Ritidian

"Litekyan"

A Unit of Lessons for Elementary School Students

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ED 894

Unspoiled Ritidian Point, Guam

Introduction

Ever imagined a place so untouched and unspoiled that the visions of the past seem to ooze from the land itself? There is such a place nestled against thrusting limestone cliffs jutting abruptly into the sky with a spit of beach and jungle still primordial in its beauty and majesty. This place is Ritidian Point, the most northern beachfront on Guam that is still assessable to the public. Its white sand beaches framed against the limestone cliffs is a step back into a time before Christ, completely unspoiled in its raw and spectacular stillness. The only sounds are the waves lapping the shore, the screech of the Marianas fruitbat, and the rustling of wild pigs in the underbrush.

The ancient caves with the ancient art, which pre-dates the Spanish by hundreds of years, to the hawksbill and green turtle nesting site above the high water mark, the area is pristine and preserved for all as Guam National Wildlife Refuge. All 1200 acres including coastal beaches, jungle, and cliff areas are under the control and auspices of the Federal Government to be preserved for all time and enjoyed by all citizens.

Ritidian is important to the history of Guam as it was an ancient fishing village with many archeological resources. Among those are cave drawings, water wells, and ancient pottery shards, all indicating an extensive native population existed here centuries before the Spanish ever landed.

