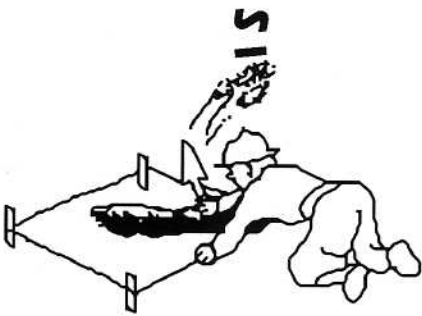




**THERE LIFE AFTER  
REBURIAL?  
TALES OF THE  
BLUE PHOENIX**



**THE ORIGIN AND NATURE  
OF THE  
BLUEBIRD DUMP SITE,  
CA-ALA-416H,  
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA**



A Report Prepared for Western Ecological Services Company, Inc.  
and  
Citation Homes Central

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
PROJECT LOCATION	1
NATURAL SETTING	1
ETHNOHISTORICAL BACKGROUND	3
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	7
FIELD RESEARCH	9
Surface Collection	10
Auger Boring Program	10
Excavation Program	12
The Unit Contents	14
N25W27	14
NØW15	14
N4W6	16
N14E15	17
S16W16	18
The Character of the Deposit	18
THE ARTIFACTS	20
Chronological Indicators	21
Ceramic Makers' Marks	21
Glass Bottles	22
Brown Phosphate Bottle Cap	25
Motor Vehicle Registration Tag	26
Ceramics and Patterns of Consumption	26
The Bluebird Decorative Motifs	31
Red Wing Union Crockery	36
Glass Bottles and Their Contents	36
Miscellaneous Artifacts	37
Decorative Glass	37
Beer Barrel Faucet	38
Leclanche Battery Core	40
Rubber Nipple	40
Safety Glass	41
Cosmetic Case	41
Micarta	41

REVELATIONS OF ORAL HISTORY	42
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	44
SIGNIFICANCE	47
CONSTRAINTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	48
REFERENCES CITED	49
APPENDICES	55
(1) Ceramic Maker's Mark Inventory	55
(2) Embossed Glass Bottle Inventory	59
(3) CA-Ala-416H Artifact Inventory	67
(4) Computer Code Book	95
(5) Cultural and Environmental Implications of the Corroded Lumps of Iron Excavated at the Bluebird Historical Dump Site	101

## INTRODUCTION

This report documents the study of surface and excavated archaeological materials recovered from the Bluebird Dump Site, CA-Ala-416H. The goals of this study were to: 1) catalogue and analyze the materials collected from the surface of Bluebird in 1978; 2) catalogue and analyze the materials excavated at the Bluebird site during the summer of 1979; and, 3) provide a written report of the excavation and the artifactual analysis. This report attempts to provide the following:

- a) a full description of the contexts from which the artifacts were recovered;
- b) a description and evaluation of the stratigraphic nature of the site, with an eye toward an explanation of the depositional processes that contributed to the formation of the site;
- c) a detailed inventory of the artifacts recovered (see Appendix 3);
- d) description and illustration of significant and/or chronologically diagnostic artifacts;
- e) evaluation of the chronology of the site and its contents;
- f) description and evaluation of possible demographic and/or ethnic affiliations of the site;
- g) evaluation of the site's significance as a cultural/historical resource.

## PROJECT LOCATION

The Bluebird Dump Site, formally designated as CA-Ala-416H, is located in San Leandro immediately to the east of San Francisco Bay (see Figure 1). The site is found within the area of the nineteenth century land grant of Rancho San Leandro and within Tier 3S, Range 3W of the 1973 USGS 7.5 minute San Leandro Quadrangle Map. The UTM coordinates of the site are 4,170,800 meters north, 573,740 meters east, Zone 10. The center of the site is found approximately 200 meters west of the Southern Pacific Railroad and 600 meters north of Lewelling Boulevard. San Lorenzo Creek is located approximately one half mile to the south; the mouth of San Leandro Creek some three miles to the north. The edge of San Francisco Bay is approximately 700 meters to the northeast of the site.

## NATURAL SETTING

The Bluebird site is located on the San Lorenzo-San Leandro bayshore. The microclimat of the site is typical of the Mediterranean climate of the Bay Area and is characterized by mild temperatures throughout the year. Temperatures range from the summer mean daily maximum of 75.4 F. to the winter mean daily minimum of 38.4 F. Precipitation occurs primarily during the winter months from October to April.

Before the mid-19th century the area was primarily salt marsh. The dominant plant species were cord grass and pickle weed, forming a dense ground cover. Today, as a result of land fill-

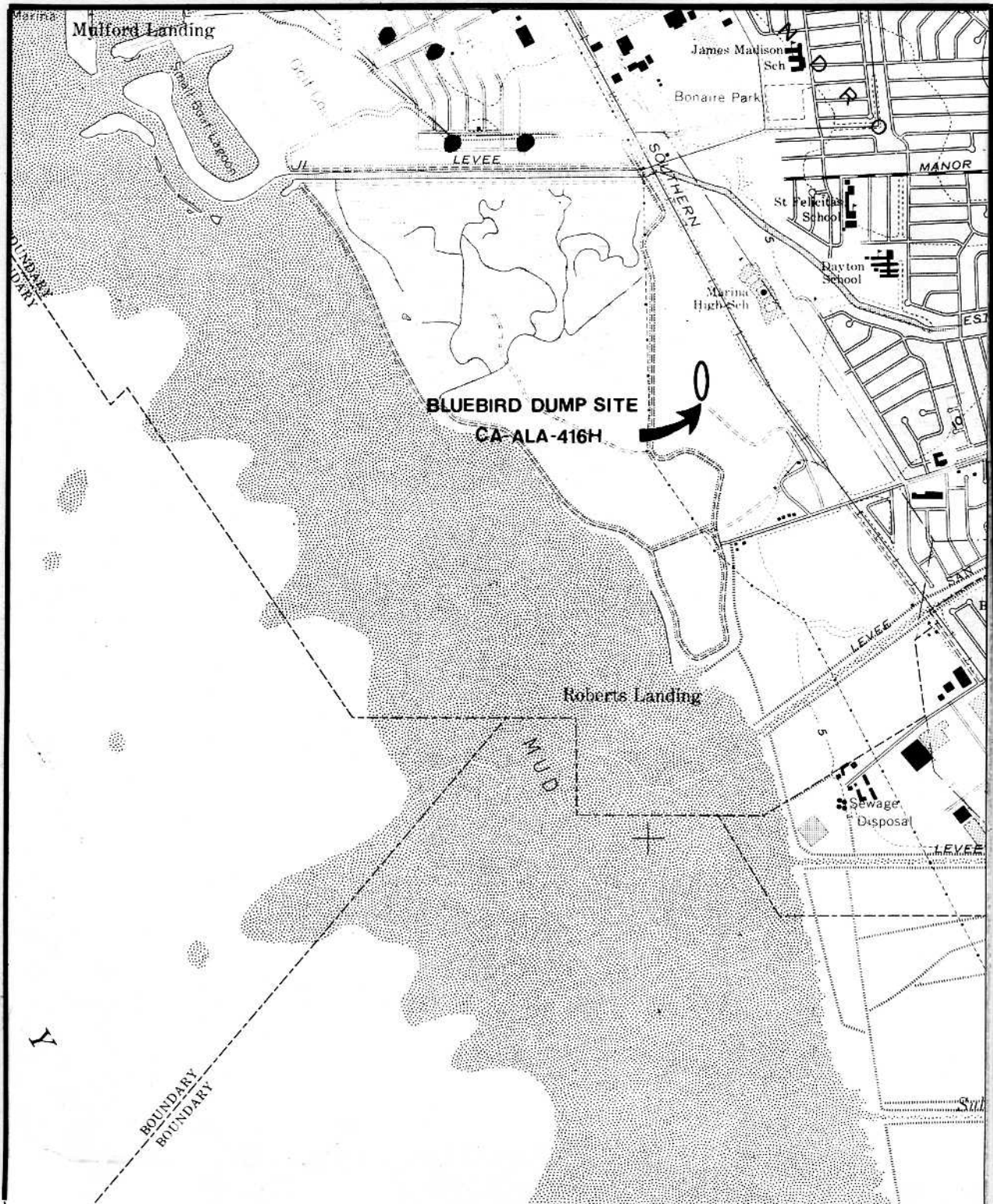


Figure 1 The location of the Bluebird Site, CA-Ala-416H, on the U.S.G.S. 15' topographic map of 1973.

