

**From:** [Susan Chamberlin](#)  
**To:** [williams@countyofsb.org](mailto:williams@countyofsb.org); [Supervisor Das Williams](#); [sbcob](#)  
**Cc:** [Laura Capps](#); [Hartmann, Joan](#); [Bob Nelson](#); [Lavagnino, Steve](#)  
**Subject:** Jan. 24 Meeting RE: Rocky Nook Park  
**Date:** Sunday, January 8, 2023 5:58:39 PM

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TO: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Susan Chamberlin, MA  
landscape historian & landscape architect (CA #2001)

RE: Rocky Nook Park

Santa Barbara Supervisor Sam Stanwood was a visionary who led the effort to acquire Fanny Oliver's Rocky Nook property as a County Park. Today Rocky Nook Park is before you because the County Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission believes it should become a Landmark.

It is hard to argue with that. There are Chumash archaeological sites in the park from when it was part of a Chumash village called Xana'yan. It is natural and little changed from the period when the Olivers owned the property. A Landmark designation would ensure that when changes are proposed they would be carefully considered.

At a meeting with Supervisor Williams on January 5 to urge him to vote yes on landmarking, he said that those attending had a "hidden agenda"--a desire to obstruct any future widening of the road through Mission Canyon. Because the park deed has a restriction that the park can only be used for park purposes, it is unlikely that land could be taken from the park for the road.

I live near the park. I would like to see it landmarked because that would add it to the list of sites that represent the best of our County and help preserve it for future generations.

I hope you will be visionaries and make Rocky Nook Park a Landmark.