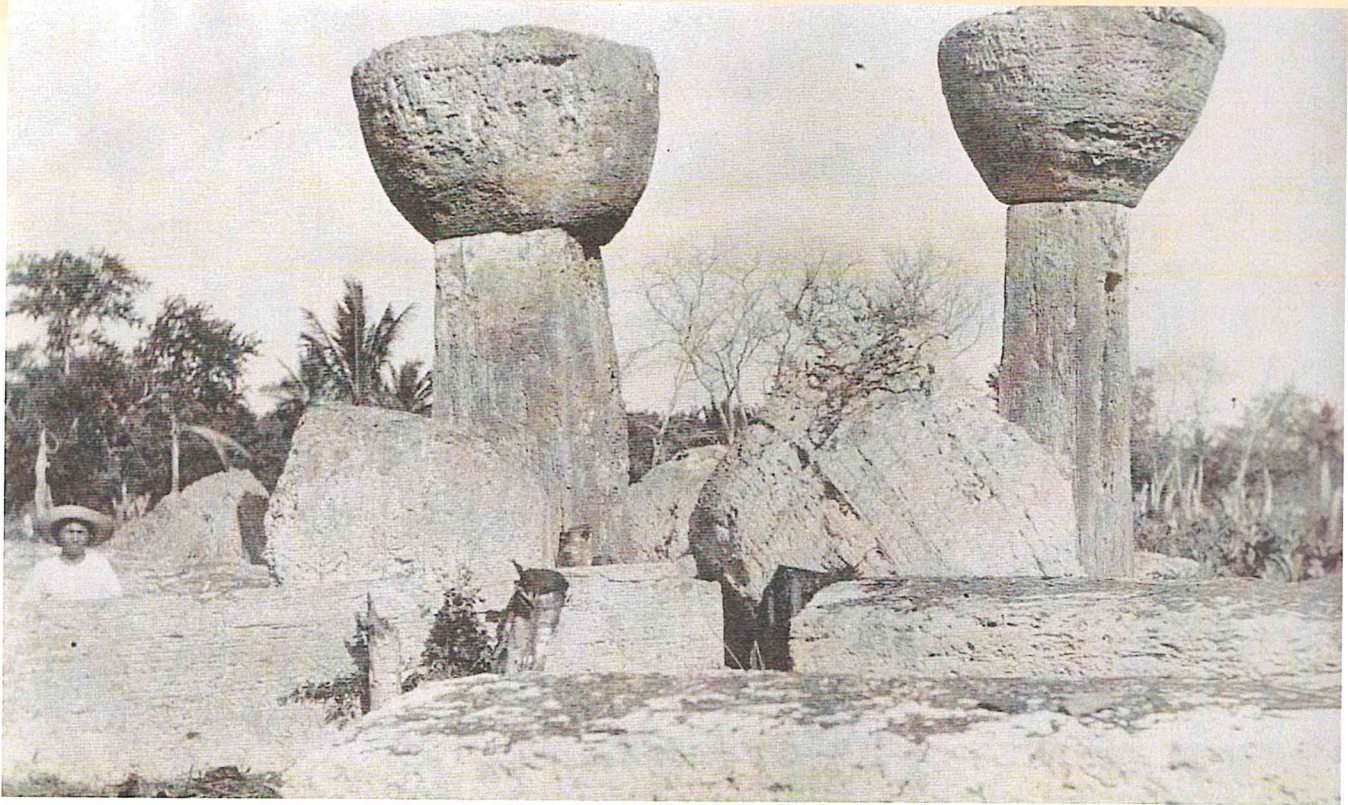
Shifting rice cultivation techniques for high yields of rice would explain the relatively rapid and widespread settlement of previously unoccupied interior regions. Similarly, *latte* architecture and the large grinding stones found in association with late period settlement sites might represent components of a technology package that accompanied rice from Island Southeast Asia. Small amounts of iron may have been introduced at this same time.

On the eve of European contact, Chamorros were living on virtually all of the islands in the archipelago. Villages were organized into ranked matrilineal clans with residents of coastal villages enjoying higher status than residents of inland settlements. High status individuals received special treatment in the form of respectful behavior, choice seating and special foods at gatherings, and assistance with manual tasks. Work was divided along gender lines. Men fished, undertook major construction work and served as warriors during times of conflict. Women tended gardens, produced woven products and exercised control over family life, property, and inheritance.

Subsistence was based on the cultivation of tree and root crops and fishing. In addition to the normal suite of tropical cultigens, Chamorros also cultivated rice before European contact. Rice was an important ritual food served at ceremonial events and also used as an article of trade by residents of interior villages who sought fish from residents of coastal settlements. Chamorros also distinguished themselves by capturing large pelagic fish such as marlin from their swift and well-made outrigger sailing canoes.

An important aspect of Chamorro society was ancestor worship. The skulls of deceased relatives were used to communicate with the ancestral spirits for insuring the success of important activities such as fishing and warfare. Communications with the spirit world were facilitated by shaman who were consulted to cure illnesses, foresee future events, and to ensure success of important activities.

Ancient Chamorros built and sailed graceful outrigger canoes, but they are best known for the distinctive stone pillars



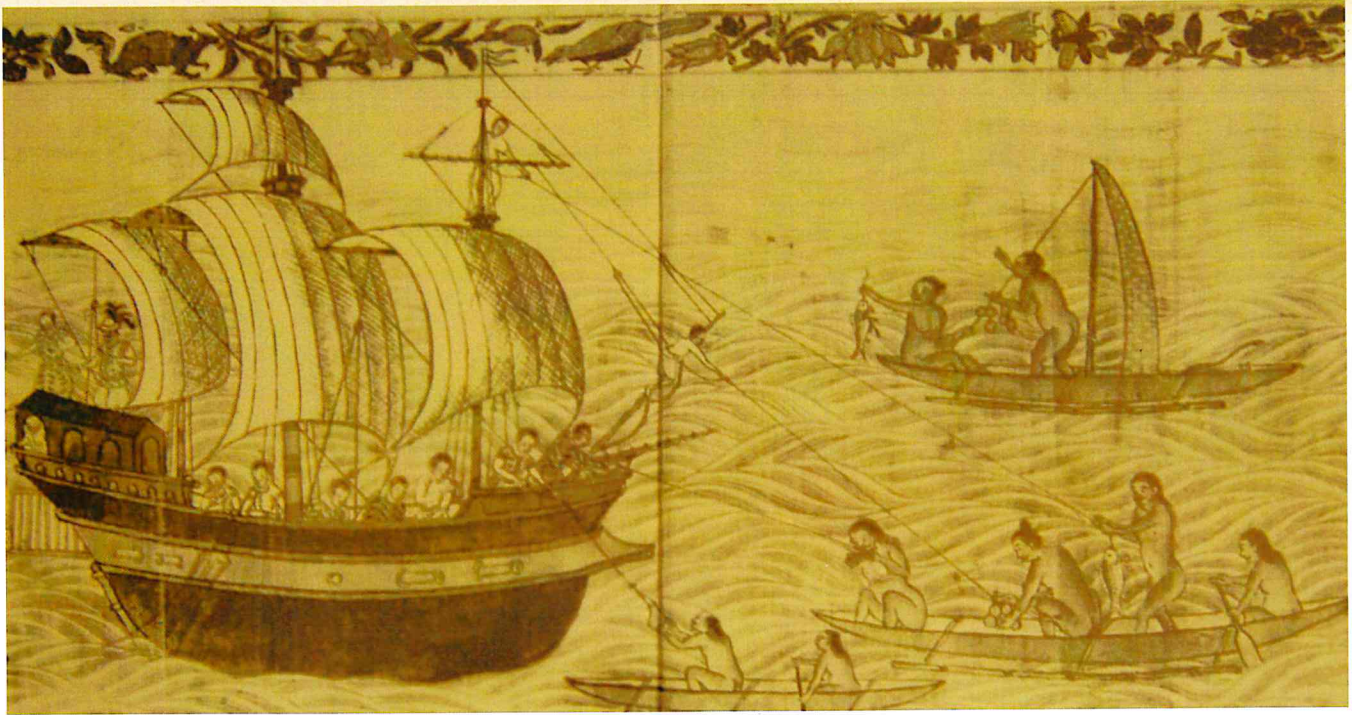
The House of Taga on Tinian pictured in the 1920s. It is the largest erected latte structure in the Mariana Islands.

that supported their residences. *Latte* is the Chamorro term for two parallel rows of stone shafts which were surmounted by cup-shaped capstones. The most spectacular example of a *latte* house is the House of Taga on Tinian. The *latte* is now an important cultural symbol for modern Chamorros. Its importance is reflected in its depiction on both the Commonwealth flag and the NMI commemorative quarter dollar recently produced by the U.S. Treasury Department.

Europeans first arrived in the Marianas in 1521 when Ferdinand Magellan touched at Guam during his historic voyage to establish a western route to the valuable Spice Islands. Forty-four years later the islands were officially claimed by Spain, but with the exception of annual provisioning stops by galleons plying the Manila-Acapulco trade route, the Spanish had little contact with the Chamorro people. This was to change in 1668 following the establishment of a Jesuit mission on Guam. The priests, supported by a small but determined garrison of troops, commenced an aggressive campaign to convert the islanders to Catholicism. Their initial efforts met with some success, but by the early 1670s Chamorro communities on Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan were actively resisting mission activities.

Initially, the Spanish missionaries and troops were largely limited to Guam, but in 1684 they launched a major campaign to subjugate and convert Chamorro communities on the islands to the north. By the late 1690s, worn down by a quarter century of conflict and decimated by exotic diseases against which they had no natural resistance, surviving Chamorros in what is now the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands capitulated. Many islanders were resettled into mission villages on Guam where they quietly converted to the Catholic faith under the watchful eyes of the Spanish priests.

Along with the Catholic religion, Chamorros also adopted a number of other foreign customs including a patrilineal family organization, western dress, private land ownership, and food preferences influenced by Spanish and Mexican cuisines. In spite of these major changes, Chamorros continued to speak their indigenous language and maintained many aspects of traditional culture that they successfully blended with European and New World elements to form a hybrid culture now referred to by modern Chamorros as "*Kustumbren Chamorro*" (Chamorro culture).



A late sixteenth century sketch of a trading session between Europeans and Chamorros.

For much of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Chamorros lived quiet lives, interrupted only occasionally by visiting ships. Life centered on the family, farm, and the ecclesiastical calendar of the Catholic Church. In the early decades of the nineteenth century, Carolinian immigrants escaping storm-ravaged islands and atolls of the Central Carolines to the south were allowed to settle on Saipan thus establishing the archipelago's second indigenous population.

Carolinians were expert canoe builders and open ocean voyagers who made the 500 mile trip between their home islands and the Marianas using navigational knowledge passed down in chants. In return for permission to settle in the Marianas, the Carolinians agreed to transport people and cargo among the islands on behalf of the Spanish administration. Although they became Christians, Carolinians who settled in the Marianas retained their language and their traditional culture.

Normal life was interrupted in 1898 when American troops landed on Guam at the outset of the Spanish-American War. Following the Treaty of Paris, Guam was retained as an American territory and the remainder of the archipelago was purchased by Germany.

Germany took formal possession of the Northern Mariana Islands in November 1899. The tiny German administration focused its efforts on economic development, particularly expanding copra production, and constructing much-needed infrastructure. Attention was also directed to improving public health and education, and effecting cultural change in local society to encourage the acceptance of European values that stressed punctuality, discipline and the accumulation of wealth.

In an effort to expand the small population, the German administration attracted Chamorro settlers from Guam by providing homestead lands to those who agreed to establish a permanent residence on Saipan. They also forcefully resettled Carolinian islanders on Saipan after their home islands and atolls in the Central Carolines were struck by typhoons. The standard of living rose during the German period, a cash economy was established, and a handful of Chamorros and Carolinians were given the opportunity to pursue trades training in Germany, China and Yap.

German rule was brought to an abrupt end by a Japanese naval squadron that seized the Northern Marianas and the rest of German Micronesia in October 1914. Japan, an ally of England, had long desired to expand into Micronesia, and the outbreak of World War I provided a convenient opportunity. Following its bloodless conquest, Japanese naval authorities repatriated the small contingent of German colonial administrators, planters, and priests.

With the end of the war, Japan laid formal claim to its newly acquired territories in Micronesia. These efforts were prompted by both economic and military considerations, particularly the latter. In 1921, the League of Nations formally recognized Japan's control of Micronesia, including the Northern Mariana Islands, under the provisions of a League Mandate.

The Japanese focused their energies on commercial development and by the early 1930s, large sugar cane plantations and refining mills were operating on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. At the height of operations, the Northern Marianas produced thousands of tons of processed sugar, alcohol, and other products that were shipped to markets in Japan. In pursuing their development priorities, the Japanese brought in tens of thousands of Japanese and Okinawan agricultural and factory workers to meet the growing labor demands. By the late 1930s, the foreign population in the Northern Marianas numbered more than 40,000, roughly ten times the size of the indigenous population.

Under the Japanese administration, the Northern Mariana Islands were transformed into small but prosperous cogs in Japan's overseas empire. The sugar industry brought with it an improved standard of living, modern townships, electricity, running water, and quality health care. Many local residents earned substantial cash incomes from land leases with Japanese businessmen and used this income to purchase a range of consumer goods offered in Japanese stores. In return, local residents were expected to learn the Japanese language and culture and to be loyal subjects of the Japanese Emperor.

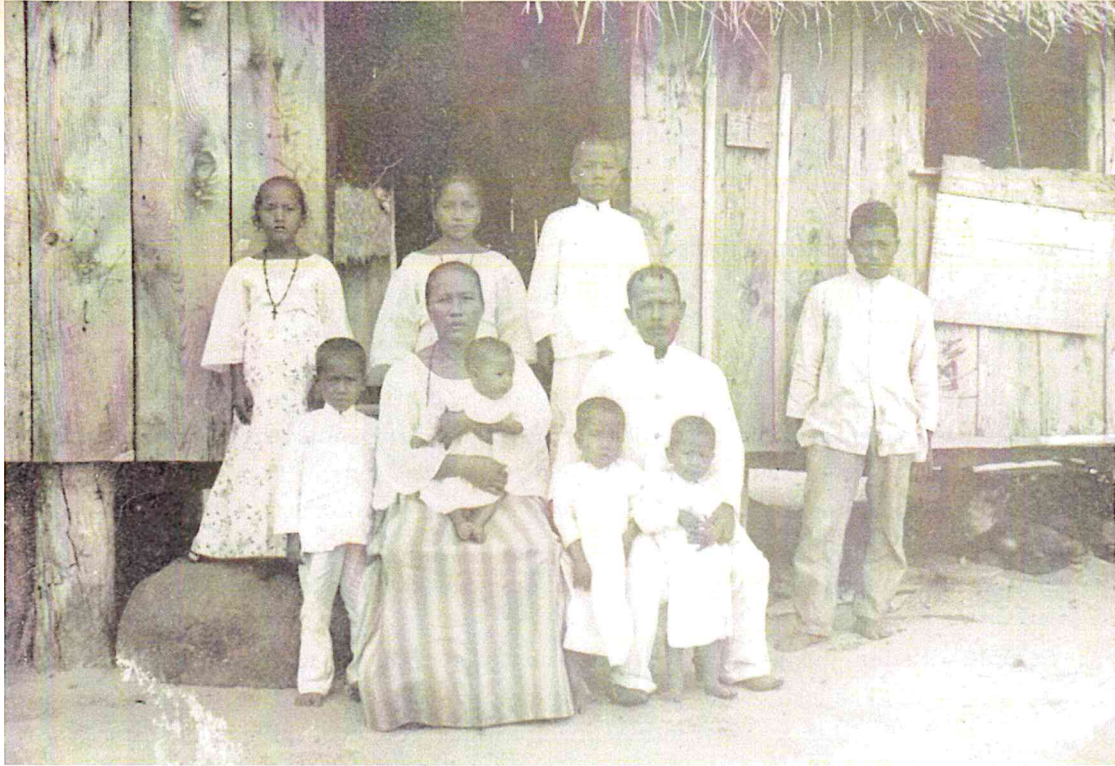
This prosperous period came to an end in December 1941 with the outbreak of the Pacific War. Airfields on Saipan were used during the Japanese attack on America-held Guam but it wasn't until late 1943 that the Japanese military began to fortify the islands in anticipation of amphibious landings by American forces. By early 1944, the Marianas had become a front line position as a part of Japan's Absolute National Defensive Sphere. The Japanese realized that the defense of the Marianas was critical to the overall war effort. On Saipan, the lynchpin of the archipelago's defense, 30,000 Japanese troops were prepared to fight to the death in an effort to keep the island out of American hands.

American war plans called for the capture of Saipan, Tinian, and Guam to serve as airbases for the newly developed B-29 *Superfortress*, the world's first strategic bomber. Possessing a range of nearly 3,000 miles, a bomb capacity of four tons, and heavily armed, the *Superfortress* was a formidable weapon and one that the U.S. wished to unleash against the Japanese home islands at the earliest possible date.

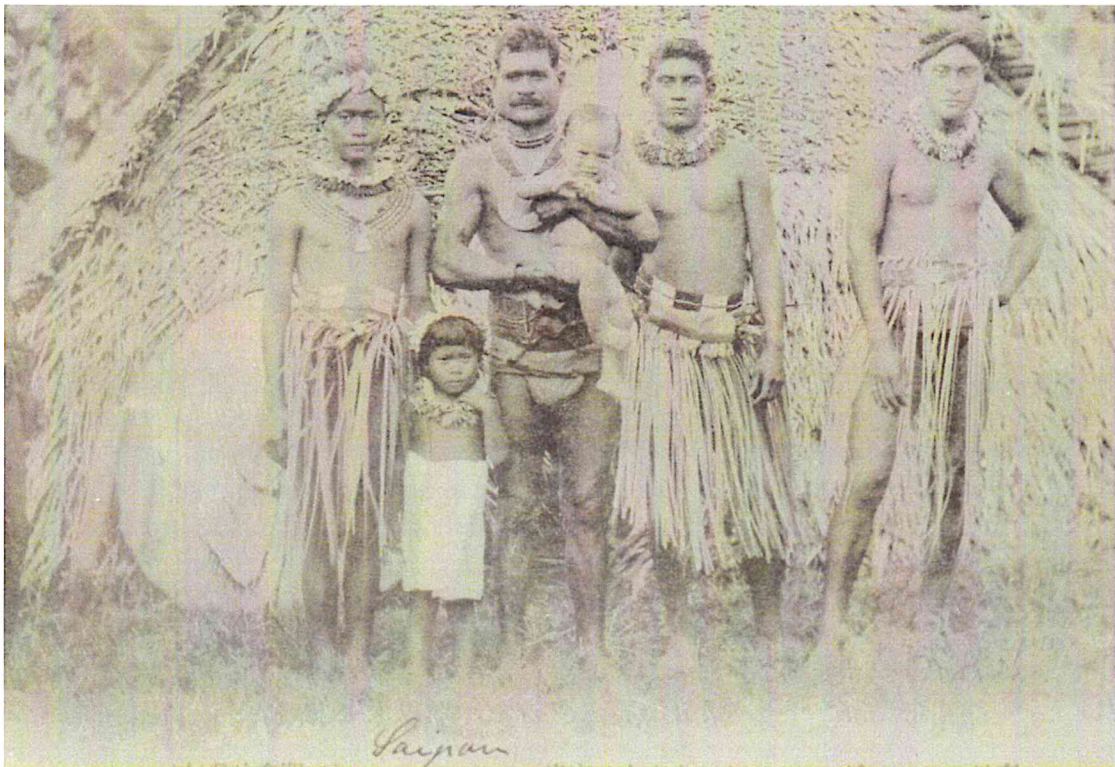
The American invasion of the Marianas, code named *Forager*, was carried out by an assault force consisting of over 105,000 combat troops. *Forager* began with the amphibious assault against Saipan on 15 June 1944. Following three weeks of bloody fighting, U.S. Marines and soldiers succeeded in wresting the island from its determined Japanese defenders. The fighting was costly for both sides. American casualties included 3,100 killed and over 11,000 wounded, while the Japanese suffered more than 28,000 battle deaths.

Also killed in the crossfire were thousands of Japanese, Okinawan, and Korean civilians, and more than 900 Chamorros and Carolinians, roughly one fifth of the indigenous population. With the island in ruins, surviving civilians were placed in internment camps where they were provided with emergency food, medical treatment, and shelter. With Saipan secure, the U.S. turned its attention to Tinian and Guam. Both were captured after short but fierce battles. Rota and the islands north of Saipan were isolated but not invaded.

Airfield construction commenced immediately. By early 1945, five B-29 bomb wings were operating out of fields on



A Chamorro family in formal clothing.



A Carolinian family in festive dress.

Guam, Tinian, and Saipan. From November 1944 until early August 1945, Japan was subjected to an unrelenting campaign of aerial bombardment. The full potential of the Marianas airbases was realized in August 1945 when Tinian-based B-29s dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Shortly thereafter, Japan sued for peace, thus ending the Second World War.

Following the war, the islands were administered by the Department of the Navy under a Trusteeship agreement created by the United Nations. The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), as this governmental organization was named, was unique in that it was the only “strategic” trusteeship created by the United Nations. As a strategic trust territory, the TTPI did not fall within the purview of the General Assembly as did the other trust territories, but rather the Security Council in which the United States exercised veto power.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, Saipan was used as a secret training base for Nationalist Chinese and Tibetan guerrillas, an operation reportedly directed by the Central Intelligence Agency. The islands were generally off-limits to all but the local population and military personnel, and travel by non-residents required prior approval by Navy officials in Washington, D.C. In these years, there was little private economic activity and local residents were forced to return to their farms to augment what wage labor they were able to secure from the military government. In 1962, military control ended and administrative responsibilities passed to the Department of the Interior. Saipan became the capital of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Security requirements were lifted and increasingly larger budgets were made available to the TTPI helping to increase the standard of living.

Later in the 1960s, Chamorros and Carolinians made their desires known regarding their future political status. Many people sought reunification with Guam believing that this was the best option to acquire U.S. citizenship and regain a standard of living that they had enjoyed during the Japanese administration. A referendum on reunification was held in 1969. Although reunification was supported by a majority of the Northern Marianas voters, Guam voters rejected it. Not wishing to remain a part of Micronesia, and desiring close political association with the United States, a Marianas political delegation began direct negotiations with the U.S. government. These negotiations were undertaken to separate the Northern Marianas from the Trust Territory government and to establish a permanent political union with the United States.

After several years of bilateral negotiations, a Covenant to establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was approved by the Marianas District Legislature in 1975. This document was also approved by both houses of the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Gerald Ford on March 24, 1976. The Covenant created the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and provided residents with self-government and U.S. citizenship. Under this agreement, the CNMI is entitled to participate in a wide variety of federal programs, including the Historic Preservation Fund program administered by the National Park Service.

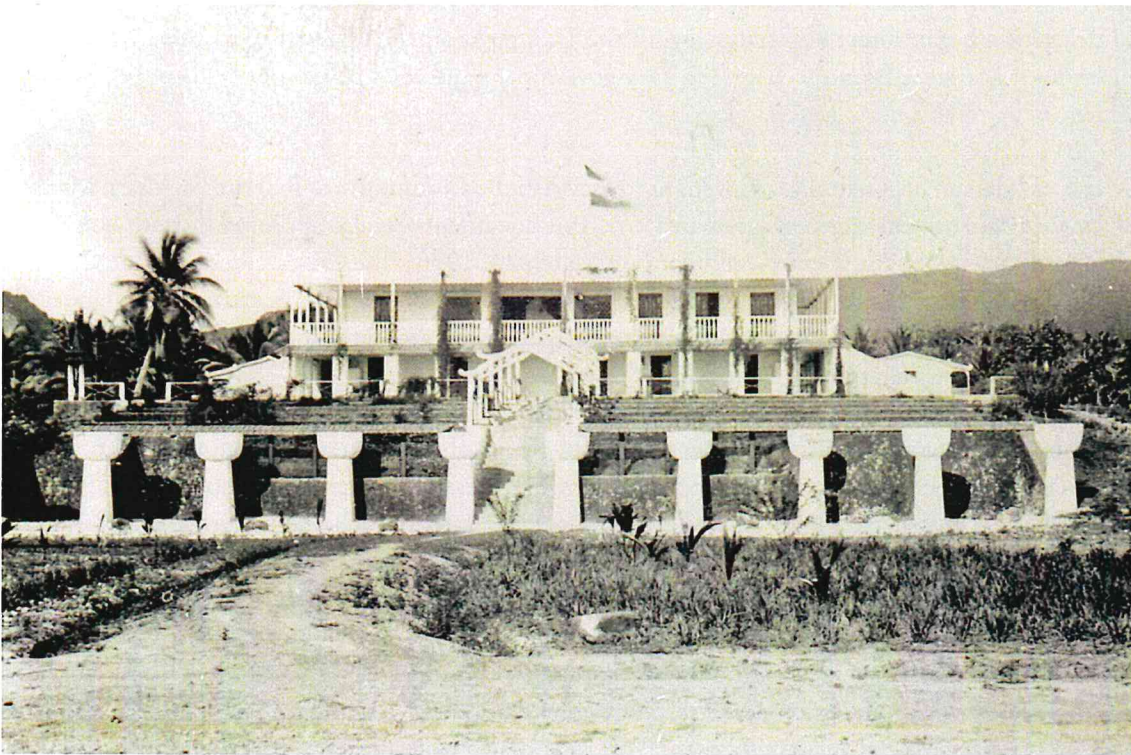
Soon after attaining Commonwealth status, Saipan became the focus of tourist-related development. Beginning in the mid-1980s, outside developers, initially from Japan, but also from Korea and China, leased thousands of hectares of public and private lands and constructed tourist-related facilities including resort hotels, golf courses, shops and restaurants.

At about this same time, the garment industry was established under a provision of the Covenant that authorized duty-free access to U.S. markets for items manufactured in the CNMI. Over the next decade dozens of foreign-owned factories were built in the CNMI, staffed by thousands of guest workers from Asia, primarily China. The garment industry led to a marked expansion in air cargo and shipping service to the CNMI and to a substantial rise in government revenues. It also had negative social and environmental impacts arising from the large increase in the foreign population and led to friction with certain sectors of the U.S. government.

This economic boom period in the CNMI was to last for roughly 15 years – 1986 to 2000. Over the next five years,



A Carolinian canoe house as it appeared in late nineteenth century.



The administration building in Garapan in 1902, the seat of the German colonial administration.



A group of Japanese cane workers in the field in the 1930s.



U.S. Marines hit the beach on Saipan, June 15, 1944.

several international events combined to negatively affect the CNMI. The first was the collapse of the Japanese “bubble economy” that fueled much of the tourist development in the CNMI. Japanese investment funding all but disappeared and Japanese firms, including Japan Airlines, began to divest themselves of their holdings in the CNMI. Then came the 9/11 attacks and the SARS outbreak. These developments resulted in a decline in tourist arrivals, most dramatically from Japan which had historically been the principal market for the tourism industry.

Recent Developments in the CNMI

Economic and political developments over the past five years have continued in a negative direction. The lifting of World Trade Organization restrictions on Chinese imports to the United States and the increase in CNMI minimum wage combined to extinguish the local garment industry. The last factory closed in 2009.

The loss of this industry has greatly affected the level of economic activity in the CNMI. The value of garment exports dropped from \$650 million in 2005 to slightly over \$3 million in 2009, and the volume of imports to the CNMI decreased from 605,000 tons in 2005 to 220,880 over that same period. The collapse of this industry is also evident in the dramatic drop in Business Gross Receipts Tax which declined from slightly over 2 billion dollars in 2005 to 1.5 billion in 2009.

Another negative economic development has been the steady decline in tourist arrivals, most notably from Japan. Although partially off-set by visitors from Russia, China and Korea, the loss of Japanese tourists has been a troubling development. Hotel occupancy, which ran at 70% in 2005, dropped to an anemic 58% in 2009. The government has focused considerable effort on the tourism sector over the past five years but little significant progress has been made to reverse this trend.

Adding to this difficult situation was the passage of U.S. Public Law 110-2209 which ended CNMI control over immigration in late 2009. As a result of this action, the CNMI no longer has unlimited access to foreign labor, a situation that has caused considerable confusion and concern in the local business community. Concern has also been raised that this legislation will threaten indigenous control of local government due to the possible granting of permanent residence status to long-time guest workers.

A by-product of the economic meltdown has been a sizable reduction in the size of the CNMI population. The termination of the garment industry resulted in the repatriation of thousands of foreign guest workers, primarily from China. Significant numbers of guest workers from the visitor and service industries have also returned to their countries of origin due to widespread business closures and downsizings.

In addition to guest workers, a substantial number of local residents (indigenous and non-indigenous U.S. citizens) have also left the CNMI to find better economic opportunities in Guam, Hawaii and the U.S. mainland. Although actual population figures will not be known until the results of the 2010 census are made known, unofficial estimates suggest that the CNMI has lost more than 10,000 people over the past five years.

The economic recession has led to a government budget crisis. Government work hours have been reduced and the threat of payless paydays, mass layoffs, and the loss of essential public services remain very real possibilities. The only positive economic news has come from the federal government in the form of categorical grants, funding for capital improvement projects, emergency ARRA projects, and the expansion of military facilities and operations on Tinian. While the federal funding is important, it cannot offset the dramatic drop in locally-generated revenues.

It may be anticipated that barring a major improvement in local economic situation, historic preservation will be com-

peting for ever-shrinking public resources and fending off attempts to reduce its regulatory control over land-use projects. These circumstances present both challenges and opportunities for historic preservation over the next five years.

Visitor Arrivals in the CNMI for Selected Years 1990-2009

Year	Visitor Arrivals
1990	417,146
1992	488,330
1994	583,557
1996	736,508
1998	526,298
2000	526,111
2003	458,932
2005	491,701
2009	353,956

Population Data for the CNMI, 1973-2005

Year	Population	% indigenous	% increase/decrease
1973	14,333	80.0	---
1980	16,780	77.8	(+)17%
1990	43,345	39.6	(+)158%
1995	59,913	33.6	(+) 38%
2000	69,221	34.5	(+)15%
2005	65,927	35.5	(-) 5%

The Framework for Historic Preservation in the CNMI

The historic and cultural resources left behind by nearly 4,000 years of human occupation are found throughout the CNMI. In recognition of the scientific, cultural and economic importance of these tangible links with the islands' past, the CNMI Legislature passed the Historic Preservation Act of 1982 (Public Law 3-39). This law created the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and protects important historic, archaeological, architectural and cultural resources on public and private lands throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to Public Law 3-39, significant sites are also afforded protection under federal laws and regulations, primarily Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and associated 36 CFR Part 800.

The HPO maintains its central office on Saipan that is headed by the Historic Preservation Officer, and branch offices on the islands of Rota and Tinian. Branch offices are headed by Coordinators who report to the Historic Preservation Officer. The program receives annual grant assistance from the National Park Service under the Historic Preservation Fund program and annual appropriations from the CNMI legislature. Other funding is secured from a variety of grant sources, primarily to support specific preservation projects. The program receives essential advice and guidance from the Historic Preservation Review Board appointed by the Governor.

Historic preservation activities are supported by a number of local, regional and international organizations. Locally, they include the CNMI Museum of History and Culture, the CNMI Public School System, the Northern Marianas College, the CNMI Council for Arts and Culture, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the NMI Council for the Humanities, the CNMI Division of Environmental Quality, and the Coastal Resources Management Office. Regional organizations include the Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation, the Micronesian Area Research Center, the Micronesian Seminar, the Guam Preservation Trust, and the University of Hawaii. International partners include a wide variety of preservation professionals including archaeologists and historians, and universities in the United States, Japan, and Australia.

Major historic preservation activities fall within several general program areas including survey, registration, project review, public education and cultural preservation.

Survey

As mandated under federal and local laws, the HPO is responsible for completing a comprehensive survey to locate and document all significant archaeological, historic, architectural and cultural resources in the CNMI. Surveys are undertaken in-house by HPO staff and under contracts with professional archaeologists. Surveys are also undertaken in advance of land-use projects. Large areas of Saipan, Tinian and Rota have been subjected to systematic archaeological surveys. By contrast, with the notable exception of Pagan, the rugged Northern Islands have received virtually no survey coverage.

Registration

Historic resources identified by archaeological, architectural and historic surveys are fully documented and site information is added to the HPO's site inventory listing. This listing contains thousands of sites and associated features. Efforts are underway to computerize the HPO's site inventory. In addition to the inventory listing, significant resources are also listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is a formal listing of the nation's most significant sites and is maintained by the National Park Service. Currently, 35 sites in the CNMI are listed on the National

Register. Of these, twelve are ancient Chamorro sites, two are traditional Carolinian sites, twelve date to the Japanese period, and nine are associated with World War II. Finally, nationally significant sites may be designated National Historic Landmarks, a program also administered by the National Park Service. Two National Historic Landmarks have been designated in the CNMI, both following the theme of the War in the Pacific.

Land-Use Reviews

The HPO reviews land-use projects in conjunction with two principal permitting agencies. Large-scale projects or those that will be undertaken within sensitive environmental areas are reviewed under the Coastal Resource Management (CRM) program. In most cases, these project areas are subjected to professional-level surveys and potential adverse effects to important historic resources are identified and mitigated through specific requirements incorporated into CRM permits. Mitigation measures may include one or more of the following: in-place preservation; relocation; data recovery, back-filling; intensive recordation; interpretive development; and monitoring. Smaller-scale projects are reviewed under the Division of Environmental Quality Earthmoving permit process. Typically, such project areas are surveyed by staff of the HPO. Needed mitigation measures as previously discussed are then made a part of the earthmoving permit. Federal undertakings are reviewed under the Section 106 review process. This process requires federal agencies to consider potential effects their undertakings may have on properties on or eligible to be on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. Areas to be impacted by federally-assisted projects are normally subjected to professional-level archaeological surveys and any required mitigation actions are stipulated in formal agreement documents.

Public Education

An important component of historic preservation is the dissemination of archaeological and historic research conducted in the CNMI. The HPO maintains two publication series: the *Micronesian Archaeological Survey* report series, established in 1981, presents the results of important archaeological investigations. Historical research is published through the HPO's *Occasional Historical Papers* series. The HPO conducts lectures on local history, archaeology and historic preservation and sponsors guided tours to significant sites. It has also initiated an interpretive project that involves placing multi-language signs at significant historical sites. It also recently completed work to develop a self-guided tour of underwater sites in the Saipan Lagoon. Publications on other topics, including culture, are produced by other agencies and organizations including the NMI Council for the Humanities.

Cultural Preservation

In light of rapid changes ushered in by economic development, the HPO has sponsored projects to strengthen indigenous cultural systems, practices and knowledge. Referred to as cultural preservation, this program area is undertaken in coordination with other agencies in the CNMI including the NMI Council for the Humanities, the Commonwealth Council for the Arts and Culture, the Language Commission, the Office of Indigenous Affairs and the Carolinian Language Commission. Cultural preservation projects are varied and have included oral histories, traditional sailing canoe reconstructions, workshops to provide training in local medicinal practices, celestial navigation, and fishing, and the documentation of other traditional skills and crafts that are important to the indigenous cultures.



Archaeologists carefully excavate a human burial during a data recovery project.



A guided tour of the Kalabera pictograph site.



A reburial site marked with a latte stone and interpretive plaque.



A Carolinian voyaging canoe under full sail. Traditional canoe building and navigation are important components of cultural preservation.

The CNMI's Historic Resources

Nearly 4,000 years of human occupation has left a rich patchwork of sites throughout the CNMI. Due to the small size of individual islands and their intensive utilization during both the prehistoric and historic periods, it is rare to find areas which do not contain historic resources. For management and research purposes, the HPO assigns historic resources to one of several temporal periods. These include: Prehistoric; Spanish Period; German Period; Japanese Period; World War II; and Post-War Period.

Prehistoric (ca. 2000 BC to AD 1668)

Prehistoric sites are the physical manifestations of human activities which occurred prior to the arrival of the first Europeans. The earliest sites, those associated with the initial settlement of the archipelago at roughly 2000 BC, primarily consist of buried cultural deposits whose artifact assemblages are dominated by a distinctive ceramic type known as Early Calcarious Ware (ECW). Early period sites are rare and due to natural and man-induced disturbances, they are usually poorly preserved. These sites are found almost exclusively in coastal beach environments but are also present in rock shelters and caves often located well inland from the sea. Late in prehistoric times, around 1,000 years ago, major changes took place in Chamorro society. These included changes in settlement patterning, subsistence adaptations, and the introduction of the *latte* architectural form found in both coastal and inland locations. *Latte* sites commonly possess large basalt grinding stones, surface artifact scatters, and stratified subsurface cultural deposits which include human burials. Other sites associated with late prehistoric life are *latte* quarries, water wells, tool-making loci, rock shelters and caves, and rock art sites.

Spanish Period (1668-1899)

Although the Marianas were first visited by Magellan in 1521 and formally claimed for the Spanish crown in 1565, Europeans had little impact on traditional Chamorro life until the establishment of the Jesuit mission on Guam in 1668. As a consequence, Chamorro sites from the early Spanish period are nearly indistinguishable from sites from the pre-contact period. Spanish colonial occupation of the Marianas was the longest in duration but many of the sites associated with this occupation are found on the island of Guam which served as the headquarters for the Spanish colonial administration. Sites associated with the Spanish period are rare in the CNMI and consist of archaeological sites associated with post-conquest mission villages, a few buildings, mostly in ruins, and buried artifacts. Also present are two shipwrecks; *Concepcion* and *Santa Margarita*. Both were Acapulco-bound galleons that wrecked off Saipan and Rota respectively in the early decades of the seventeenth century. There is evidence to suggest that additional Spanish-period shipwrecks may be present within CNMI waters.

German Period (1899-1914)

Germany administered the islands for 15 years and concentrated its efforts on economic development, mostly copra production, and infrastructure projects such as roads and docks. Indigenous residents lived in two villages on Saipan and a single village on Rota. Tinian was unoccupied. Residential structures, for the most part, were built of wood and thatch. There were a handful of more substantial homes built of stone. Few sites dating to the German occupation survived the intensive agricultural development implemented by their successors, the Japanese, or the massive land disturbance which occurred during World War II. The few sites which have been identified are limited to structural remnants and buried cultural deposits.

Japanese Period (1914-1941)

Sites associated with Japan's rule of the islands are both numerous and diverse. Particularly prevalent are sites associated with Japan's economic development of the islands which peaked in the late 1930s. These include the ruins of farmsteads, factories, railroad lines, mill towns, and mining sites. Also present are concrete remnants of residences, hospitals, stores, administrative offices, and water cisterns. Shrines associated with the *Shinto* religion are found throughout the islands. Buried cultural deposits, primarily in the form of refuse dumps, are also a common site type from this period. The remnants of Japanese agricultural activities are also found in the rugged Northern Islands, particularly on the island of Pagan which supported a sizable pre-war civilian population. Sites associated with the agricultural exploitation of tiny Aguiguan Island have also been documented.

World War II Period (1941-1945)

Sites associated with World War II in the Pacific make up the largest percentage of sites in the CNMI. These sites are assigned to one of two sub-periods: Japanese and American. Sites associated with Japan's defense of the islands include airfields and associated infrastructure, reinforced concrete gun positions, troop barracks, anti-aircraft and coastal defense guns, man-made tunnels and improved caves, and extensive surface scatters of equipment, armaments and ordnance. Also present are individual and mass graves of Japanese troops and civilians killed in the battle. Offshore in shallow coastal waters are the remains of military aircraft, patrol boats, and merchant ships. Sites associated with the American invasion of the islands and the post-invasion use of Saipan and Tinian consist of airfields, paved roads, hospitals, ammunition storage areas, and scores of Quonset Hut foundations used for a wide variety of operational and administrative functions. Also present are equipment dumps, artifact scatters, and buried ordnance.

Post-War Period (1945-present)

With the passage of time, more attention has focused on documenting sites created after World War II. Sites from this period include early post-war churches, commercial buildings and residences. Also constructed during this period is a substantial complex of concrete buildings located on Capitol Hill reportedly constructed by the CIA to serve as headquarters for a top secret training facility that operated from the early 1950s through 1962. This complex, which is an important resource from the Cold War, then became the headquarters of the Trust Territory government and, later, for the CNMI. Other buildings from this period include the remnants of the Congress of Micronesia, the Marianas District legislature, and municipal office buildings.



The House of Taga site on Tinian, a property listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.



The ruins of the Casa Real on Rota, one of the few extant sites from the Spanish Period.



A Japanese era residence in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan.



Mount Carmel Cathedral in Susupe, Saipan, a significant post-war site.

A Vision for Historic Preservation in the CNMI

In the future, historic preservation will play a key role in improving the quality of life for all residents of the CNMI.

Historic and cultural resources will be considered by CNMI residents as irreplaceable links to our past whose preservation and study will add to our understanding of the archipelago's unique cultures and history.

Educators will take full advantage of historic preservation by ensuring that important historical and cultural data generated by archaeological and historical research is integrated into school curricula. Students will take inspiration from the past and use it as a compass to navigate an uncertain and challenging future.

The legislature will recognize the importance of historic preservation and will appropriate adequate levels of funding to ensure that historic and cultural resources are identified, protected, studied and interpreted. The legislature will also enact stronger laws which will provide preservationists and others with the tools necessary to ensure that important resources are respectfully considered and afforded appropriate treatment.

Historic Preservation will be integrated fully into economic development and historic resources will be viewed by developers as assets rather than liabilities. Preservationists and developers will recognize common ground, thus avoiding adversarial relationships.

Visitors to the CNMI will be provided opportunities to learn about the history and cultures of the Northern Mariana Islands and residents will take rightful pride in the many accomplishments of their ancestors. Cultural tourism will be embraced and will serve as an important drawing attraction for visitors from around the world.

In Quest of the Vision: A Discussion of Challenges and Opportunities

Eight issues have been identified that affect or have the potential to affect historic preservation in the CNMI and which must be addressed to realize the vision previously outlined. These have been listed in a descending order of importance. For each issue, an associated goal has been developed. Individual goals will be addressed by completing associated objectives. These are as follows:

Issue 1. Adequate Funding for Historic Preservation

Due to the serious economic recession in the CNMI, annual appropriations from the CNMI Legislature to support historic preservation have been reduced, and further reductions are anticipated. It is also possible that annual grant assistance from the NPS may also be reduced in coming years. Such reductions pose serious challenges to the continued viability of historic preservation in the CNMI.

Goal 1. Secure adequate funding to support core historic preservation activities and projects.

Objective (1) 1. Ensure timely and complete submissions for annual Historic Preservation Fund grants from the National Park Service.

Objective (1) 2. Support annual requests to the CNMI Legislature that are adequate to carry out preservation activities.

Objective (1) 3. Seek grant funding from regional and international organizations.

Objective (1) 4. Establish cooperative agreements with appropriate agencies and organizations to carry out historic preservation activities.

Objective(1) 5. Identify and obtain potential private sector funding in the CNMI.

Issue 2. Tourism/Economic Development

Tourism is the main industry in the CNMI and currently serves as the sole pillar of the local economy. Excellent opportunities exist to utilize historic resources to increase the quality of the visitor experience, to ensure an accurate portrayal of local history and cultures, and to serve as additional attractions for the visitor industry.

Goal 2. Integrate historic preservation into the visitor industry in the CNMI.

Objective (2). 1. Develop a tourism marketing strategy for historic and cultural resources.

Objective (2) 2. Support the development of cultural tourism in the CNMI.

Objective (2) 3. Improve the accuracy of information disseminated about historic and cultural sites through training programs for tour guides and other means.

Objective (2) 4. Strengthen the preservation and interpretation of historic and cultural sites on private development projects.

Objective (2) 5. Produce and distribute accurate information (books, brochures, maps, websites, etc.) on historic sites for use by visitors to the CNMI.

Issue 3. Land-Use Conflicts

Land is an extremely important cultural and economic resource in the CNMI. Its importance in relation to local culture is reflected in Article XII of the CNMI Constitution which limits acquisition of real property to persons of Northern Marianas Descent. Under the provisions of Public Law 3-39, the HPO reviews land-use activities on both public and private lands. While these reviews are essential to the protection of significant historic resources, they are also a source of public opposition to historic preservation. Local landowners are concerned that preservation requirements will unduly limit their ability to put their land to its fullest use or might prevent them from securing lucrative leases with outside developers. For their part, developers sometimes object to incurring expenses for archaeological surveys and needed mitigation work. These concerns have been magnified by the poor economic situation that has plagued the CNMI for the past decade.

Goal 3. Incorporate considerations of historic and cultural resource preservation as a routine part of all environmental, land-use and public policy activities.

Objective (3) 1. Increase public awareness about the value of preserving significant historic resources.

Objective (3) 2. Develop and distribute multi-lingual materials describing historic preservation requirements and procedures in the CNMI.

Objective (3) 3. Conduct workshops to explain historic preservation requirements relating to land-use activities.

Objective (3) 4. Identify, document, evaluate, and, to the extent feasible, protect historic and cultural resources located within development projects.

Objective (3) 5. Develop and maintain a publicly accessible database to track individual land-use project reviews.

Objective (3) 6. Improve the effectiveness of the project-review process through evaluating and updating current procedures and other means.

Objective (3) 7. Develop disaster preparedness and recovery plans for historic properties.

Objective (3) 8. Expand the use of government land exchanges that protect significant historic resources.

Objective (3) 9. Establish incentives for preserving and developing historic resources in the CNMI.

Issue 4. Public Participation

In light of its technical nature and the professional requirements normally associated with grant-assisted activities, many in the community view historic preservation as a discipline for outside archaeologists, historians and architects. This has limited local participation which, in turn, has affected overall public support for the program. Public support for the historic preservation is particularly important at a time when government services are forced to compete for ever-shrinking public and private funding.

Goal 4. Increase opportunities for the general public to participate in historic preservation projects and events.

Objective (4) 1. Provide opportunities for residents to pursue degrees in archaeology, history, historic preservation and related fields.

Objective (4) 2. Maximize the use of local expertise and volunteers in planning and executing preservation projects in the CNMI.

Objective (4) 3. Provide historic preservation-related training to members of the public.

Objective (4) 4. Hire Workforce Investment Act (WIA) employees to support historic preservation activities.

Objective (4) 5. Seek and consider public input on historic preservation projects and activities undertaken in the CNMI.

Objective (4) 6. Ensure that information about historic preservation projects and activities is disseminated to the public in a variety of formats.

Issue 5. Survey, Inventory and Registration

Substantial areas on Saipan, Tinian, Rota and Aguiguan have been subjected to professional-level surveys and thousands of sites and associated features have been located, documented and assessed. Unfortunately, survey and site data are stored in paper format and are not easily available to scholars and to the general public, thus reducing the value of this

data set. Further, the Northern Islands have received no systematic survey coverage and little is known about the sites they contain. Underwater sites and those dating to the post-World War II period also have not received systematic coverage. These gaps in survey coverage and current antiquated inventory system affect the effective stewardship of historic resources in the CNMI.

Goal 5. Identify, document, evaluate and designate all significant historic resources in the CNMI.

Objective (5) 1. Review all existing site records and revise as necessary to ensure completeness and accuracy.

Objective (5) 2. Develop and maintain a computerized site inventory system.

Objective (5) 3. Identify, record and evaluate sites in Northern Islands.

Objective (5) 4. Identify, evaluate and record sites dating to the Post-World War II Period.

Objective (5) 5. Identify, evaluate and record underwater sites.

Objective (5) 6. Nominate significant sites to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

Objective (5) 7. Strengthen and utilize local capabilities to effectively manage cultural resources.

Objective (5) 8. Update the synthesis of archaeological research conducted in the CNMI.

Issue 6. Federal Agency Cooperation

Federally-funded projects are critical to the CNMI particularly during difficult economic times. Currently, such projects make up the bulk of construction work in the islands. This trend, bolstered by the Department of Defense's plans to develop Tinian as a training base, is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. While many federal agencies diligently comply with federal and local historic preservation requirements, others are less cooperative. This lack of cooperation threatens significant archaeological, historic and cultural resources in the CNMI. It also threatens much needed federal funding that might be lost due to the failure to comply with historic preservation laws and regulations.

Goal 6. Improve federal agency compliance with federal and local historic preservation laws, regulations and policies.

Objective (6) 1. Establish procedures for the effective and timely review federal undertakings.

Objective (6) 2. Provide guidance and technical information to federal agencies as they plan and carry out specific undertakings in the CNMI.

Objective (6) 3. Negotiate and execute memoranda of agreement and programmatic agreements as needed for specific federal undertakings.

Objective (6) 4. Hold and participate in workshops on Section 106 and NEPA workshops for both local and federal participants.

Objective (6) 5. Strengthen open lines of communication with all stakeholders during Section 106 consultations.

Issue 7. Public Education

A large body of historical, archaeological and cultural information has been generated over the past 25 years by historic preservation projects. There is a continuing need to make this valuable information available to the general public in a variety of formats.

Goal 7. Expand the public's understanding of and appreciation for the history and cultures of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Objective (7) 1. Integrate historical, archaeological and cultural information into curricula of public and private schools (junior high through college).

Objective (7) 2. Disseminate the results of archaeological and historical research in a variety of formats (publications, videos, websites, digital files, etc.) for both lay and academic audiences.

Objective (7) 3. Conduct field trips to archaeological and historic sites for elementary, junior high and high school students.

Objective (7) 4. Conduct lectures and presentations on historic preservation, archaeology, history, and cultures in school classrooms and public venues throughout the CNMI.

Objective (7) 5. Expand public involvement in historic preservation planning and decision-making throughout the CNMI.

Objective (7) 6. Develop programs that educate the public about historic preservation.

Objective (7) 7. Publicize historic preservation activities and projects using a variety of media.

Issue 8. Cultural Preservation

The rapid development of the CNMI has affected the social fabric of the islands including the loss of many indigenous cultural practices. This situation has been exacerbated by the influx of guest workers which has reduced indigenous residents to a minority population in the CNMI. In times of rapid social change, it is important to maintain a strong cultural identity to deal with the many challenges of modern life. Cultural preservation also has the potential to make a contribution to economic development by establishing an authentic sense of place.

Goal 8. Identify, preserve and sustain indigenous cultural heritage in the CNMI.

Objective (8) 1. Develop and implement an oral history master plan aimed at collecting important historical and cultural data from a local perspective.

Objective (8) 2. Document and provide opportunities to perpetuate important indigenous skills and practices.

Objective (8) 3. Identify, document and protect traditional cultural properties in advance of land-use development.

Objective (8) 4. Disseminate accurate information relating to indigenous cultures and cultural practices in a variety of formats.

Objective (8) 5. Strengthen and enhance the capabilities of the NMI Museum of History and Culture.

Planning Process and Implementation

Preservation CNMI was developed to provide guidance to groups, organizations, businesses and individuals interested in identifying, protecting, enhancing and promoting the Commonwealth's historic and cultural resources. It is based on the idea that historic preservation is a valuable but underutilized community and economic development strategy that should be an integral part of the CNMI's educational and economic development efforts.

When preparing this plan, the HPO sought input from a wide variety of stakeholders in the Commonwealth. Comments from the general public were solicited at a series of public hearings held on Saipan, Tinian and Rota facilitated by HPO staff. These public meetings were intended to collect grassroots input from the indigenous communities. Public hearings were supplemented by meetings with key government and private-sector officials. The views of preservation professionals representing the disciplines of archaeology, history and historic preservation were also solicited.

It is anticipated that this plan will be the focal point for collaboration and effort with respect to historic preservation throughout the CNMI. Our established historic preservation partners should find it useful to consult with the vision, goals and objectives to determine how they can best help achieve the plan's intent. Others might wish to review the background information to become familiar with the resources and the issues confronting preservation in the CNMI.

The CNMI HPO will prepare annual implementation plans for the next five years to organize and carry out its work on an annual basis. Progress on plan implementation will be monitored and reported on an annual basis with the assistance of the CNMI Historic Preservation Review Board.

Preservation CNMI is intended to be a flexible document that will be reviewed on an annual basis and revised as needed. A new plan will be adopted in 2016.



Preserving the past for future generations.

Caring for the Past: How You Can Help

Historic preservation is a community effort. Here are some things you can do to ensure that the Commonwealth's irreplaceable historic resources are identified, protected and used to their full potential.

Individuals

- Learn about local history and visit sites on your island.
- Educate yourself about the economic, social and environmental benefits of historic preservation.
- Volunteer to assist with historic and cultural resource surveys and the maintenance of important sites.
- Educate candidates for elected office about the benefits of historic preservation.
- Advocate for additional funding and incentives for historic preservation at the CNMI legislature.
- Teach your children about the value of history, culture, heritage and historic preservation.
- Patronize businesses that protect and utilize historic resources.
- Notify the CNMI HPO if you discover an archaeological site or artifacts, or if you observe disturbance to archaeological sites.

Businesses

- Acquaint yourself with historic preservation and environmental requirements.
- Consult with the CNMI HPO when planning projects that have the potential to affect important historic resources.
- Adhere to conditions of earthmoving and construction permits.
- Reuse and/or interpret historic sites on your property.
- Disseminate accurate information about historic properties on your property or those visited by your patrons.
- Notify the CNMI HPO if you discover an archaeological site or artifacts.

Public/Private Schools

- Integrate the latest historic and cultural information into school curricula.
- Develop and utilize local history textbooks that present current and accurate information.

- Encourage teachers to expand their knowledge about local history and culture by attending college classes, teachers' institutes, and public lectures.
- Teach students how to research local history using primary source materials.
- Encourage teachers to earn advance degrees in history.
- Conduct fieldtrips for students to historic sites.
- Stock school libraries with books and other materials relating to local history and culture.

Commonwealth and Federal Agencies

- Familiarize your staff with Commonwealth and federal historic preservation legislation, regulations and requirements.
- Work closely with the CNMI HPO to carry out your agency's responsibility under CNMI Public Law 3-39 and Section 106 of the U.S. National Historic Preservation Act.
- Develop and implement historic preservation plans for cultural and historic resources under your agencies jurisdiction.
- Notify the CNMI HPO if you discover an archaeological site or artifacts.
- Train your employees to respect historic and cultural sites as tangible links to the past.

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