



**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

historic name N/A

other names/site number Quebrada Maracuto

2. LOCATION

street & number [REDACTED] not for publication

city or town City of Carolina, [REDACTED] vicinity

state Puerto Rico code PR municipio Carolina zip code 00931

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this
 nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Elizabeth Sold Oliver
Elizabeth Sold Oliver
Signature of certifying official

15 July 04
Date

Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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Carolina, Puerto Rico

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- See continuation sheet.

for Signature of Keeper of Action
Lorika K. Martin Seibert

Date of Action
8/27/04

- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

5. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
_____	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Prehistoric Ceramic Period Petroglyph and Pictograph Sites of Puerto Rico

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: religion

Sub: ceremonial site

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: vacant

Sub: not in use

Quebrada Maracuto
Carolina, Puerto Rico

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

_____ *N/A* _____

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ *N/A* _____

roof _____ *N/A* _____

walls _____ *N/A* _____

other _____ *N/A* _____

Narrative Description

(See continuation sheets.)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

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Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Prehistoric Archaeology

Prehistoric sociopolitical history

Prehistoric religion

Prehistoric communications

Prehistoric art

Period of Significance 250 B.C.- A.D. 1500

Significant Dates N/A

Cultural Affiliation Ostionoid/Saladoid Culture

Significant Person N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See continuation sheets.)

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

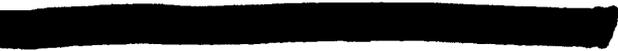
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: *Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology and The Council for the Protection of Terrestrial Archaeology Patrimony.*

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Physical Location. Seven boulders with petroglyphs comprise the prehistoric rock art site of Quebrada Maracuto. Hayward et al. (1992a) carried out the baseline investigation of this rock art site including the documentation of the petroglyphs.

[REDACTED]

Environmental Setting.

[REDACTED]

The section of Quebrada Maracuto examined by Hayward et al. (1992a: 26, 28) and the present documentation effort contains small to medium-sized boulders or rock outcrops.

[REDACTED]

Rock Art Locations. The seven boulders are located discontinuously.

[REDACTED] to. Hayward et al. (1992a, b) initially discovered and positioned the rocks with respect to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Distances corresponded to the course of the quebrada as measured with tape and compass. For [REDACTED]

the third rock within this section found with carvings. The petroglyphs on the boulders were codified with consecutive numbers— A1.3.1, A1.3.2, and so on.

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The current investigation resulted in the relocation of six of the seven boulders in virtually the same condition as in 1992. Rocks identified by Hayward et al. (1992a, b) as A2.1 and A2.2 [REDACTED]

Distances between boulders were also recorded with tape and compass following the quebrada's course. A2.1 represents a medium-sized boulder [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The boulder possesses the highest number of petroglyphs, with the thirteen images found mostly on the rock's western face. A2.2 consists of a large rock outcropping on [REDACTED]

A1.3 [REDACTED], the rock presents a triangular shape in cross-section above water. The lone petroglyph is found on the rock's northwestern face (Figure 13 at right and Figure 14 detail).

B1.1, B1.2, B1.3 and B1.4 form a grouping of rocks [REDACTED] B1.1 and B1.2 are [REDACTED] B1.2 is the larger of the two boulders (Figure 18), with both containing six images apiece. B1.3 and B1.4 are found on the [REDACTED] upturned surface, two meters (7 feet) long with one petroglyph (Figure 19). B1.4 also possesses one carved image, but unfortunately insufficient time prevented the relocation of this rock.

The geologist Pujols Soto's report (1992:1) identified the boulders with petroglyphs as "roca arenisca volcánica recristalizada, de grano mediana, de color gris claro, sumamente dura y con muy poco grado de intemperización, de aproximadamente 3 á 5 metros de diámetro." [...recrystallized volcanic rock, medium grained, light gray in color, very hard and with a low level of permeability, approximately 3 to 5 meters in diameter]. Mr. Pujols Soto added: "Este tipo de roca puede resistir varios miles de años antes de desaparecer por completo los petroglifos, estos han sufrido desgaste por la acción del agua principalmente. De acuerdo a lo observado en el área 0 y 1 los bolos no son el mismo origen del material que lo rodea, o sea, que tenemos roca tipo breccia en el área y no arenisca volcánica; en el área 2 está la roca correspondiente, la arenisca volcánica" (1992:2). [With this type of rock several thousand years can pass before the petroglyphs disappear completely, they have undergone some wear principally due to the action of water. It can be observed that the rocks in areas 0 (Rocks B1.1, B1.2, B1.3, B1.4) and 1 (Rock A1.3), do not have the same origin as the surrounding material, that is, this material is breccia not volcanic; in area No. 2 (Rocks A1.1, A1.2) the surrounding material is volcanic.] (Both passages translated by M. Hayward).

Petroglyph Documentation. Hayward et al.'s (1992a) reproduction methods involved a multi-step process. First, the rock surfaces were cleared of vegetation and cleaned with water and brush. Second, the images were

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identified before their actual documentation. Third, tracings at a scale of 1:1 of the petroglyphs were made onto medium weight polyethylene sheets, cut to cover the entire area of the carved rock surface, thus maintaining the physical relationships among the individual images. Fourth, a series of photographs in black and white, color print and color slides were taken once the petroglyphs had been outlined or painted in with a mixture of water and white flour. Fifth, cloth rubbings of the images were made, if appropriate. Sixth, additional data on the individual petroglyphs was obtained in the field, such as their dimensions, compass orientations and depths. Lastly, the polyethylene sheets with the image outlines were recopied onto vellum sheets at the same scale and filled in with a black permanent marker.

While the present project was not designed to undertake a redocumentation effort, several of the petroglyphs most visible under natural sunlight and non-outlined or enhanced conditions were taken to illustrate their status. They are presented in conjunction with the Hayward et al. sequence of photographs of each of the 31 petroglyphs, beginning with Figure 20 and ending with Figure 49 (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology, Archives). Figure 50 illustrates the relationship of the petroglyphs A2.1h, c, b and d (left to right) on the western face of boulder A2.1, while Figure 51 presents the relative locations of all of the images of boulder B1.2, with those of boulder B1.1 partially visible in the background. It can be observed from the pairings of the most recent with the earlier photographs, that the reproduction quality of the carved images varies. For example, the more deeply carved petroglyphs reproduce well with no enhancement before photographing and via cloth rubbings. Less deeply carved ones do not.

Previous Investigations. Few sites have been recorded within the vicinity of the Quebrada Maracuto petroglyphs. Iván Méndez Bonilla (1990) has documented a site [REDACTED] Méndez recovered ceramics and marine shell [REDACTED] area, with the ceramics presenting similarities to the Cuevas, Santa Elena and Esperanza styles dating to A.D. 350-600, A.D. 900-1200 and A.D. 1200-1500 respectively.

[REDACTED] Marisol Meléndez Maíz (1991a) investigated a site [REDACTED], the area yielded ceramics in the Capá or Esperanza style.

Hayward et al.'s (1992a) research design called for a survey of the quebrada to find additional rock art locations and a limited survey for associated habitational sites. Boulders A2.1, A2.2, B1.1 and B1.2 had already been identified as having petroglyphs. The B boulder grouping served as datum, [REDACTED]

As a result of the inspection, the remaining three boulders described above were located and documented. Also during the river survey, five adjacent landforms were identified as having archaeological site potential, with time to investigate only the areas identified as A and B (see Figure 1). Area A represents a relatively level, low-

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[REDACTED]. Made up of two farms, the entire area measures approximately [REDACTED]. The surface and subsurface inspection failed to yield any cultural material. Two shovel tests out of seven and the surface around a current house in Area B produced a minor amount of ceramics in the Capá style and some lithic material. Area B consists of a non-inundateable terrace of approximately the same size as Area A located at the end of Section A. The land had been under cultivation for rice and fruit trees, and at the time of the study, two houses were extant surrounded by low pasture grass and a few trees.

Cultural Affiliation. Direct dating of Puerto Rican petroglyphs or pictographs has not been developed. Indirect methods rely on comparative associations, as in the presence of materials at the site; a nearby habitation site, or a rock art site similar in style. The low amount of recovered materials and the lack of a well-developed site and stylistic context for the Quebrada Maracuto petroglyphs mitigate assigning the complex to a narrower time frame than the Late Ceramic Period, Ostionoid Culture, A. D. 600–1500. An even earlier production date, during the Early Ceramic Period, 250 B.C.–A.D. 600, cannot be discounted.

Current and Past Impacts. Past impacts at the Quebrada Maracuto site are difficult to assess given the present level of investigation, but are likely to have been minimal. Historically, and by implication prehistorically, Puerto Rico's forest cover was more extensive than today (Picó 1974: 188-192). This condition may have translated into greater surface water retention, with correspondingly higher stream flows. If so, the quebrada would have had a higher and faster rate of flow, with the petroglyph boulder complex having been more clear of vegetation, but also subject to more frequent periodic flooding.

The geologist's report (Pujols Soto 1992) stated that the boulders are composed of hard, volcanic rock, resistant to weathering. Then, as now, this weathering would have come from water-induced erosion, supplemented by wind and solar heat.

No vandalism is evident and the lack of ready access limits the amount of human visitation. [REDACTED]

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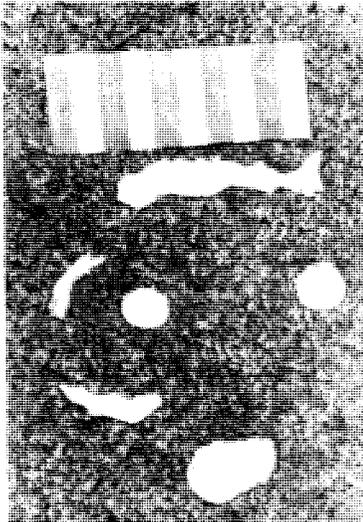


Figure 20

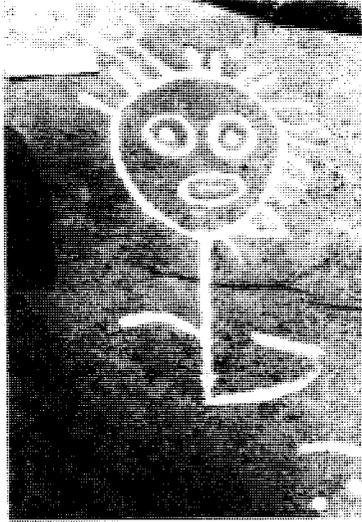


Figure 22

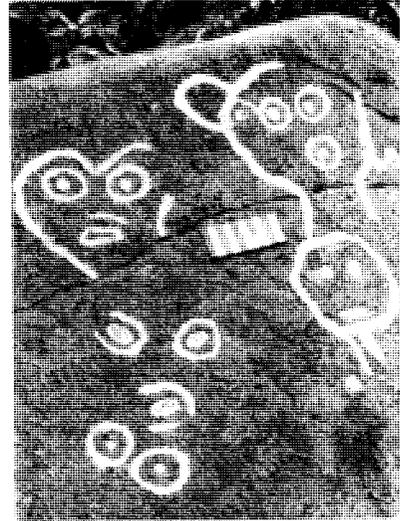


Figure 23

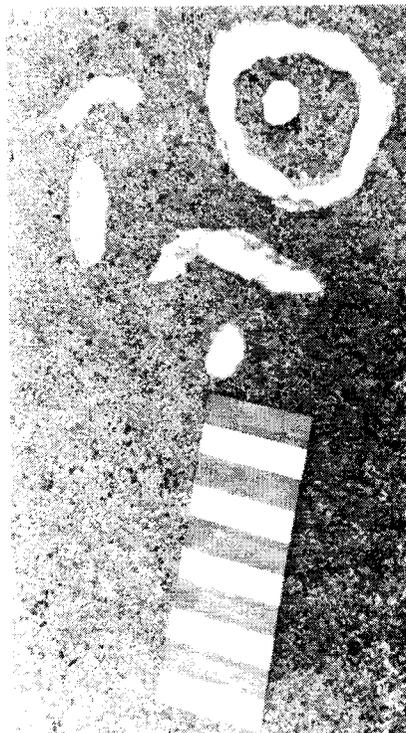


Figure 24

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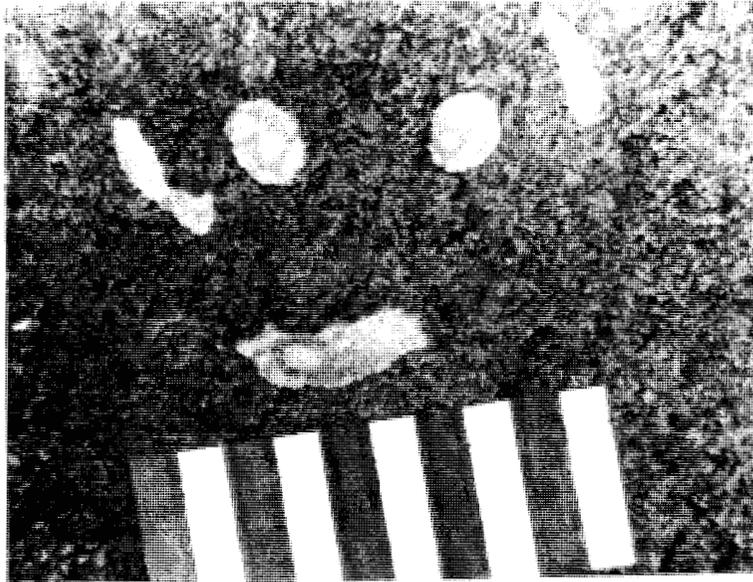


Figure 25

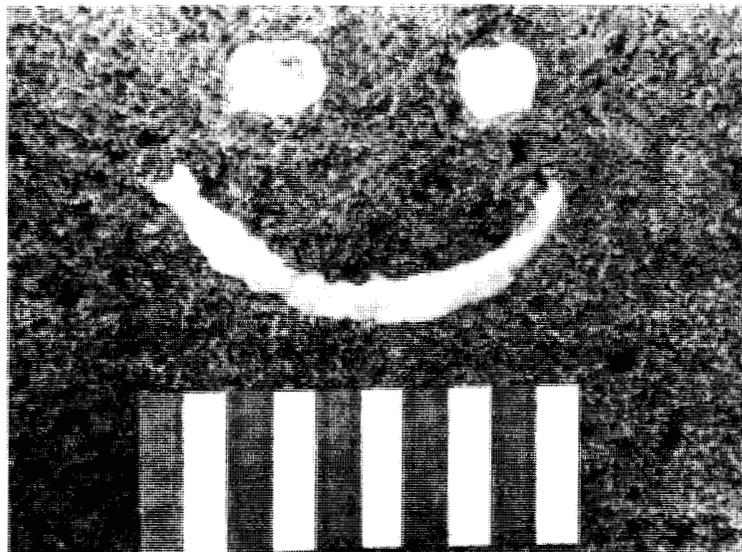


Figure 26

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Figure 27



Figure 29

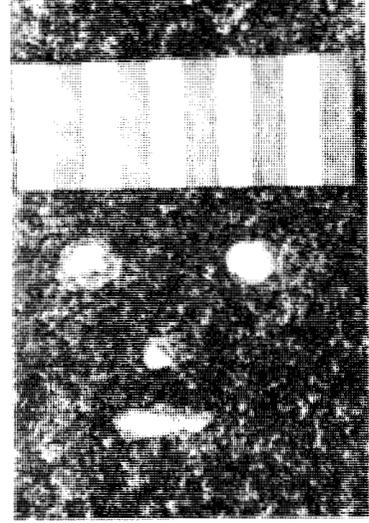


Figure 30

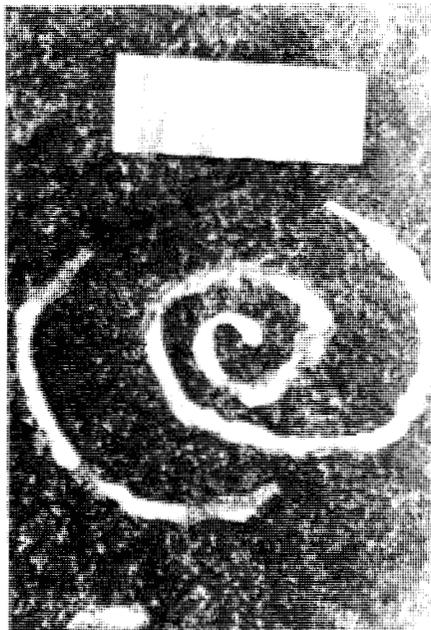


Figure 31

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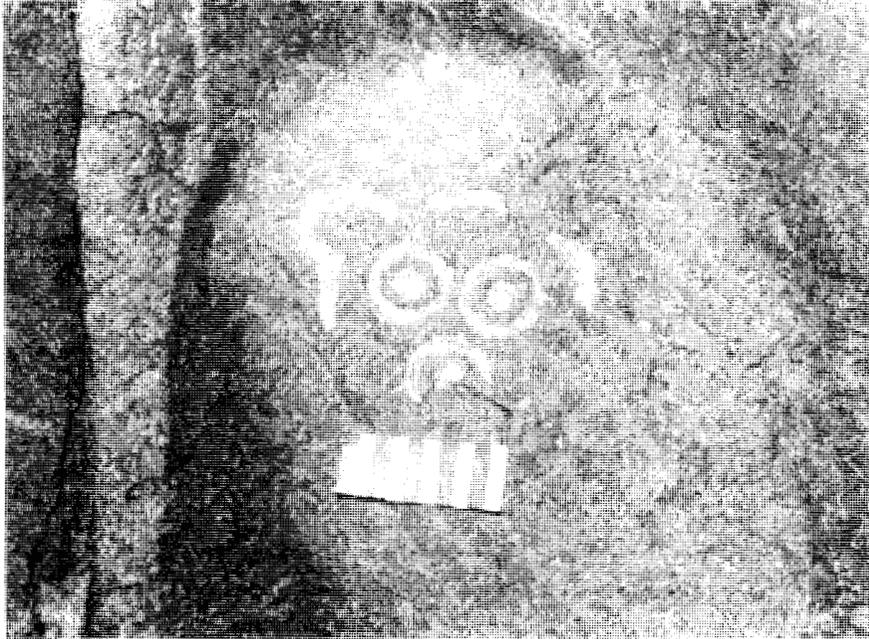


Figure 32



Figure 34



Figure 35

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Figure 36



Figure 37

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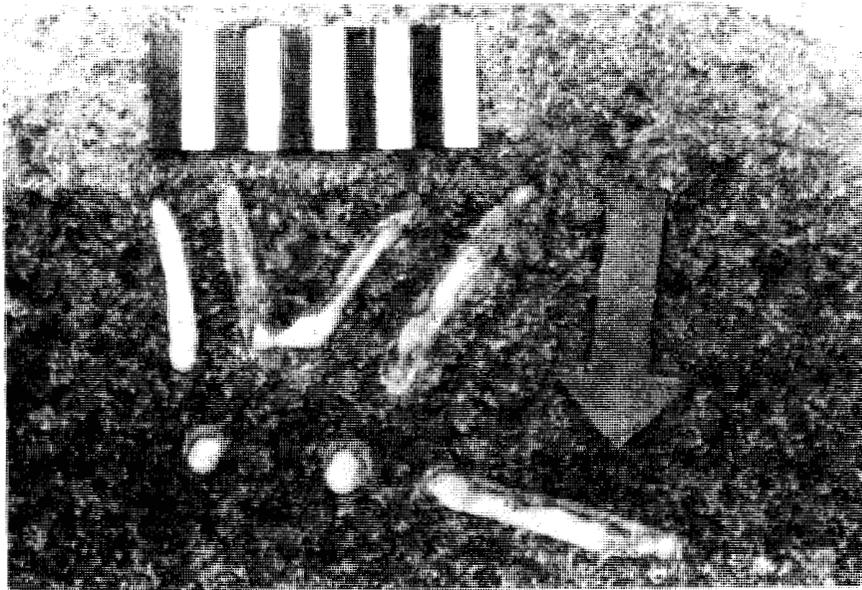


Figure 38

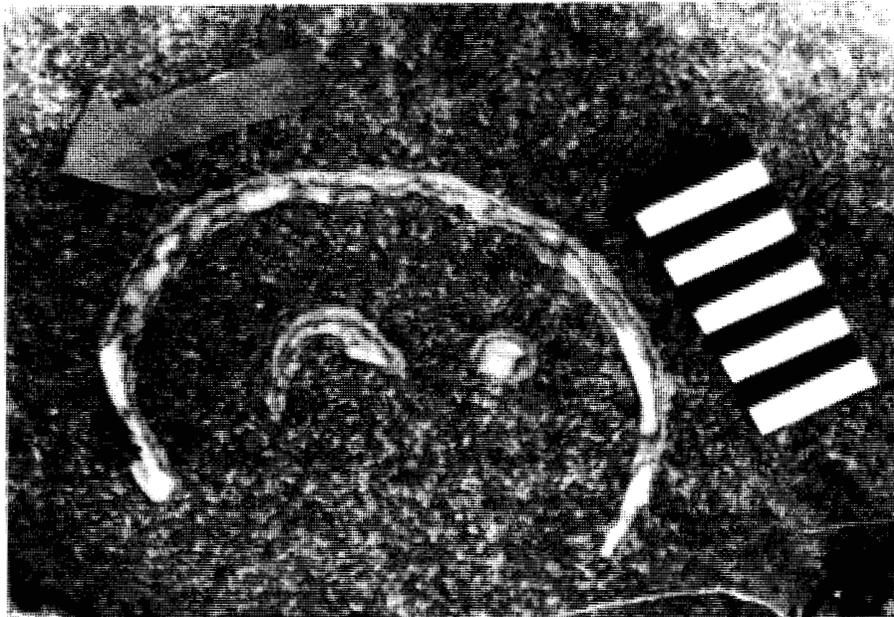


Figure 39

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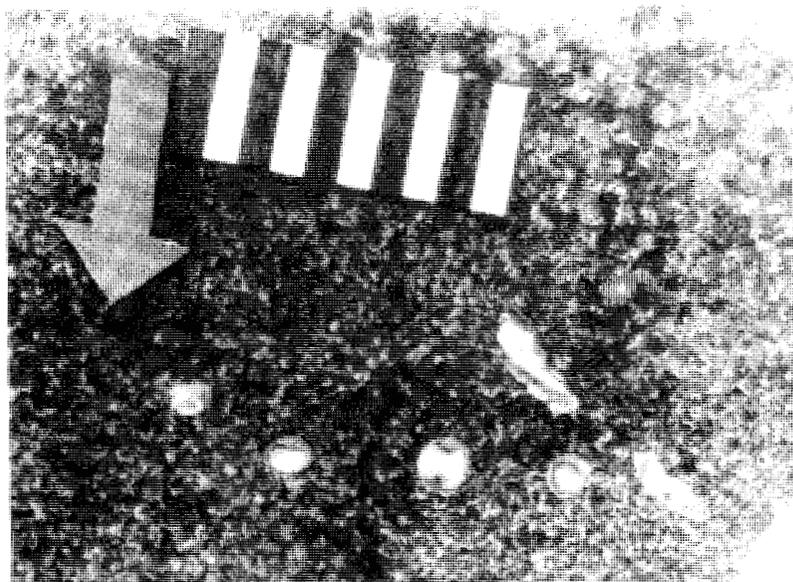


Figure 40

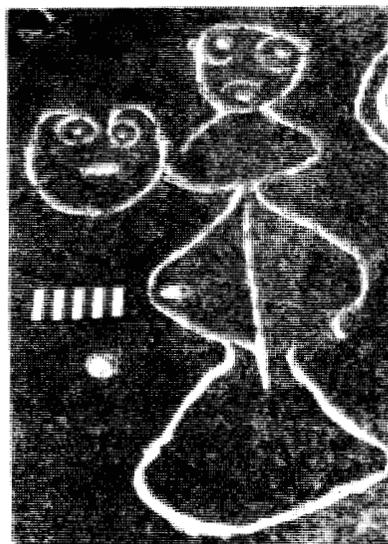


Figure 41



Figure 43

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Figure 45



Figure 46



Figure 47

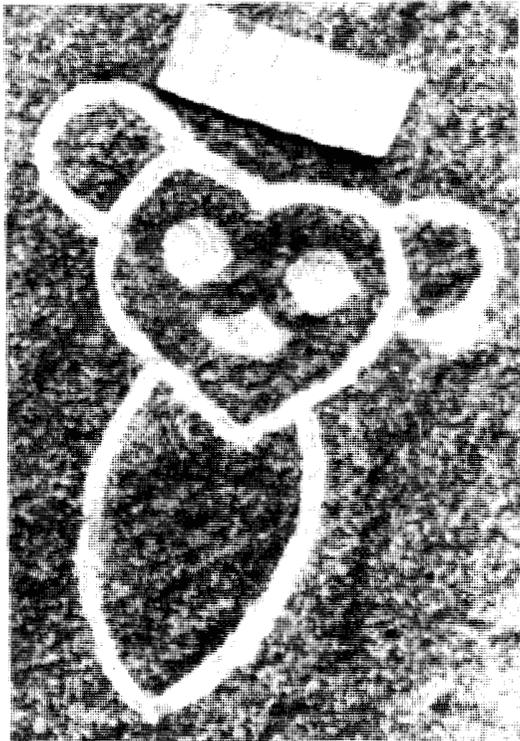


Figure 48

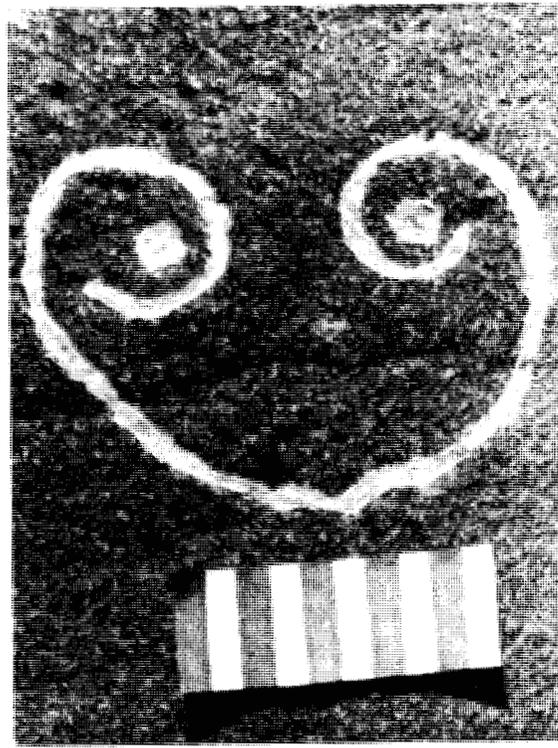


Figure 49

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Figure 50

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (IN OUTLINE FORM)

Introduction. Mention will be made of the historic context of the multiple property nomination form for Puerto Rican prehistoric petroglyph and pictograph sites.

The Quebrada Maracuto site represents one such site with the following characteristics as discussed in the multiple property nomination (e.g., it is located in a river setting; possesses 31 petroglyphs).

Previous Analysis of the Petroglyphs. Hayward et al. (1992b) have done an initial categorization of the images as to type; presentation of their results. The analysis is not extensive however.

Criteria or Reasons for National Register Inclusion. Given the above background information on the nature and limited analysis or interpretation of the petroglyph complex, a discussion follows as to how these images can add to our understanding of Puerto Rican prehistory in the following areas:

- religious system - the images apparently do not represent late prehistoric god-like images, and may thus define a more local place of worship, or local level of religious organization
- stylistic boundary - some of the images are unique to this location and thus may help in the definition of stylistic boundaries
- geographical representation - the images are found on a minor tributary of a major northern river system
- socio/political system - if the images are representative of lower levels of religious organization and accompanying stylistic representations, then the linkage to the social organizations and political status may be minor as well.

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- 1992b Poster presentation of the results of the Proyecto Arte Rupestre Pre-Colombino (Precolumbian Rock Art Project). Presented at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Pittsburgh.
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FIGURE CAPTIONS

The twenty-seven photographs, of the forty-eight submitted with the nominations, were taken by the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture in 1991 and while twenty-one by Dr. Michael Cinquino in June 2000. The negatives of the photos taken by the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture can be found in its Division of Archaeology Archives. The negatives of the photos taken by Dr. Cinquino are stored at the Puerto Rican State Historic Preservation Office.

Figures 1, 2, 4, 20, 22-26, 27, 29-32, 34-41, 43, 45-51 have been integrated into the text of section 7 of this nomination while the other figures (photographs) have been printed.

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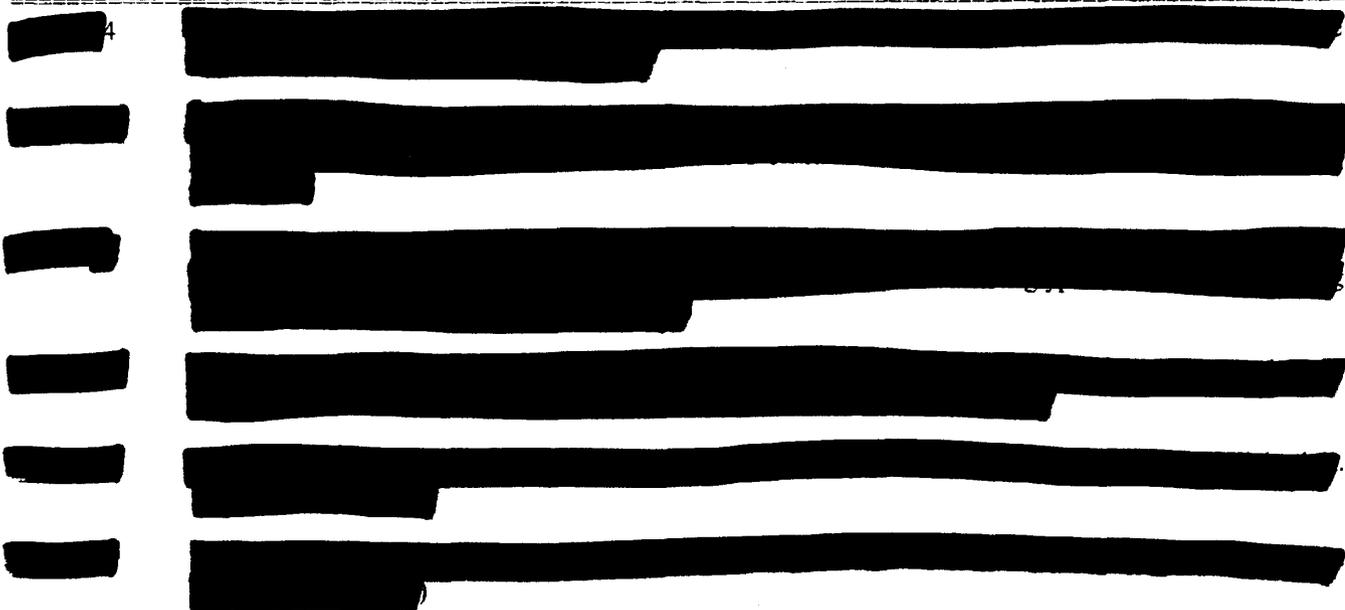


Figure 20 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

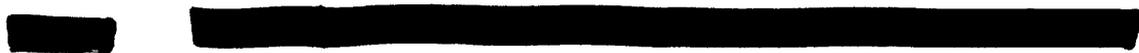


Figure 22 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1b. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 23 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1c. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 24 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1d. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 25 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1e. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 26 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1f. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 27 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1g. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

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Figure 29 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.1h. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 30 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 1.2a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 31 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.2b. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 32 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 2.2c. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

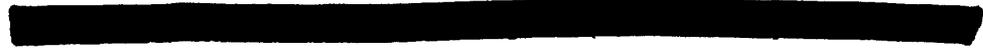
 
Figure 34 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 1.3a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 35 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 1.1a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 36 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph A 1.1b. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 37 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.1c. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 38 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.1d. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 39 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.1e. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 40 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.1f. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 41 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.2a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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*Quebrada Maracuto
Carolina, Puerto Rico*

Figure 43 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.2b. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 45 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.2c. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 46 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.2d. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 47 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.2e. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 48 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.3a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 49 Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyph B 1.4a. Ten-centimeter scale shown. (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

Figure 50 Relationship of Quebrada Maracuto Petroglyphs A 1.1h, c, b and d (left to right) on western face of Boulder A 1.1 (Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, Division of Archaeology Archives, 1991)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 04000909

Date Listed: 8/26/04

**Quebrada Maracuto
Property Name**

**Carolina Municipality
County**

**PR
State**

**Prehistoric Ceramic Period Petroglyph and Pictograph Sites of Puerto Rico
Multiple Name**

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for *José M. Marull Seibert*
Signature of the Keeper

8/27/04
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

* This documentation is a nomination (not doe), the SHPO believes that it meets the National Register Criteria and it is eligible at the statewide level of significance. (Section 3)

* The ownership of the property is private, the category of the property is "site" and there are 7 contributing sites. (Section 5).

These amendments were discussed with José Marull of the Puerto Rico State Historic Preservation Office.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**