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NEW BRIGHTON BEACH STATE PARK

~~(500 word)~~ Summary by Don Morton

~~By Don Morton~~

New Brighton Beach State Park is situated five miles southeast of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County. It is near Soquel, about one half mile west of State Highway No. I. The park consists of 47.80 acres of upland on top of the cliffs, with many cottages on the slope to the beach. It has a beach frontage of 3,350 feet, acquired from the Hihn property in February, 1934. The general site of New Brighton Beach is sheltered within the historic "V" shaped Soquel Cove. It is one of the finest beaches in California.

u. y.
OK

Although Vizcaino discovered Monterey Bay in December, 1602, it was Portola who first explored the northern side of the bay, near the site of the park. This occurred when his expedition skirted the coast of Santa Cruz County going north (October 6 - October 23) in 1769, and continued on to San Francisco. Father Crespi, the diarist of Portola's party, named the Soquel Creek on Monday, October, 16th. He called it "El Rasario del Beato Serafin de Assulti." (Asculiti)

Assulti
OK

Following establishment of Mission Santa Cruz, September, 25, 1791, the Indians mentioned by Father Crespi, who scampered into the redwoods at the first approach of the white men, were

known as the Soquel tribe. They belonged to the large Costanoan nation. The tribes nearest the Santa Cruz Mission could understand each ^{others} speech as far south as Aptos. The costume of the natives' dress was that of a ^{beech} ~~beech~~ clout of deer skin. For winter, a cape was worn, made of otter or seal fur. The mission Indians wore unbleached muslin; a smock with long sleeves rolled up, worn outside the trousers, the legs of which were usually rolled up also. Each private household at the Santa Cruz Mission and the Spanish ranchos consisted of its retinue of Indian servants. They were brought in from the Soquel and other rancherias. One Indian was taught just one duty, with results that many households had over one hundred servants.

Prior to the period of the Santa Cruz Mission actual beneficial immigration to develop the vicinity of New Brighton Beach State Parks and the Pajaro Valley was lacking. The Governor could not interfere with the internal business affairs of the mission system. Consequently, under Spanish rule, vital immigration was impossible until 1821 when Mexico's independence from Spain was established. Among the foreign settlers who arrived about this time was Michail Lodge. Lodge married Martina, daughter of Joaquin Castro, and obtained the grant of Rancho Soquel in November, 1833. It consisted of 1,668 acres and included the present town of Soquel and the site of the park. After her marriage to Lodge, Martina also received a

Michail Lodge
Michail
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second grant. It consisted of 32,702 acres, known as Rancho Soquel Augmentation, on which lies the greater part of the Soquel watershed. When she received the first grant, Michael Lodge built an adobe house on the present site of the August Noble property. Some historic mill stones, there, are reminiscences of this Spanish rancho. Noble razed the adobe in 1925.

The town of Soquel was founded in 1847 by John Hames when he erected the first water-powered flour mill in the county. The foundations are still to be seen along the old Soquel-San Jose stage road which joins Highway No. 17. It was torn down in 1934. In 1869 the town of Capitola was developed by Frederick A. Hihn as a summer resort. Hihn established the first Santa Cruz-San Jose stage line in 1860, via the Soquel-San Jose road. This spurred on the further development of Capitola and the many exclusive sub-divisions, from which was created the present site of New Brighton Beach State Park in 1934.

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Situated near Soquel, Santa Cruz County. Consists
47.80 upland acres with cottages. 3,350 feet beach frontage.

Same # Father Crespi named Soquel Creek, October 16, 1769.

Native Indians Soquel tribe. Rancho Soquel granted to Martina
Lodge, 1833.

Same # Town of Soquel established by John ^{Harnes} Halves, 1847.

Capitola, by Frederick A. Hihn (1869), from whom park acquired
1934.

Suggest keep
to one
paragraph.
Harnes
- Morton