

Native American

Another Indian Grave Uncovered At Rio Del Mar

A Coast Counties construction crew yesterday found another Indian grave, just 50 feet from the one discovered in Rio del Mar last week.

Undersheriff Bud Hendrick, called when the four crewmen uncovered the bones and relics in digging a trench to put in a gas line, said the skeleton was face down, indicating a woman was buried there. By custom, the Indians in Santa Cruz county buried their chiefs in a sitting position and their women face down, he said.

In the grave they found some periwinkle shells, which may have been strung together for use as wampum, and some abalone shell ornaments, such as the Indians used to hang on their totem poles.

One tapering stone object, uncovered, with a hole drilled neatly in the center, has all the experts around here puzzled at the moment. It is four and a half inches long, measuring three quarters of an inch at its wide base. The smoothed stone is a type of slate unlike any found in this county, Hendrick said.

The crewmen who uncovered the grave, in front of the lot in Rio del Mar where Jack McGee last week found a chief's grave, were John Jellison, Dave Anderson, Walter Florin and Lonnie Dickens.

They first found a few bones about three feet deep near the sidewalk of the Harmony Homes lot. Digging carefully in investigation, they found the head under the pavement. The men called Hendrick to tell him of their discovery at 3 p.m.

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