

Cabrillo College instructor Rob Edwards examines a display of artifacts unearthed at the site of a Santa Cruz mission period adobe.

Historical "Dig" On Mission Hill

The old Mission Hill area of Santa Cruz will come alive this summer when a group of Cabrillo College students armed with whisk brooms and trowels continue the search for remnants of the mission period.

Instructor Rob Edwards invited residents with an interest in local history to sign up for the summer school course which will probe into the remains of an adobe structure from the late 18th century. The remains were unknown until they were disturbed and partially destroyed during a construction project a few years ago.

During a sumilar class last summer, Edwards' students unearthed roof and foundation material and other historical items, among them a grinding stone, arrow point and beads from the Indian-Mission period from 1796 to 1804. Because other buildings were constructed on the same site after the mission period structures crumbled, the area has also yielded plate and glass fragments, buttons and medicine bottles from the American period from the 1870's through the 1920's.

"We know there is an adobe structure but we're still uncertain which of several it might be," he said.

The four-unit class will run four days a week from June 21-July 15. There is a \$150 fee. For registration information, contact Edwards at 425-6294.