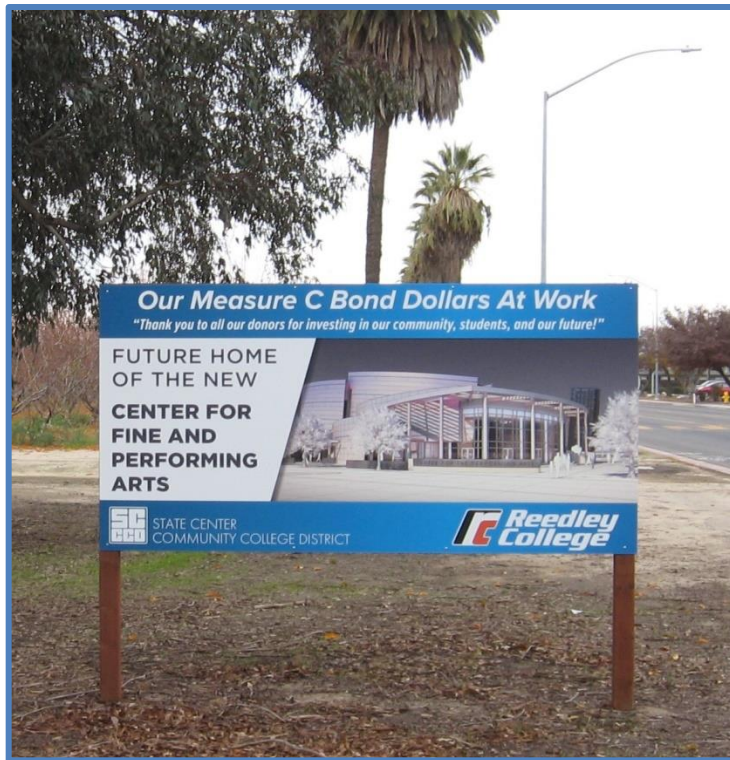


**Historical Resources Survey Report for the Proposed Reedley  
College Performing Arts Center Project,  
995 North Reed Avenue, Reedley, Fresno County, California**



*View from Project Study Area looking north along N. Reed Avenue*

Prepared for

Scott Odell, AICP  
Odell Planning & Research, Inc.  
49346 Road 426, Suite 2  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

Prepared by

Sarah E Johnston, M.A. and  
Karana Hattersely-Drayton, M.A.  
Johnston & Associates  
7126 North Carruth Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93711

February 2020

Reedley College Campus. USGS 7.5 minute Series Topographic Map, Reedley, California, T.15S R.23E Section 22, APN 36310056ST, Survey Coverage: 4 acres.

## Summary of Findings

Johnston & Associates conducted a Historical Resources Survey for the Reedley Performing Arts Center Project at the request of Odell Planning & Research, Inc. The survey consisted of a CHRIS record search, archival research, correspondence and interviews with Tribal and Historical Organizations, and field reconnaissance. The four-acre project study area, located in the northeast portion of the Reedley College Campus, was surveyed on foot in December 2019. The formal historic evaluation of three landscape features, two associated with the historic Thomas Law Reed Ranch and one with Reedley College, was conducted by Karana Hattersley-Drayton in January-February 2020.

The historical survey identified three historic-era landscape features that were considered potential historical resources under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The three resources include a small stand of mature eucalyptus trees, an isolated Canary Island palm tree, and a Mexican Fan palm tree that is part of a long row of palm trees that line the west side of Reed Avenue. These three resources were formally recorded and evaluated for significance under CEQA. The two types of palm trees are more than 100 years old and associated with the establishment of the Thomas Law Reed Ranch. This study finds them to qualify as historical resources under CEQA. The eucalyptus trees are less than 50 years old and are not considered significant under CEQA, but are an emblematic part of the local historic landscape.

The potential for intact buried archaeological deposits within the project study area was found to be moderate-to-high based on geoarchaeological assessment and historic use. To avoid impacts to possible buried archaeological deposits, monitoring of excavation during construction by a qualified archaeologist is recommended. Table Mountain Rancheria has also requested that a Native American Observer be present during excavation. If buried archaeological deposits are encountered during project construction, ground-disturbing work within 100 feet of the discovery should cease until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. Additional survey should be undertaken if the project study area or project activities change to include areas or impacts not addressed by this report.

## Acknowledgements

Johnston & Associates wishes to acknowledge the people who generously contributed time and expertise to enhance the contents of this report. We wish to sincerely thank the Reedley Historical Society and Community for their generous assistance: Jim Ishimaru, Anthony Jewell, Karey Olson and Kenneth Zech. We also wish to thank Mr. Robert Pennell of the Table Mountain Rancheria for meeting us in the field and sharing his knowledge and observations.

# Table of Contents

Summary of Findings.....	1
Project Description.....	4-7
Research Methods.....	7-10
Native American Consultation .....	11
Background Research.....	12-31
Setting	
Geology/Buried Sites Potential	
Prehistory	
Ethnohistory	
Historic Context	
Historic Landscape Features/CEQA Evaluation.....	31-39
Study Conclusions.....	39-43
Regulatory Context	
Findings and Recommendations	
References.....	44-51
Preparer's Qualifications .....	52
Figures .....	53
Figure 1: Project Vicinity Map	
Figure 2: Project Location Map	
Figure 3: Project Study Area	
Appendices (After Text)	
Appendix A Tribal Correspondence	
Appendix B Survey Forms(DPR 523)	
Appendix C Summary of Interview with Jim Ishimaru	
Appendix D SSJVIC Records Search	

## Project Description and Location

**Project Title:** Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project

**Date of Report:** February 7, 2020

**Lead Agency for CEQA:** State Center Community College District

**Local Governments:** City of Reedley, Fresno County, California

**Project Proponent:** State Center Community College District, 1711 Fulton Street,  
#615 Fresno, CA 93721

### **Legal Description and Address:**

Township 15 South, Range 23 E, Section 22 (Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian)  
995 Reed Avenue, Reedley, Fresno County California, APN 363-10056ST

### **Reference Map**

USGS 7.5' Series Topographic Map, Reedley, California, 1966, rev. 1981

### **Project Location**

The project is proposed on approximately four acres within the northeast portion of the Reedley College campus in the City of Reedley, in Fresno, County, California (see Figures 1 and 2). The development site is located on the northwest corner of Reed Avenue and the northerly campus access road from Reed Avenue. Most of the project site (approximately 3.2 acres) is currently occupied by an orchard. The site contains a small vacant area (0.8 acres) near the campus access road, which has a number of large mature eucalyptus trees.



*Photo 1. View of orchard in project study area looking north.*



*Photo 2. View of south end of project looking east to mature eucalyptus trees and Reed Avenue*

### **Description of Undertaking**

The State Center Community College District (SCCCD) is proposing to construct a performing arts center complex on a four-acre project site within the Reedley College Campus to include the following facilities: an auditorium with seating for 500-550 patrons; a 1,000 square-foot art gallery; an indoor lobby area

configurable to accommodate up to 150 people as a sit-down dinner venue; a concessions area; a green room; a box office; a conference room; restrooms; and miscellaneous areas for storage and equipment. The project also includes an outdoor plaza that would function as a congregational area and may be used as an area for outdoor events and performances; this area would include landscaping, lighting, and possibly public art.

The project is planned to begin construction in early 2021 and be operational by late 2022 (Cummings, 2019).

### **CEQA Project Study Area and Archaeological Survey Coverage**

Under CEQA a Project means "the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment." [(CEQA Guidelines, Section 15378(a) (1-3)]. The Reedley project's Project Study Area (PSA) was defined to consider both potential direct and indirect effects to historical resources within and around the subject parcel.

The Reedley project study area (PSA) is trapezoidal in shape and encompasses approximately four acres. All direct effects anticipated for project activities will take place within the boundaries of the PSA depicted in Figure 3. Indirect effects such as noise or visual impacts would occur within or immediately adjacent to the PSA.

The archaeological field survey of December 2019 included the systematic pedestrian examination of the ground within the entire four-acre PSA with transects spaced at 20 meter intervals. The survey coverage area is depicted in Figure 3. Indirect effects were considered for any known historic architectural resources within or adjacent to the PSA.

### **Vertical Project Study Area**

Archaeological resources sometimes occur as subsurface deposits or features that have been buried as a result of cultural activities or natural geological processes (Moratto 1984:38). Such archaeological resources are often not detectable by surface observation. To take into account potential

effects to subsurface archaeological resources within the subject parcel, a vertical PSA was determined by the depth of anticipated project activities such as grading and excavation for footings and utilities to support the proposed substantial development. The vertical PSA for the project is estimated between 0-10 feet below ground surface, depending on activity and location.

## Research Methods

### Archaeological Methods

#### Record and Archival Search

A record search was conducted by the Southern San Joaquin Information Center at California State University, Bakersfield on June 24, 2019 (Record Search #19- 237). The record search showed that six previous cultural resources studies and one cultural resource have been documented within ½ mile of the project study area (Tables 1 & 2). Published and unpublished archaeological and historic sources, including California Archaeology (Moratto 1984), The Northern Valley Yokuts (Wallace 1978), and The Handbook of California Indians (A.E. Kroeber 1925), were also reviewed prior to undertaking the pedestrian survey.

**Table 1. Previous Cultural Resources Studies within ½ mile of Project Area (SSJVIC)**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>SSJVIC Report No.</b>
Wren	Archaeological Reconnaissance of a Proposed Stadium, Reedley College, Reedley, California	1976	FR-00830
Acosta-Mena	Rehabilitation of Reedley Rails to Trails Community Parkway	1999	FR-01629
Price	Cultural resources Assessment of Pacific Bell Mobile Services Facility CV-523-01, Reedley, Fresno County, California	1998	FR-01635
Bonner	Records Search Results and Site Visit for Crickets	2005	FR-02219



<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>SSJVIC Report No.</b>
	Telecommunication Facility Candidate FAT-057A (Reedley), 675 W Manning Avenue, Reedley, Fresno County, California		
Martinez	Record Search Results for Cingular Wireless Candidate FRSNCAFR025(USID#9589), 995 North Reed Avenue, Reedley, Fresno County, California	2006	FR-02312
Szromba, et al	Archaeological Resources Study for the Widening of Willow Avenue Project, Fresno County, California	2016	FR-02773

**Table 2. Previously Documented Cultural Resources within ½ mile of Project Area (SSJVIC)**

<b>SSJVIC Resources Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>California/National Register Status</b>
P-10-0066	Habitation site ¼ mile south of the project study area	unevaluated



*Photo 3. View of standpipe, well, and irrigation feature in project study area looking east toward Canary Palm at Reed Avenue.*

### **Pedestrian Survey**

The pedestrian archaeological survey for the proposed project's study area was conducted on December 19, 2019. The entire project study area of 4 acres was given a pedestrian reconnaissance at 20-meter interval transects. Surface visibility was excellent owing to the seasonal die-back of vegetation and orchard maintenance.

To supplement the pedestrian survey, historic maps and aerials, as well as soils and historic studies, including, *A Geoarchaeological Overview and Assessment of Caltrans Districts 6 and 9* by Meyer et al (2010) were consulted to assess the subsurface character of the project study area.

### **Historic Research Methods**

Karana Hattersley-Drayton, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications as both an architectural historian and historian, visited

the Heritage Center at the Fresno County Library on December 17, 2019. Librarian Melissa Scroggins was immensely helpful in locating published histories and vertical files on the community at Reedley and Reedley College as well as maps from the county atlases.

On January 7, 2020 Ms. Drayton contacted the Reedley Historical Society regarding the project (the Museum and Historical Society were closed over the holidays) and spoke with Curator Karey Olson about the project. On January 9 and again on February 3, Ms. Drayton spoke at length to Anthony Jewell, former Reedley College faculty and historical society member, regarding the history of the Reed Ranch and specifically the importance of the palm trees which front North Reed Avenue. Additionally, on January 9, Kenneth Zech, historian, called Ms. Drayton with supplementary information about the ranch location. He thereafter provided several historic photos for the project's use.

On January 27, Ms. Drayton taped an interview with Jim Ishimaru who lived with his family on the Reed Ranch from 1946-1955. Mr. Ishimaru also supplied digital copies of family photos on the ranch. Both Mr. Zech and Mr. Ishimaru kindly reviewed the draft historic context and made valuable comments. Information about the eucalyptus trees at the corner of the proposed project site was solicited from Barry Shultz, Robert Boro, landscape architect and Ronald Nishinaka, who was a student in the Reedley College Landscape Horticulture Program and later served as a faculty member. Site visits to record features occurred on December 19, 2019 and January 24, 2020.

## Native American Consultation

Nicole Hoke of Odell Planning & Research, Inc. contacted the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on May 7, 2019 to notify them of the proposed project and request a sacred lands files search and Tribal Consultation List per AB 52 (Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e), and 21080.3.2). The NAHC responded in a letter dated May 27, 2019, saying that no sacred sites were known in the area. The letter provided a list of tribes and individuals to be contacted. In a letter dated June 20, 2019, Odell staff contacted the list of tribes and individuals provided by the NAHC. A list of tribes and individuals contacted for the project is provided in Table 3.

## Tribal Response

Mr. Robert Pennell of the Table Mountain Rancheria replied to Odell's letter and expressed interest in the project and requested a copy of the record search (Pennell, 2019). Mr. Pennell was contacted by phone by Sarah Johnston on January 7, 2020 and provided with a verbal update on the Historic Resources Inventory. He requested a field visit of the project study area and said he would contact Odell Planning & Research, Inc. to set one up (Personal Communication Robert Pennell January 7, 2020).

A site visit attended by Mr. Pennell, Scott Odell and Daniel Brannick of Odell Planning & Research, District Director of Facilities Planning George Cummings of the State Center Community College District, and Sarah Johnston and Karana Hattersley-Drayton of Johnston & Associates was set up for January 24, 2020. At the project site on the Reedley Campus, Scott Odell and George Cummings familiarized Mr. Pennell with the proposed project and study area. Mr. Pennell, Sarah Johnston, and Daniel Brannick walked most of the parcel together making a second archaeological examination of the project study area. Mr. Pennell noted that the close proximity of the project study area to the Kings River would make it a likely location for historic and traditional tribal use. He requested that a tribal monitor or observer from Table Mountain Rancheria be present during ground disturbing construction activities in case buried cultural materials are encountered.

Mr. Pennell asked Ms. Johnston and Ms. Hattersley-Drayton to document any accounts of historic Native American associations with the T. L. Reed Ranch if encountered in the course of their research.

**Table 3. Tribal Organizations and Individuals Contacted by Letter Dated June 20, 2019**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Tribal Affiliation/Address</b>	<b>Email/Phone</b>	<b>Response</b>
Robert Ledger Sr., Chairperson	Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government 2191 W. Pico Ave. Fresno 93705	<a href="mailto:ledgerrobert@ymail.com">ledgerrobert@ymail.com</a>  (559) 540-6346	None to date

Stan Alec	Kings River Choinumni Farm Tribe, 3515 East Fedora Avenue Fresno 93726	(559) 647-3227 Cell	—
Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson	Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band	<a href="mailto:kwood8934@aol.com">kwood8934@aol.com</a> (831) 443-9702	—
Rueben Barrios Sr., Chairperson	Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe, P.O. Box 8 Lemoore 93245	(559) 924-1278 (559) 924-3583 Fax	—
Leanne Walker- Grant, Chairperson,	Table Mountain Rancheria, P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA 93626	<a href="mailto:rpennell@tmr.org">rpennell@tmr.org</a> 559) 822-2587 (559) 822-2693 Fax	Response Letter August 1, 2019, Request Records
Robert Pennell, Cultural Resources Director	Table Mountain Rancheria, P.O. Box 410 Friant, CA 93626	<a href="mailto:rpennell@tmr.org">rpennell@tmr.org</a> (559) 325-0351 (559) 217-9718 - cell	Response Letter August 1, 2019, Request Records and site visit

## Background Research

### Setting

The small city of Reedley (population approximately 24,000) is located in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley, approximately 210 miles northwest of Los Angeles and 22 miles southeast of Fresno. The San Joaquin Valley is one of the largest and most productive farming regions in the world and serves as the gateway to Yosemite National Park, Sierra National Forest, Kings Canyon National Park, and Sequoia National Park. Regional access to Reedley from the north and south is provided by SR 99 and SR180, and the rural highways of Manning Avenue and Reed Avenue.

The project area is located within the Reedley College Campus on the northwest side of the City of Reedley. Reedley encompasses a rural metropolitan area covering approximately 5.2 square miles in south-central Fresno County.

Reedley is on a gently west-tilting alluvial fan on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley. The nearest perennial water to the project area is approximately 1/4 mile to the west at the Kings River.

The project elevation is approximately 350 feet above sea level. Reedley has a Mediterranean climate (Köppen Csa) with some semi-arid factors due to its interior location (Köppen *Bsh*), with mild, moderately wet winters and hot and dry summers ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan\\_Fresno](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_Fresno)). The project area was originally an arid grass land that was converted in the historic period to agricultural fields, residences, and finally part of the Reedley College Campus by 1966. (<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/about-us/history.html>). Prior to historic development, the project vegetation and animal life would have been typical of the Lower Sonoran plant community, which is part of the California biotic province (Munz and Keck 1959:11).

## **Geoarchaeology/Buried Cultural Sites Potential**

Most of the San Joaquin Valley is filled with deep Pleistocene and recent (Holocene) alluvium comprised of sediments originating from the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the east and the Coast Range Mountains to the west. The 1965 geologic map shows the majority of the project area lies within recent (Pleistocene and Holocene) fan deposits (Qf) and (Qc) (Matthews and Burnett 1965).

The current USDA soil web survey (2020) shows the project area has Hanford series soils (HC-sandy loam and HM-fine sandy loam) and are described by Huntington as recent and young alluvium, dominantly granitic in origin (Huntington 1981).

Jack D. Meyer, Craig Young, and Jeffrey Rosenthal developed a prehistoric archaeological sensitivity model for the San Joaquin Valley based on geographic factors including landform, soil type, slope, and proximity to water. They identified the project study area as having moderate to high potential for the presence of buried prehistoric archaeological deposits (Meyer et al 2010:147). The project study area's history of over 100 years of development for agricultural uses significantly lessens the likelihood that any prehistoric or historic remains would have survived intact within the upper three feet of the original ground surface.

## **Prehistory (Adapted from Brady and Roper, 2011)**

The San Joaquin Valley and adjacent Sierra foothills and Coast Range have a long and complex cultural history with distinct regional patterns that extend back more than 11,000 years (McGuire 1995). The first generally agreed-upon evidence for the presence of prehistoric peoples in the region is represented by the distinctive fluted spear points, termed Clovis points, found on the margins of extinct lakes in the San Joaquin Valley. The Clovis points are found on the same surface with the bones of extinct animals such as mammoths, sloths, and camels. Based on evidence from elsewhere, the ancient hunters who used these spear points existed during a narrow time range of 10,900 BP to 11,200 BP.

The next cultural period represented, the Western Pluvial Lakes tradition, thought by most to be after the Clovis period, is another widespread complex that is characterized by stemmed spear points. This poorly defined early cultural tradition is regionally known from a small number of sites in the Central Coast Range, San Joaquin Valley lake margins, and Sierra Nevada foothills. The cultural tradition is dated to between 8,000 and 10,000 years ago and its practitioners may be the precursors to the subsequent cultural pattern.

About 8,000 years ago, many California cultures shifted the main focus of their subsistence strategies from hunting to seed gathering, as evidenced by the increase in food-grinding implements found in archeological sites dating to this period. This cultural pattern is best known for southern California, where it has been termed the Milling Stone Horizon (Wallace 1954, 1978a), but recent studies suggest that the horizon may be more widespread than originally described and is found throughout the region.

Radiocarbon dates associated with this period vary between 8,000 and 2,000 BP, although most cluster in the 6,000 to 4,000 BP range (Basgall and True 1985).

Cultural patterns as reflected in the archeological record, particularly specialized subsistence practices, became codified within the last 3,000 years. The archeological record becomes more complex, as specialized adaptations to locally available resources were developed and populations expanded. Many

sites dating to this time period contain mortars and pestles and/or are associated with bedrock mortars, implying the intense exploitation of the acorn. The range of subsistence resources utilized and exchange systems expanded significantly from the previous period. In the Central Valley, archaeological evidence of social stratification and craft specialization is indicated by well-made artifacts such as charmstones and beads, often found as mortuary items.

## **Ethnohistory**

The Wechihit, Wechahet, or Wetchit (plural Wichehate) band of Yokuts Indians occupied the banks of the Kings River from Centerville to Reedley (Kroeber 1925:483). The Nutunutu or Nutuntu (plural Nutantishu) occupied the lower reaches of the Kings River up to Reedley. Wahtoke Creek, immediately north of the Reedley College campus, was considered a —no-man’s land as far as tribal ownership was concerned, but was nevertheless visited by the Wechihit (Kroeber 1925:483, Milliken 2010:160). Kroeber identified a village labeled as Wewayo along Wahtoke Creek, approximately 2 miles from the project study area, northeast of the confluence with the Kings River (Kroeber 1925: Plate 47).

At the time of European contact in the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century, the entire San Joaquin Valley from the mouth of the San Joaquin River to the foot of Tehachapi Pass was the homeland of the Yokuts Tribe. Their home territory included the valley plain as well as adjacent lower slopes and foothills of the Sierra Nevada, up to an altitude of a few thousand feet, from the Fresno River south, but —nowhere to the north of that stream (Kroeber 1925:475). The Valley Yokuts population may have reached 41,000 people in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, making them the largest ethnic group in pre-contact California (Cook 1955; Moratto 1984:173).

The Yokuts were subdivided regionally into three groups—the Northern Valley, Southern Valley, and Foothill groups, whose separate identities sprang from differing territories and ecological adaptations. The Northern Valley Yokuts occupied the San Joaquin River drainage and its tributaries from Fresno north to the San Joaquin Delta. The Northern Valley Yokuts bands depended on acorn and salmon as staple foods. The Southern Valley Yokuts occupied the lower watersheds of the Kings, Kaweah, Tule, and Kern Rivers from Centerville in the north to Bakersfield in the south. They depended on the rich animal and plant



resources of the interconnecting rivers, sloughs and swamps around Tulare, Kern, and Buena Vista Lakes (Wallace 1978: 448).

Northern Valley Yokuts settlements were clustered in a narrow strip of land bordering the San Joaquin and its main tributaries. Most Yokuts lived in the better-watered eastern side of the river. On the arid west side of the valley, the population was concentrated along semi-permanent streams in the foothills of the Coast Ranges. Valley villages were located adjacent to large watercourses, on the top of low mounds above the spring floods (Wallace 1978:463). Southern Valley Yokuts occupied year-round settlements on high ground adjacent to lakes and marshes. They built distinctive tule-mat covered oval-shaped single family homes and large multifamily structures (Wallace 1978: 450-451).

In the late 1700's the first Spanish colonial expeditions began the disruptive process that led to the decline in the San Joaquin Valley's native population and the disruption of traditional settlement patterns (Moratto 1984:174). Spanish Franciscan missions established along the coast of California sought converts and laborers among the interior Yokuts tribes, forcing many to relocate to mission settlements on the coast.

The transfer of the missions from Spanish to Mexican ownership in 1822 enabled many mission Indians to return to their interior villages, only to find their traditional homelands and subsistence patterns disrupted (Wallace 1978:468). Many native bands resorted to raiding the Mexican ranches proliferating on the west side of the Valley, to acquire horses and cattle for meat. Mexican officials and local ranchers responded by sending retaliatory expeditions into the interior homelands to punish raiders and seize women and children as slaves (Wallace:1978:469).

In 1833, valley native populations were decimated by a malarial plague, most likely introduced by white beaver trappers from the Colombia River. The American conquest of California starting in 1846 marked the beginning of the final annihilation of the Yokuts lifeway. During the Gold Rush of 1849, the Yokuts valley homeland stood in the path of a great mass of gold-seekers making their way to the gold fields in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Native populations were forcibly ousted or murdered by settlers who found farming and ranching more appealing than prospecting (Wallace 1978:469). Surviving Yokuts families attached

themselves to White-owned ranches and small communities where they often made a living by performing manual labor. Deprived of access to traditional lands and resources, many lived in poverty. The federal government ultimately set aside tracts of land for the remaining Yokuts populations including leased acreage on the Fresno and Tule River Reserve (Wallace 1978: 465).

In 1869-70, the Ghost Dance religion swept through the depleted and scattered remnants of Yokuts society. The Ghost Dance movement began when a Paviotsa Paiute prophet named Tavibo from Walker Lake, Nevada had a vision that dead ancestors would return to life, the salmon and acorn would be abundant again, and white people would leave Indian lands forever, if the majority of Indians performed the Ghost Dance ceremony (Manlove 2012:61). The prospect of a restored land and people gave hope to Indian communities from Nevada to Central California and as far north as Karok and Yurok country in northwestern California.

A Mono chief name Joijoi in North Fork to the east of the project area held an important Ghost Dance ceremony attended by a large number of Indians from all directions. Yokuts from the Lakisamne in the north and the Chunut in the south adopted the dance. After three years of dancing without the promised return of the ancestors and the disappearance of the whites, the Ghost Dance was largely abandoned. By 1875, the Ghost Dance religion had virtually disappeared (Gayton 1930:62).

During the 1880's and 1890's, the Indians of California became the intended objects of conversion to white culture by American politicians and missionaries. The mechanisms for Indian acculturation during this period involved several social experiments including, creating Indian allotments, establishing boarding schools for Indian children, and instituting a Peace Policy under the direction of Protestant church denominations (Manlove 2012:64-67). The Allotment policy resulted in the breakup of reservations and the further fragmentation and impoverishment of Yokuts communities. The boarding schools separated Indian children from their families and punished them for speaking their native languages. The Peace Policy had mixed results as far as the government was concerned and was abandoned in favor of a military approach after incidents like the Battle of Little Big Horn of 1876 renewed fears in the white population.

By 1905, another wave of efforts to help impoverished Indians began with US Congress commissioning Charles Kelsey to take a census of landless Indians in California. This resulted in Congress budgeting \$100,000 for services and to purchase lands for Indian communities in California. A total of 36 parcels of land known as *rancherias* were purchased in the northern two-thirds of the state by 1930. The total came to 59 over the next 20 years (Manlove 2012:72).

Rancherias were intended to serve the nearby Indian population without regard to band affiliation. The Picayune Rancheria, for instance was supposed to serve the Chowchilla Yokuts as well as three other Yokuts tribes (Chuckchansi, Dalenchi, and Gashowu) and the Pohonichi Miwoks who were living in the vicinity. Living conditions on the rancherias were poor and tended to worsen over time as the population increased. Infrastructure for clean water and toilets was often missing. A 1976 study commissioned by the State of California showed that one third of the rancherias had been abandoned due to poor living conditions (Manlove, 2012:74).

After World War Two, the government returned to the ethnocentric views toward the Indian population that had been prevalent in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. In 1952, a Republican-controlled US Congress passed several Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) bills aimed at divesting California rancherias and defunding vital services. In 1958, the Congress passed the Rancheria Act, which terminated the rancherias, divided up the land among the Indian occupants, and ended all government support. Some Indians fought back to save their lands and communities. Tillie Hardwick, a Pomo woman from northern California successfully led the effort against the US Government and had 17 rancherias, including the Picayune Rancheria, reinstated (Manlove 2012:80-82).

## History

Although there were no missions or major settlements within the San Joaquin Valley, a Hispanic presence is noted in place names such as *Fresno* (ash tree), *San Joaquin* (Saint Joseph) and the Kings River, which runs along the western edge of Reedley College. *El Rio de los Santos Reyes* —River of the Holy Kings was named by a party of Spanish explorers in 1805. The party probably reached the river on January 6<sup>th</sup>, the festival of the three magi and hence the name.

American explorers Jedediah Smith and John C. Fremont also tramped along the banks of the river in 1827 and 1844 (Gudde 2004 n.p). The only Mexican rancho in what is now Fresno County, the 48,801 acre *Laguna de Tache*, was granted by Governor Pio Pico to Manuel Castro in 1846.

Following the Gold Rush of 1849, miners were drawn to the southern gold fields, and cattle ranchers and dryland farmers moved into the San Joaquin Valley. Three momentous changes occurred in the 1870s, which dramatically affected settlement patterns and history: the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad, the introduction of agricultural colonies and the concomitant development of a labyrinth of canals to bring water to these colonies.

In 1870 the Central Pacific Railroad began its diagonal push down the San Joaquin Valley. New towns were surveyed along the corridor---several were planned by the railroad itself---and earlier villages situated away from the tracks often vanished overnight. In 1872 the railroad reached what is now Fresno. The Contract and Finance Company, a subsidiary of the Central Pacific Railroad, bought 4,480 acres in a desolate area where Dry Creek drained into the plains and established a new town that straddled both side of the tracks (Clough and Secrest 1984:121).

### **Thomas Law Reed and the Founding of Reedley**

Tulare County was created in 1852 from the southern portion of Mariposa County and the northern part of Los Angeles County (Hoover et al 1990:507). What is now the town of Reedley was located in Tulare County but was incorporated into Fresno County when that county was created in 1856 from portions of Tulare, Mariposa and Merced counties (Zech 1994:166).

The first American citizens to settle in the Reedley area were James and Martha Hamilton Smith who in 1855 established a ferry and hotel on the Kings River near the southwest corner of the present town of Reedley. The Smith's Ferry Hotel was a two story building of eleven rooms that also served as the Smith home. The hotel had no saloon because the Smiths did not want their children exposed to the evils of liquor. The building was in continuous public use for 19 years (Clough and Secrest Jr. 1984: 55-56).

In 1882 the —76 Land and Water Company acquired title to the land where the

Smith's Ferry and Hotel were located. That year P.Y. Baker a civil engineer conceived of the idea of an irrigation project to supply water from the Kings River to land comprising about 130,000 acres that straddled the line in both Tulare and Fresno Counties. Articles of incorporation were filed on May 15, 1882 with a capital stock of \$280,000 divided into 14 shares of \$20,000 each. Work began on the 76 canal in October 1882 and water was turned into the canal around December 1, 1883 (McCubbin 1988:53). Prior to the 76 Canal project there was little farming on the company's vast holdings. To attract tenant farmers, the company advertised special inducements including the rental fee of one-fifth of the farmer's crop and a promise that all lands described in the lease could be eventually purchased at a stipulated price (McCubbin 1988:56).

One family who settled on the 76 Land and Water Company's holdings was the Thomas and Amantha Smith Reed Family. Reed was born on March 13, 1847 in Cuyahoga County, Ohio. At the age of 16 he enlisted in Company A 66 Ohio Volunteer and served until the end of the war. In the summer of 1876 Reed came to Yolo County, California to work. One family story is that initially Thomas Reed came west to look for his father, who had come to California during the Gold Rush of 1849 and had disappeared. Thomas Reed sent for his wife and children who arrived in Woodland on November 16, 1876. Reed was a tenant on land owned by some of the 76 Company's stockholders and when Reed's Yolo County leases expired they encouraged him to come to farm on the 76 property (Nickel 1961 73-75).



*Photo 4. Thomas Law Reed circa 1885*

Reed traveled to the area in 1883 to look things over and apparently liked what he saw (Nickel 1961:73). In 1884 he and his family left Woodland and moved into the old Smith's Hotel Building where they lived for 12-18 months (McCubbin 1988:111). In 1885 Reed planted wheat on the land from the Kings River bend south of what is now the northeast corner of Reed and Dinuba Avenues, northward to the Kings River Bridge on Manning Avenue (Nickel 1961:74). In the spring of 1886 he purchased two sections of land including Section 22, Township 15 South, Range 23 East (now bounded by Manning, Reed and South Avenues and the Kings River). The western half of Section 22 became the Reed's —home Ranch” (now the site of Reedley College). In the fall of 1886 the family moved into their new home; a horse barn was constructed in 1887 (Nickel 1961:74). In the summer of 1887 Reed purchased enough coast redwood pickets and posts to fence his entire home ranch of a half section (McCubbin 1988:123).



*Photo 5. Reed Family Home Ranch circa 1891*

On July 12, 1888 T. L. Reed purchased 1,259.3 acres from the 76 Company for a price of \$51,341.25. The purchase increased Reed's local land holdings to 2,500 acres. About the same time Reed deeded a one-half interest in 360 acres to the Pacific Improvement Company, a subsidiary of the Southern Pacific Railroad to establish a new town (McCubbin 1988:112). The SP built a branch line through the area and constructed a depot naming both the depot and new town, Reedley (Zech 1994:167). Reed built the first hotel in town, the Reedley Hotel in 1888-9, and hauled in a 250 foot building from Traver to serve as the first warehouse (Zech 1994:168). In 1890 the population of Reedley was about 175 and the town had developed into a major grain-shipping center (Clough and Secret 1984:291). In 1897 the San Joaquin and Valley Railroad (later acquired by the Santa Fe Railroad) completed a branch line through Reedley and opened a depot on September 10<sup>th</sup> of that year (Zech 1994:169).

T.L. Reed divided his land surrounding the new townsite into 5 and 10-acre colony lots following the Fresno County colony system (Clough and Secret 1984:329). The model which served throughout the San Joaquin Valley was the Central California Colony, established in 1875 three miles south of Fresno. The Colony was the brainchild of Bernard Marks, a German immigrant who approached William S. Chapman, one of the wealthiest landowners in California, with his vision of 20-acre family owned farms sharing a secured source of water. Marks saw the potential for farming in the desert-like environment of San Joaquin Valley if irrigation could be guaranteed (Panter 1994:2). He surveyed six sections of land owned by Chapman and investor William Martin and subdivided the land into 192 20-acre parcels. Three laterals from the Kings River and Fresno Canal were extended into the tracts and water rights were sold to the prospective farmers. Twenty-three miles of roads were laid out and bordered with trees (Panter 1994). By 1903 there were 48 separate colonies or tracts in Fresno County representing approximately 71,080 acres (Panter 1994:9). These colonies helped to break up the vast estates and initiated what agricultural historian Donald Pisani has termed "the horticultural small-farm phase" of California agriculture (Datel 1999:97).

Near Reedley several colonies were prospering by 1891: the 2,800-acre Curtis and Shoemaker tract and the Reed Colony consisting of T.L. Reed's subdivided farming lands. People came from all over the United States and some foreign countries to buy their own farm in the California sun. Extensive settlement on easily farmed lands and the depression brought a virtual end to colony development in the mid-1890s (Clough and Secret 1984:329).

At the peak of Thomas Reed's farming activities he was known as one of the "wheat growing barons" of California. A slump in wheat prices in the 1890s, however, broke Reed financially and he was forced into bankruptcy. He went to Bakersfield where he made a fortune in oil and repaid everything he owed, amounting to about \$100,000 (Clough and Secret 1984:290). Thomas Law Reed died on September 11, 1911. Two years later the town that bears his family name was incorporated (Zech 1994:170).

## **Reedley College Founding and History**

In 1925 Dr. E.W. Hauck, Principal at Reedley High School, proposed to his local board of trustees the idea of establishing a junior college. After a year's delay Reedley Junior College was founded in 1926 sharing facilities with the High School. In 1936 a new two story building in a PWA (Progress Works Administration) Moderne style was constructed on the high school campus to house the growing college. This building served as the college for the next 23 years. On July 1, 1946 the name of the institution was changed to Reedley College. By the 1940s the governing board felt that the college needed to have its own campus and identity and in June 1945 voters approved a bond measure to purchase a tract of land once part of the Thomas Law Reed Ranch by then owned by the Mard Peloian family. Ground breaking ceremonies were held on January 12, 1956 with a crowd of over 2,000 in attendance (The Reedley Exponent 1988).

In 1956 the district offered the Peloian family \$131,870 for a remaining 91.3 acres which at the time was under cultivation. Waldon Olsen, then president of the governing board, acknowledged the Peloian's investment in the land promising to let the family farm until such time as the college needed to expand: We know they have valuable orchards on this property and would like to see them get the income from the orchards as long as possible." After negotiations the price paid for the remaining tract of land was \$159,300. The new campus had four main wings grouped on the Manning Avenue side plus art and music buildings (The Reedley Exponent 1988).

In 1963 Reedley and Fresno City College joined together to form the State Center Community College District. In 1980 Reedley College was renamed Kings River Community College. Following a long campaign from the community the name Reedley College was restored in July 1998 (Reedley College Facts and History; Zech February 5, 2020).

## **Site History**

*The history of the parcel (as included within the west ½ of Section 22 T15S R23 E) can be traced through the various County atlases, USGS maps, local histories and newspapers, historic photos as well as oral interviews.*



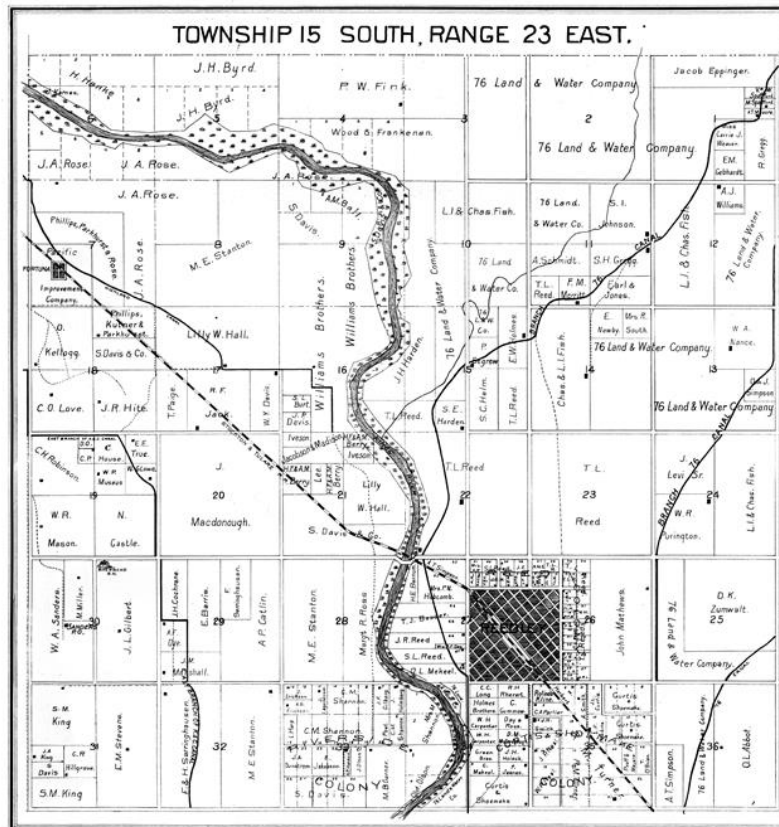
**1886** In the spring of 1886 Thomas Law Reed purchased two sections of land including Section 22, Township 15 South, Range 23 East (now bounded by Manning, Reed and South Avenues and the Kings River). The Reed family moved into a new farmhouse with tankhouse on their —Home Ranch in fall of 1886.



*Photo 6. Thomas Reed Family circa 1892*

**1887** The Reeds added a horse barn to their Home Ranch.

**1891** Thompson Atlas: Section 22 as well as Section 23 is owned by T.L. Reed.



The Reed Ranch, and Thomas Law Reed himself, were important enough by the publication of the 1891 Thompson Atlas to warrant inclusion of a lithograph of the ranch. These drawings were always a tad idealized, and comparisons with the circa 1891 photograph and the drawing of the property are intriguing. Both depict a typical hall and parlor house —a side gabled two room house, as found in Great Britain and throughout the Southeast of the United States-- a three-story tankhouse and a substantial barn on the back of the property. The shed-roofed addition to the house (normally a kitchen) is shown on the side of the house in the photograph versus the rear elevation in the drawing. The lithograph and the photograph both show a mix of board and picket fences around the house property. Both images indicate that the house has a set back and faced what became Reed Avenue.



*Photo 7. “Farm and Vineyard of T.L Reed Adjoining the Town of Reedly [sic] Fresno Co.”*

What is not clear is the precise location of this first Reed Ranch complex. Reedley historian Kenneth Zech, noted that in 1991 he and his father interviewed two of the Reed grandsons who said that the original house and outbuildings were located to the south of the new house and closer to the river bluff.

When the new house was built (1906-1907) the farm buildings were moved to that location, including the tankhouse which was raised up higher when it was relocated (Zech: January 14, 2020). If so, the Reeds went to considerable trouble to tear down and rebuild substantial farm buildings. Additionally the house at the new location (the proposed project site) has a similar alignment and set-back from Reed Avenue as indicated in the lithograph from 1891. In support of the idea that the second house was built at the original ranch site is the publication, *Reedley College Farm Laboratory: RC/DO Strategic Plan and YR 2020-2024 Action Plan*: "T.L. Reed came to Reedley in 1884, purchased the property, and built his homestead (house, barn and various outbuildings) on land that is now occupied by the orchard just north of the service entrance to the campus off Reed Avenue.". It should also be noted that the 1891 Thompson Atlas map indicates a house in the approximate location of the 2nd ranch complex.

**Circa 1906** a historic photograph shows a row of young palm trees along Manning or Reed Avenues adjacent to the ranch.



*Photo 8. Palms (and sundry vegetation) along border of Reed Ranch, either Manning or Reed Avenue (Photo: courtesy of Kenneth Zech, Reedley Historical Society)*

**1906-1907** The Reeds constructed a new American Foursquare style house in the location of the proposed project site. The two-story house was a popular house type for the current growing middle class in cities such as Fresno. It originated in the Midwest (Frank Lloyd Wright's first commissions were derivations of this popular vernacular farmhouse). The new Reed house included a basement and had a balustrade on the front porch of river rocks, some of which were discarded and left on the parcel when the house was torn down circa 1977. The Reedley Exponent noted on November 22, 1906: —Mrs.T.L. Reed is having erected a fine 10-room house at the ranch one mile north of town. A very fine stone foundation was put in; the rest rustic and plaster. The house will be lighted by electricity.”

**1907** Harvey Atlas: The west half of section 22 is owned by Amantha H. Reed, the east half has been subdivided into the Merritt Colony. Section 23 immediately adjacent to 22 on the east is owned by Jeanette Merritt. It is curious that the Reed Ranch property was listed in Mrs. Reed's name, as Thomas Law Reed was still alive.



*Photo 9. Reed Ranch house, circa 1908.  
(Photo courtesy of Kenneth Zech, Reedley Historical Society)*

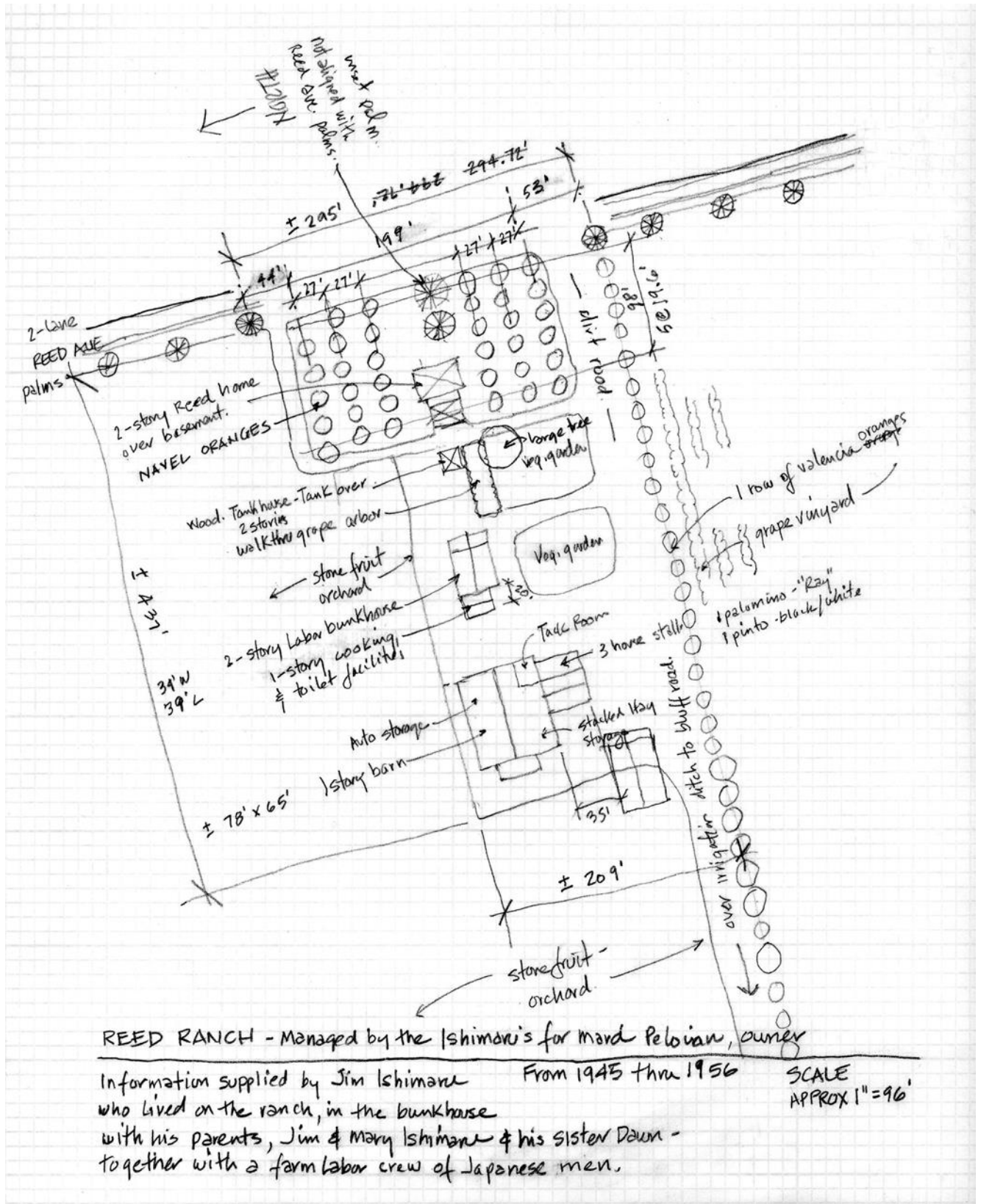
**1913** Guard Atlas: The west half of Section 22 is owned by T.L. Reed Co., the east half is the Merritt Colony. By now numerous colonies are noted in the area including the Reed Colony, Peck Colony, etc,

**1920** Progressive Atlas: The west half of Section 22 next to the Kings River is owned by the T .L Reed Company, east half is the Merritt Colony. The ownership of the property was lost during the Depression, according to the history included in the —“Reedley College Farm Laboratory” brochure.

**1924** USGS: a house with circular road is depicted on the west side of Section 22.

**1935** Progressive Atlas : West half of 22 now owned by Nelson States Life Insurance Co. East half still is the Merritt Colony.

**1946-1955** Oral history with Jim Ishimaru: By the mid1940s Mard Peloian owned the 650 or so acres of the former Reed Ranch. Peloian was a highly successful farmer who also owned a packing house in Reedley, still extant. The Ishimaru family moved to the ranch in 1946 and lived on site until 1955. The father, also named Jim Ishimaru, was an accomplished gardener who served as the ranch manager. The family--- father, mother (Mary) and two children, Jim and Dawn---lived in the lower half of the two story bunkhouse. The farm crew consisted of Japanese laborers, some born in Japan or Hawaii, others born in the United States. All had been interned or had served in the highly decorated 442nd Army Division. Jim Ishimaru (younger) went to U.C. Berkeley and graduated with a degree in Architecture. His architectural skills were put to use when he created a memory map of the ranch site as it existed in 1955. The former Reed Ranch included the 2-story house with one story back addition (possibly a sunroom), a three story tankhouse, a two story bunkhouse with a connected 1-story cookhouse, a large animal and hay barn also used for automobiles, the barn that once housed the mules, as well as gardens and horse stalls. Two Canary Island palms were located in front of the house and other palms [Mexican fan] were located south to north on Reed Avenue (See attached summary of January 27 interview).



Ishimaru Memory Map showing the layout of the T.L. Reed Ranch in the 1950's.

**1954** 45 acres of property once part of the Reed Ranch are purchased for the new college campus from the Mard Peloian family.

**1955** Ground breaking for campus January 12, 1955.

**1955** July 26 Aerial photo of ranch property correlates to Mr. Ishimaru's memory map.



*Photo 10. 1955 aerial photo courtesy of Kenneth Zech (Reedley Historical Society)*



*Photo 11. Ishimaru Family on front steps of Reed Ranch home, circa 1950.*

*Photo courtesy of Jim Ishimaru)*

**1956** Pelouians have valuable orchards on property, stone fruit as well as vineyards. Promise on part of college district to let them continue to use the land until such time as the college needs to expand

**1966 USGS:** Reedley College located in current location.

**1970s** Eucalyptus trees at corner of parcel planted by Jim Watson of the Reedley College Landscape Horticultural Program or by the College's Forestry Club.

## Historic Landscape Features and CEQA Evaluation

Three potential historic landscape features associated with either the Reed Ranch or the college have been identified and evaluated on State of California survey forms (see Appendix C): one Canary Island date palm, a row of Mexican fan palms that run south to north along



North Reed Avenue, and two separate stands of eucalyptus trees which are located at the southeast corner of the project parcel.

*Historic landscapes* include residential gardens and community parks, scenic highways, rural communities, institutional grounds, cemeteries, battlefields and zoological gardens. They are composed of a number of character-defining features which, individually or collectively contribute to the landscape's physical appearance as they have evolved over time. A *historic designed landscape* is one that was consciously designed or laid out by a landscape architect, master gardener, architect, or horticulturist according to design principles, or an amateur gardener working in a recognized style or tradition. The landscape may be associated with a significant person(s), trend, or event in landscape architecture; or illustrate an important development in the theory and practice of landscape architecture." (Preservation Brief 36 NPS). A *feature* is the smallest element of a landscape that contributes to the significance and that can be subject to a treatment intervention," such as a woodlot, hedge, lawn, specimen plant, allee, house" etc. (Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, NPS).

The Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) is located on North Reed Avenue on the proposed project parcel and it once marked the entry to the Reed Ranch Headquarters. This tree is one of two palms and is clearly seen on the 1957 aerial of the ranch site and appears to be mature. Both trees were also included in the memory map of the ranch complex from 1946-1955 prepared by a former resident of the ranch, Jim Ishimaru. This extant tree has been landmarked by the El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust who placed a plaque about 12 feet above grade stating: —Ming Monument Canary Island Date Palm Site of Reed Ranch Headquarters Est. 1884" (Jewell 9 January 2020; site visit 24 January 2020).

In addition, one Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) is located on the northeast corner of the proposed project site. It is one of 25 extant palms fronting the college and extending north from Manning Avenue to South Avenue. The trees were planted by the Reeds around the entire boundary of the ranch (Nickel 1961:76, Jewell January 9, 2020, Olson January 7, 2020). The Mexican fan palms are included in a circa 1906 photo and are identified as being on either the Manning Avenue or the N. Reed Avenue boundary of the Ranch. They are thus at least 120 years old. The Reedley Historical Society strongly endorses their preservation as an important aspect of the local historic landscape (Olson January 7, 2020; Jewell February 3, 2020).



*Photo 12. Looking north, Canary Island date palm and row of Mexican fan palms, December 19, 2019 (photo: Karana Hattersley-Drayton)*

Also, as noted in the Request for Preliminary Comment (June 20, 2018) there are two small stands of mature eucalyptus trees on the .8-acre corner near the campus access road. Four trees are located closest to N. Reed Avenue and two others are set further west along the drive into the school. Two species have been identified: the two trees standing together are Red Ironbark Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*). Two additional Red Ironbark trees are in the center of the stand of four. The species of the trees standing on the outside of the four trees could not be identified. According to Karey Olson, Curator of the Reedley Museum these trees were planted by Jim Watson of the College's Landscape Horticulture Program to demonstrate the strengths and drawbacks of varieties of eucalyptus trees (Olson January 7, 2020). In contrast, former college instructor Anthony Jewell recalls that the trees were planted by the college's Forestry Club in the late 1970s (Jewell February 3, 2020).



*Photo 13. Canary Island Palm and two stands of Eucalyptus. Looking northeast December 19, 2019.*

Palm trees as well as eucalyptus are non-native to this region. The earliest settlers understood the importance of trees in providing both a direction to their holdings, shade, and aesthetic pleasure. Beginning in the 1870s tree-lined boulevards were adopted by city planners and landowners throughout the Valley as either an integral part of a new town plan, as a property boundary, or as a gateway to a city or ranch site. The Central California Colony developed south of Fresno in 1875 included 23 miles of roads laid out and bordered with trees. Fruit, Elm, Walnut, Fig and Cherry were all planted according to their names. The Manager who successfully marketed these colony lands was M. Theo Kearney (Hattersley-Drayton 2008:17-19).

In June of 1880 Theodore Kearney and N.K. Masten purchased the 2560 Easterby Rancho southeast of Fresno. The men planted several large-scale vineyards and the remainder of the property was subdivided into 20-acre parcels. Kearney kept 392 acres which he named the Vineyard. He and his crews dug irrigation canals to water the orchards and vineyards and Kearney supervised the planting of olive and Mexican fan palm trees which 120 years later still line the neighborhood streets and are now protected as a Fresno County Landmark (Musson and Williams 2000).

Kearney next purchased 6,800 acres of land southwest of Fresno he called the Fruit Vale Estate. In 1889 he began a landscape project he boasted "Will be without equal in any part of the world." Kearney was an urbane man and had traveled extensively in the Eastern United States and in Europe. The *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Fresno Expositor* reported on January 1, 1889: —[Kearney] purposes combining the majestic lines of the English a venue with the semi-tropical luxuriance of the south of France, and ...to greatly excel all previous efforts in this direction." According to landscape historians Marlea Graham and Julie Cain, other influences on Kearney were closer to home including Riverside's world-famous Magnolia Avenue developed in 1872. Circa 1881 the Riverside formula was repeated with Euclid Avenue in Ontario. These were double roads whereas Kearney ultimately planted a triple road in the French tradition, flanked on all sides with eucalyptus, palms and with pink and white oleanders for color (Graham and Cain 2008:31-32). The 15 miles of Chateau Fresno Avenue (renamed Kearney Boulevard in 1984) leads out from Fresno west to Kerman and has been called "one of the most striking drives in California" (Hoover et al 1990:89).

Other communities took note of Kearney's landscape project: Las Palmas Avenue leading to Patterson was planted in 1909 by Thomas Patterson, apparently in emulation of Chateau Fresno Avenue, and Robertson Boulevard in Chowchilla (1912) was designed as a bold diagonal slash across the section lines to serve as a gateway to Robertson's new town (Hattersley-Drayton 2008: 17-19).

The planting of Mexican fan palms around the entirety of Reed's home ranch circa 1900 was thus in keeping with the current fashion of the time. As an example, further south in rural Kern County 329 Washingtonian palm trees were planted on either side of intersection roads in what is locally called the *Cross of Palms*. The trees are associated with the failed Rosedale Colony and were planted in the 1890s. This *Cross of Palms* was evaluated in 1993 for Caltrans as eligible to the National Register under Criteria A and C (Mikesell 1993).

The use of palm trees to mark the entrance to a home or ranch, either as an allee or as a simple gateway, was also popular in the early 20th century on urban and rural properties. Two matched palms in front of a home were a common signature. According to Anthony Jewell there were once two to six Canary Island palms lining the walkway up to the front of the Reed ranch house (Jewell February 3, 2020). The aerial photo of 1955 appears to depict two. Both the row of Mexican fan palms and the single extant Canary Island palm are landscape features associated with the Thomas Reed Ranch with a period of significance of circa 1900.

The two small stands of eucalyptus trees on the edge of the project site are, however, associated with Reedley College. Mr. Jewell, who worked at the College beginning in the late 1970s, recalls that the six trees are a remnant of a former line of eucalyptus running east to west that were planted in the 1970s by the College's Forestry Club. The trees were on college property, on the south side of the dirt packed farm road which ran along the south side of the Reed Ranch complex. The trees were planted for firewood (Jewell February 3, 2020) This demarcation of the property line was apparently appreciated by Mard Peloian who still owned the orchard and former Reed Ranch complex.

Eucalyptus trees are native to Australia and Tasmania and were introduced to California during the Gold Rush by Aussies or by Americans who had traveled to Australia. In 1849, 2600 Australians left Sydney for San Francisco, many aboard schooners made from the blue gum tree. The California interior was essentially a barren treeless landscape. When California became a state in 1850, the citizens of Los Angeles had to send Indians up to the San Bernadino Mountains to cut pine trees to build a flagpole in order to fly the stars and stripes. Forested areas such as Oakland, with its live oaks and five square miles of redwoods, were quickly harvested to build the new cities around San Francisco Bay. The fast-growing eucalyptus was thus seen as a panacea for firewood, building materials, shade, wind breaks, and even for medicinal uses (Santos 1997:5-7).

Numerous private and public entities served as cheerleaders for eucalyptus including the *California Farmer*, which in 1872 offered packets of eucalyptus seeds with a \$4 subscription. The Central Pacific Railroad took an avid interest in eucalyptus and in 1877 purchased 40,000 seedlings, mostly blue gums. The railroad planted the trees in the San Joaquin Valley as an attraction to settlers (Santos 1997:10,12). Albert Kinney, the Chairman of the California Board of Forestry from 1886 to 1888, distributed free eucalyptus seed and seedlings to interested growers (Masters 2012; Santos 1997:4).

By the end of the 19th century California has been fully invaded” by the eucalyptus although not everyone was enchanted with this Australian weed (Santos 1997:13).” Unfortunately most eucalyptus planted on speculative plantations during the boom period of 1905-1912 were blue gum which warps, shrinks and more easily splinters (Santos 1997:13,16), rather than the red ironbark (*eucalyptus sideroxylon*) which is hard and dense, has a high resistance to rot and is excellent for furniture (Wikipedia February 1, 2020). Nevertheless as often stated, California, without the eucalyptus would be a very different place.



*Photo 14. Aerial view of future site of Reedley College ( Reed Ranch) July 26, 1955  
Note the borders of Mexican fan palms (Photo courtesy Kenneth Zech)*

## **Findings and Conclusions of Historic Evaluation**

The proposed four-acre project site is an orchard which apparently dates to the ownership of the Peloian family. Reedley College buildings located on the south side (The College's Child Development Lab Center) and to the west (the Technician Program Building) are not only outside the project area but are also post-1970 and are thus not eligible historical resources for the purposes of CEQA. The proposed project site encompasses the Thomas Law Reed Ranch Headquarters, or at least the second iteration of the ranch, dating to circa 1900. The former two-story house and all outbuildings were removed in the 1970s when the

college acquired this property. Two landscape features associated with the Reed Ranch as well as one landscape feature associated with the college are extant and were evaluated for their eligibility pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Following field and primary research and supported by numerous texts and conversations with local community members, the extant Canary Island palm as well as the streetscape of Mexican fan palms were found to be historical resources for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with a period of significance of circa 1900. The two stands of eucalyptus, although of interest in the history of the college's forestry and horticultural program, apparently date to the late 1970s and are thus less than 50 years of age and are not eligible historical resources. However, as eucalyptus are a critical part of California's landscape history it is recommended that they be retained in place.

### **Eligibility to the National, State and/or Local Registers**

No federal funds or federal permits are anticipated for this proposed project. Thus each landscape feature was evaluated under CEQA guidelines only and for the potential of the proposed project to significantly impact a historic resource.

**Feature 1: Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*).** The extant palm is approximately 50-60 feet in height and has a circumference at the base of the trunk of 96". The tree has a setback of 22.9 feet from the painted right-of-way line on N. Reed Avenue and is not aligned with the Mexican fan palms along N. Reed Avenue. A memory map prepared by a former resident (who later graduated from Cal Berkeley in architecture) dates the palm as one of two that stood in a line east to west in front of the Reed Ranch house (Ishimaru map n.d; Ishimaru February 4, 2020). Whether there were other palms at an earlier time is unknown. The El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust has placed a plaque on the tree with the inscription "Living Monument Canary Island Date Palm Site of Reed Ranch Headquarters Est. 1884" (Jewell January 9, 2020; site visit January 24, 2020).

**Feature 2: Row of Mexican fan palms (*Washingtonia robusta*).** One Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) is located on the northeast corner of the proposed project site. It is one of 25 extant palms fronting the college and extending north from Manning Avenue to South Avenue. According to published histories, historic photographs and oral sources, the trees were planted by the Reeds around the entire boundary of the ranch (Nickel 1961:76,

Jewell January 9, 2020, Olson January 7, 2020). A 1955 aerial photo clearly depicts palms round the former ranch site; extant Mexican fan palms are also located still on the Manning Avenue streetscape next to the college. The 1955 photo indicates that several trees along N. Reed have since been removed as part of the improvements at the college (or from vandals), however, a significant number (25) are still extant and provide integrity to the period of significance of circa 1900. The local community, through the Reedley Historical Society, strongly endorses preservation of the trees as an important aspect of local landscape history. The N. Reed row of Mexican fan palms thus appears to be eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources under Criteria 1 and 2 for their association with the Thomas Law Reed Ranch as well as their importance to the local Reedley community. In addition, this landscape feature is also eligible under Criterion 3 as a designed historic landscape, as a type of landscaping popular among San Joaquin Valley property owners and city planners at the turn of the 20th century. The entirety of the extant landscape feature, thus including the trees on Manning Avenue, should in future be evaluated for both the California Register as well as the National Register of Historic Places, however, the Manning Avenue palms are beyond the scope of the current project.

**Feature 3: Two stands of Eucalyptus trees (four trees are Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) and for two the species could not be verified).** Two somewhat competing etiological tales of these eucalyptus have been related, both by members of the Reedley Historical Society. According to Karey Olson, Curator of the Reedley Museum these trees were planted by Jim Watson of the College's Landscape Horticulture Program to demonstrate the strengths and drawbacks of varying species of eucalyptus trees (Olson January 7, 2020). In contrast, former college instructor Anthony Jewell recalls that the trees were planted by the college's Forestry Club in the late 1970s (Jewell February 3, 2020). According to the second narrative, the trees are not 50 years of age and also according to Mr Jewell several have been lost over the years thus adversely affecting their original east/west alignment. Ronald H. Nishinaka, CNN was a faculty member in the College's Landscape Horticulture Program from 1971-2008 and served as the Chair of the Landscape-Agriculture- Natural Resources Department from 1990-2001. He does not recall the trees being on site when he visited the new Landscape Horticulture facilities in 1968 (Nishinaka January 29, 2020).

Had the trees been planted earlier, as initially thought and as a teaching device for the



students, there would be possible merit in considering them a historical resource in association with the development of the Landscape/Horticulture program at the college. However, it appears from oral accounts and the aerial photos that the trees were indeed planted in the late 1970s. While the mature trees have aesthetically pleasing qualities and are emblematic of California landscapes, they do not rise to the level of historical significance under CEQA.



*Photo 15. Red Ironbark tree, looking southwest towards Child Development Center (Photo 24 January by K. Hattersley-Drayton)*

## Study Conclusions

### Regulatory Context

#### California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA requires consideration of project impacts on archaeological or historical sites deemed to be "historical resources." Under CEQA, a substantial adverse change in the significant qualities of a historical resource is considered a significant effect on the environment. For the purposes of CEQA, a "historical resource" is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (Title 14 CCR §15064.5[a][1]-[3]). Historical resources may include, but are not limited to, "any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or

archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (PRC §5020.1[jj]).

The eligibility criteria for the California Register are the definitive criteria for assessing the significance of historical resources for the purposes of CEQA (Office of Historic Preservation n.d.). Generally, a resource is considered "historically significant" if it meets one or more of the following criteria for listing on the California Register:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1[c])

## **Findings (Archaeology and History)**

The proposed four-acre project site is an orchard which apparently dates to the ownership of the Peloian family. Reedley College buildings located on the south side (The College's Child Development Lab Center) and to the west (the Technician Program Building) are not only outside the project area but are also post-1970 and are thus not eligible historical resources for the purposes of CEQA. The proposed project site encompasses the Thomas Law Reed Ranch Headquarters, or at least the second iteration of the ranch, dating to circa 1900. The former two-story house and all outbuildings were removed in the 1970s when the college acquired this property. Two landscape features associated with the Reed Ranch as well as one landscape feature associated with the college are extant and were evaluated for their eligibility pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Following field and primary research and supported by numerous texts and conversations with local community members, the extant Canary Island palm as well as the streetscape of Mexican fan palms were found to be historical resources for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with a period of significance of circa 1900. The two stands of eucalyptus, although of interest in the history of the college's forestry

and horticultural program, apparently date to the late 1970s and are thus less than 50 years of age and are not eligible historical resources. However, as eucalyptus are an emblematic part of California's landscape history, it is recommended that they be retained in place.

No archaeological resources that qualify as historical resources under CEQA were identified within the project study area (PSA). A few isolated fragments of Euro-American white-glazed ceramic, pieces of brick, cobbles with mortar, and concrete water pipe were found scattered on the surface within the orchard portion of the project study area (photo 8). These isolated fragments suggest past historic use of the area, but are too fragmentary to assign to a period of use more specific than late 19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

The potential for intact buried historic and prehistoric cultural deposits within the study area is moderate-to-high, based on history, soils, geography, and proximity to water (Meyer et al 2010:147). The likelihood of intact buried deposits is lessened by past agricultural impacts, such as plowing, clearing, and leveling. If intact cultural deposits exist in the project study area, they would most likely be found below the historic plow zone (2-3 feet below ground surface).



*Photo 15. Ironstone fragment and piece of concrete water pipe on surface within orchard.*

## Recommendations

The historic resources survey identified three historic-era landscape features that were formally evaluated for significance under CEQA (PRC 5024.1). Two of the landscape features, a Canary Island date palm and a Mexican Fan palm were found to qualify as historical resources under CEQA, for their association with the Thomas Law Reed Ranch. These two 100-year-old trees should be preserved in place as historical resources. The stands of eucalyptus trees, while not significant under CEQA, are an emblematic and aesthetic part of California's landscape history and it is recommended that they be retained in place.

The potential for intact buried historic and prehistoric deposits within the study area is moderate to high, based on history, soils, geography, and proximity to water (Meyer et al 2010:147). If intact cultural deposits exist in the project study area, they would most likely be found below the historic plow zone (2-3 feet below ground surface).

To avoid impacts to potentially buried cultural deposits, monitoring of excavation activities during construction by a qualified archaeologist is recommended. If buried cultural deposits are discovered during project construction, ground- disturbing work within 100 feet of the discovery should cease until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

Should human remains be encountered during construction, the County Coroner must be contacted immediately; if the remains are determined to be Native American, then the Native American Heritage Commission must be contacted as well (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5–7055). Additional survey should be undertaken if the project study area or project activities change to include effects to areas not addressed by this report.



*Photo 16. Orchard in project study area. 100-year-old Mexican Fan Palms background of photo on Reed Ave (S.E Johnston, December 2019)*

## References

Basgall, M.E. and D.L True

1985 Archaeological Investigations at Crowder Canyon (1973-1984): Excavations at Sites SBR-421B, SBR-421D and SBR-713, Far Western Anthropological Research, Davis, CA.

Birnbaum, Charles A. ASLA

n.d. Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes. USDI. National Park Service Preservation Briefs no. 36.

Boro, Robert

2020 Correspondence with Karana Hattersley-Drayton. January 28, 2020.

Brady, Jon L.

1985 Stagecoaching in the San Joaquin Valley, California 1850-1875. Unpublished M.A. Thesis, California State University, Fresno, Department of History.

Brady, Jon L. and C. Kristina Roper with contributions by William B. Secrest, Jr.

2011 A Cultural Resources Survey for the Fresno Irrigation District's Briggs Canal Improvement Project, Malaga, Fresno County, California. Prepared for Emily Magill Bowen, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, Visalia, California by Sierra Valley Cultural Planning.

California State Lands Commission

1982 Grants of Land Made by Spanish or Mexican Authorities. State of California, Boundary Investigation Unit.

Clough, Charles W. and William B. Secrest,

1984 Fresno County, the Pioneer Years: From the Beginnings to 1900. Panorama West Books, Fresno, California.

Clough, Charles W. and William B. Secrest, Jr.

1986. Fresno County in the 20th Century: From 1900 to the 1980s. Panorama West Books, Fresno, California.

Cook, Sherburne F.

1955 The Aboriginal Population of the San Joaquin Valley. *University of California Anthropological Records* 16 (2): 31-74.

Cummings, George

2018 Request for Preliminary Comment, Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project. State Center Community College District, Fresno, CA 93721. Memorandum to Responsible Trustee and Interested Agencies and Persons, dated June 20, 2018.

Datel, Robin Elisabeth

1999 —Picturing the Central Valley through Maps.” In *Picturing California’s Other Landscape: the Great Central Valley*. Ed. Heath Schenker, 93-116. Heyday Books, Berkeley, California.

Eucalyptus sideroxylon.” Wikipedia accessed 1 February 2020.

Fresno Irrigation District Website (accessed January 6, 2015)

<http://www.fresnoirrigation.com/index.php?c=15>

Gayton, Anna H.

1930 The Ghost Dance of 1870 in South-Central California. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnography. v. 28.3. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Graham, Marlea and Julie Cain

2008. Who Designed Chateau Fresno Avenue?” In *Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landscapes of California's San Joaquin Valley*; Executive Editor Karana Hattersley-Drayton. Fresno: City of Fresno Planning and Development.

Gudde, Erwin G.

1998 California Place Names: The Origin and Etymology of Current Geographical Names  
Revised and Expanded by William Bright 4<sup>th</sup> edition. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Hattersley-Drayton, Karana

2008 Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landscapes of California's San Joaquin Valley.  
Fresno: City of Fresno Planning and Development.

Hoover, Mildred Brooke, Hero Eugene Rensch, Ethel Grace Rensch and William N. Abeloe.

1990 Historic Spots in California, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, revised by Douglas E. Kyle. Stanford  
University Press.

Huntington, Gordon L.

1981 Soil Survey of the Eastern Fresno Area, California, University of California,  
United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service in cooperation with  
California Agricultural Experiment Station.

Ingles, L. G.

1965 Mammals of the Pacific States: California, Oregon, and Washington. Stanford  
University, Stanford, CA

Ishimaru, Jim

2020 (January 27th). Taped interview conducted by Karana Hattersley-Drayton in Reedley,  
California.

Ishimaru, Jim

2020 Correspondence with Karana Hattersley-Drayton. February 3 and 4.

Jennings, C.W., and Strand, R.G.,

1958 Geologic map of California: Santa Cruz sheet: California Division of Mines and  
Geology, scale 1:250,000.

Jewell, Anthony

2020 Correspondence with Karana Hattersley-Drayton. (January 9 and February  
3rd).



Kings River Conservation District and Kings River Water Association  
2013 *The Kings River Handbook*. KRCD and KRWA. 4886 E Jensen Ave, Fresno, CA 9372 and KRWA.

Kroeber, Alfred L.

1925 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Dover Publications, Inc. New York.  
Originally published by the US Government Printing Office, Washington in 1925, as Bulletin 78 of the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution.

Latta, Frank F.

1977 *Handbook of Yokuts Indians*. Bear State Books, Santa Cruz. Originally issued in 1949 by Frank F. Latta and the Kern County Museum.

McGuire, Kelly R.

1995 Test Excavations at CA-FRE-61, Fresno County, California. *Occasional Papers in Anthropology* 5. Museum of Anthropology, California State University, Bakersfield.

Manlove, Robert Fletcher

2012 *The Ethnohistory of the Chowchilla Yokuts*. Craven Street Books, 2006 Mary Street, Fresno, California, 93721.

McCubbin, John C.

1988 *The McCubbin Papers: An Account of the Early History of Reedley and Vicinity*. Edited with Introduction and Notes by Kenneth Zech. Reedley Historical Society, Reedley, California.

Mikesell, Stephen

1993 Inventory/Evaluation Form for Cross of Palms For Caltrans. (September 20).

Musson, Karen and Sue Williams

2000 Fresno County Historical Landmarks and Records Commission Historic Places Application." (February 25th)

Nickel, Katharine

1961 A Treasury of Historical Accounts 'Till 1913 Written by Pioneers of the Reedley Area, n.p.

Nishinaka, Ronald, CCN

2020 Personal correspondence with Karana Hattersley-Drayton.(January 29).

Olson, Karey.

2020 (January 7th). Personal communication Karey Olson, Curator of the Reedley Historical Society by Karana Hattersley-Drayton.

Masters, Nathan

2012 Who Eucalyptized Southern California? History and Society. (May 16th)

Meyer, Jack D., Craig Young, and Jeffrey S. Rosenthal

2010 Volume I: A Geoarchaeological Overview and Assessment of Caltrans Districts 6 and 9, Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 6/9 Rural Conventional Highways. EA 06-0A7408.

Milliken, Randall

2010 The Contact-Period Native California Community Distribution Model: A Dynamic Digital Atlas and Wiki Encyclopedia , Volume 9: South San Joaquin Analytical Zone, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Davis, CA.

Moratto, M. J.

1984 California Archaeology. Academic Press, Orlando.

Munz, P. A., with D. D. Keck

1959 A California Flora. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Olson, Karey.

2020 (January 7<sup>th</sup>). Personal communication Karey Olson, by Karana Hattersley-Drayton.

Panter, John

1994 Central California Colony: Marvel of the Desert. *Fresno Past and Present* 36:2 (Summer 1994) 1-11, Fresno Historical Society.

Rehart, Catherine Morrison

1997 *The Valley's Legends and Legacies II*. Word Dancer Press, Clovis, California.

Reedley College: Facts and History website. (accessed January 6, 2020)  
<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/about-us/history.html>.

Reedley College Farm Laboratory

2020 Reedley College Farm Laboratory: RC/DC Strategic Plan and YR 2020-2024 Action Plan.

Richter, Judy

2005 Palms Up! *The San Francisco Chronicle* Section F. (July 30, 2005)

Santos, Robert L.

1997. *The Eucalyptus of California: Seeds of Good or Seeds of Evil?* Denair, California Alley-Cass Publications.

Shultz, Barry

2020 (January 6) Personal communication with Karana Hattersley-Drayton.

Storer, Tracy I., and Robert L. Usinger

1963 *Sierra Nevada Natural History*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

USDA NRCS Soils Website, accessed January 2, 2020.

Wallace, William J.

1978 Northern Valley Yokuts. In *Handbook of North American Indians*. Volume 8. California. Edited by Robert F. Heizer. 462-470. Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Institution.

1978 Southern Valley Yokuts. In Handbook of North American Indians. Volume 8. California. Edited by Robert F. Heizer. 448-4761. Washington, D.C. Smithsonian Institution.

USDA NRCS Soils Website (accessed January 2, 2020)  
<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>

Washingtonia robusta." Wikipedia. Accessed 1 February 2020.

Zech, Kenneth

2020 Correspondence with Karana Hattersley-Drayton, (January 9th, 13th, 14; February 5, 2020).

Zech, Kenneth (Editor)

1994 Historic Reedley Illustrations by Douglas Bartsch. Reedley Historical Society, Reedley, California.

### **Maps:**

Ishimaru, Jim

n .d. Memory Map of the Reed Ranch 1946-1955.

Matthews, R.A., and Burnett, J.L.

1965 Geologic Map of California: Fresno Sheet. California Bureau of Mines and Geology. [https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Prodesc/proddesc\\_381.htm](https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Prodesc/proddesc_381.htm) (accessed January 2, 2020).

W.C. Guard

1913 Atlas of Fresno County California.

Harvey, William

1907 Atlas of Fresno County California. W. Harvey, Sr. Fresno, California.

Progressive Map Service

1920 Progressive Atlas of Fresno County. Progressive Map Service, Fresno, CA.

1935 Progressive Atlas of Fresno County. Progressive Map Service, Fresno, CA.

Thompson, Thomas Hinckley

1891 Official Historical Atlas Map of Fresno County, California. T.H. Thompson, Tulare, California.

United States Geological Survey.

1966 USGS 7.5' Series Topographic Map: Reedley, California, 1966, rev. 1981.

## Preparer's Qualifications

**Sarah Johnston, Principal Archaeologist.** Sarah Johnston has conducted archaeological investigations professionally for 30 years. She holds a B.A in Anthropology from California State University Sacramento and an M.A. from California State University, Fresno. She served as Principal Archaeologist and Tribal Relations Manager for the Sierra National Forest and the Inyo National Forest. She held the position of Associate Archaeologist with the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Central Region, for twelve years and designed numerous survey and excavation programs for large, complex transportation projects. She has conducted hundreds of archaeological investigations in California and Nevada and prepared numerous consultation documents designed for compliance with State and Federal historic preservation laws as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

**Karana Hattersley-Drayton** has a B.A., an M.A. and completed three years of Ph. D. work in Architectural History, all at U.C. Berkeley. She previously served on the California State Historical Resources Commission as well as the Board of Directors for the Vernacular Architecture Forum. She edited and wrote several articles for the 2008 VAF publication, —Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landscapes of California's San Joaquin Valley” which won both a California Preservation Foundation award as well as a Governor's Historic Preservation award. Ms. Drayton moved to the San Joaquin Valley in 1999 to work as an Architectural Historian for Caltrans, District 06 and from 2002 to January 2017 served as the City of Fresno's Historic Preservation Project Manager. Her special interests include the adobe buildings of the San Joaquin Valley, vernacular architecture, and gendered, historic and ethnic landscapes.

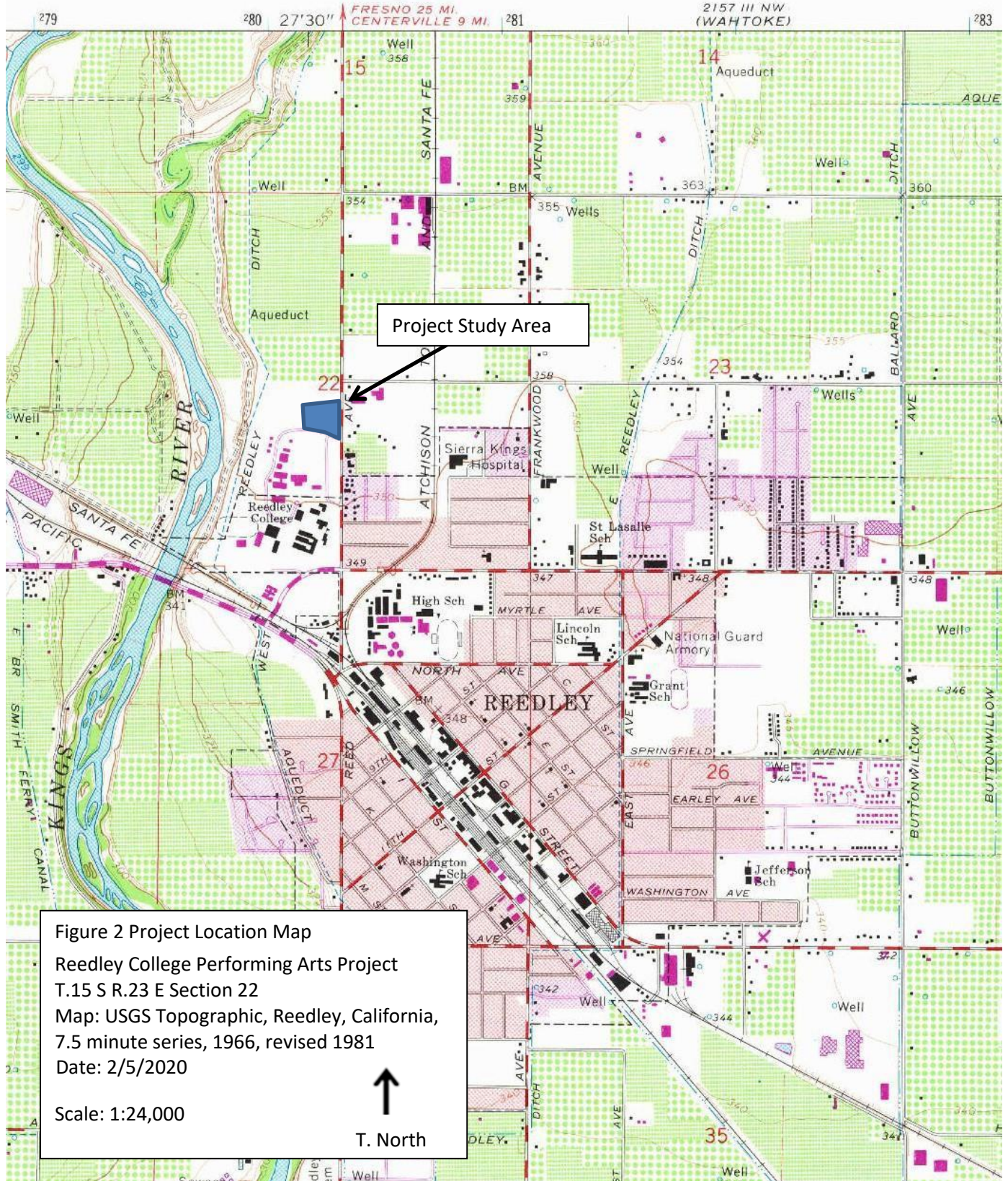
## Figures 1-3



Figure 1: Reedley College Project Vicinity (Fresno County).



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



Project Study Area

Figure 2 Project Location Map  
Reedley College Performing Arts Project  
T.15 S R.23 E Section 22  
Map: USGS Topographic, Reedley, California,  
7.5 minute series, 1966, revised 1981  
Date: 2/5/2020  
Scale: 1:24,000  
↑  
T. North



# Reedley College Performing Arts Project

Figure 3 Project Study Area Map  
Township 15S, Range 23E Section 22  
APN 363-10056ST (Fresno County)

Date: 2/5/2020

**Legend**

-  Historic Landscape Feature No.
-  Pedestrian Survey Coverage
-  Reedley Project Study Area



## **Appendices A-D**

**Appendix A**  
**Native American Correspondence**

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION  
Cultural and Environmental Department  
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
Phone: (916) 373-3710  
Email: [nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)  
Website: <http://www.nahc.ca.gov>  
Twitter: @CA\_NAHC



May 28, 2019

Nicole Hoke  
Odell Planning & Research, Inc.

VIA Email to: [nicole@odellplanning.com](mailto:nicole@odellplanning.com)

RE: Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project, Fresno County.

Dear Ms. Hoke:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: [Katy.sanchez@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Katy.sanchez@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katy Sanchez".

KATY SANCHEZ  
Associate Environmental Planner

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contacts List  
5/24/2019**

Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government  
Robert Ledger Sr., Chairperson  
2191 West Pico Ave.  
Fresno CA 93705  
ledgerrobert@ymail.com  
(559) 540-6346

Dumna/Foothill Yokuts  
Mono

Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band  
Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson  
1179 Rock Haven Ct.  
Salinas CA 93906  
kwood8934@aol.com  
(831) 443-9702

Foothill Yokuts  
Mono  
Wuksache

Kings River Choinumni Farm Tribe  
Stan Alec  
3515 East Fedora Avenue  
Fresno CA 93726  
(559) 647-3227 Cell

Foothill Yokuts  
Choinumni

Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi Yokut Tribe  
Rueben Barrios Sr., Chairperson  
P.O. Box 8  
Lemoore CA 93245  
(559) 924-1278  
(559) 924-3583 Fax

Tache  
Tachi  
Yokut

Table Mountain Rancheria  
Leanne Walker-Grant, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 410  
Friant CA 93626  
rpennell@tmr.org  
(559) 822-2587  
(559) 822-2693 Fax

Yokuts

Table Mountain Rancheria  
Bob Pennell, Cultural Resources Director  
P.O. Box 410  
Friant CA 93626  
rpennell@tmr.org  
(559) 325-0351  
(559) 325-0394 Fax

Yokuts

**This list is current as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.**

**Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code, or Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.**

**This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans Tribes for the proposed:  
Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project, Fresno County.**

## Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

### NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95501  
(916) 373-3710  
(916) 373-5471 – Fax  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)

*Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search*

Project: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

USGS Quadrangle

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Range: \_\_\_\_\_ Section(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Firm/Agency:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

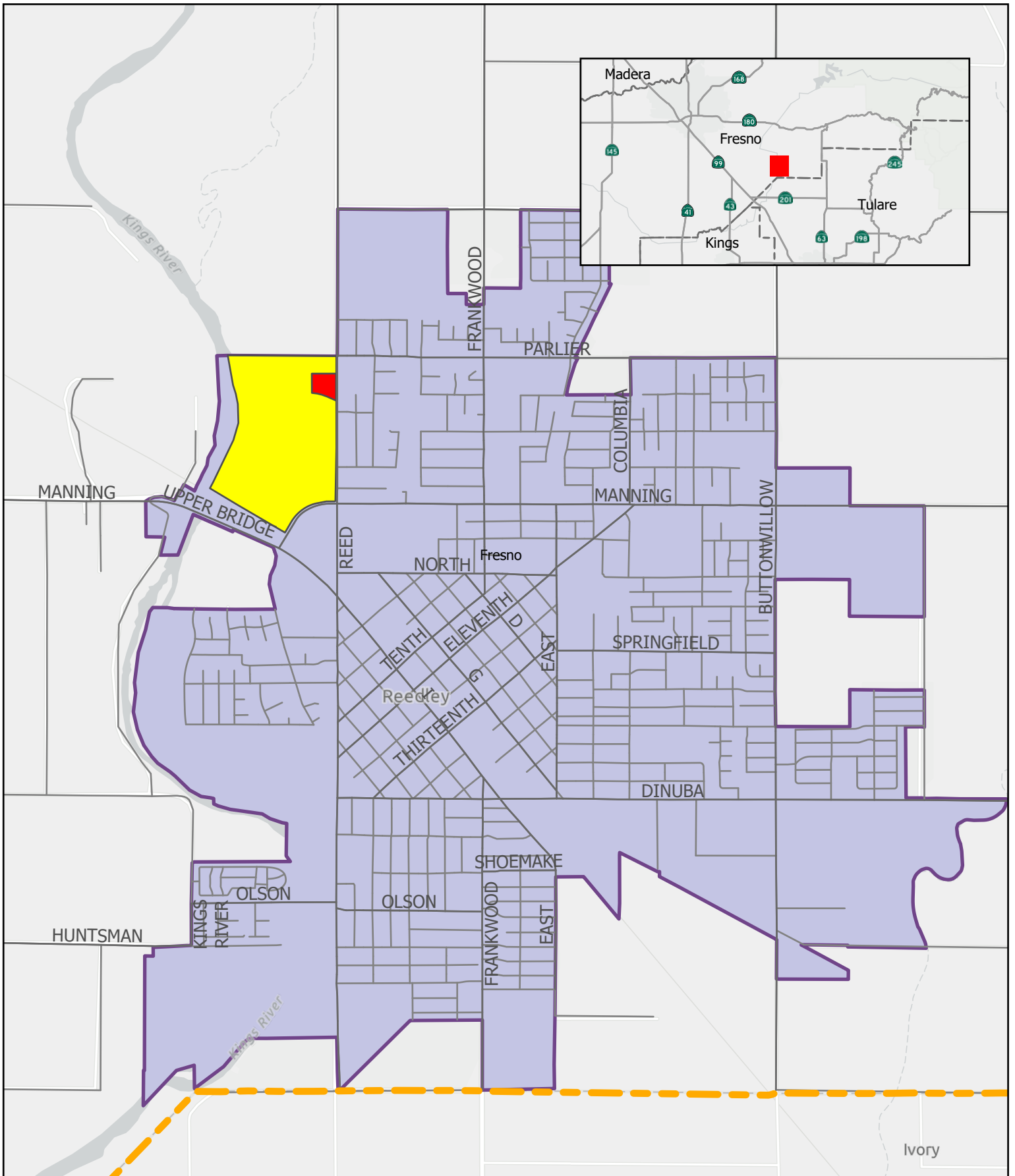
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Description:

\_\_\_\_ Project Location Map is attached



**Project Location**

**Figure 1**

Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project  
 State Center Community College District

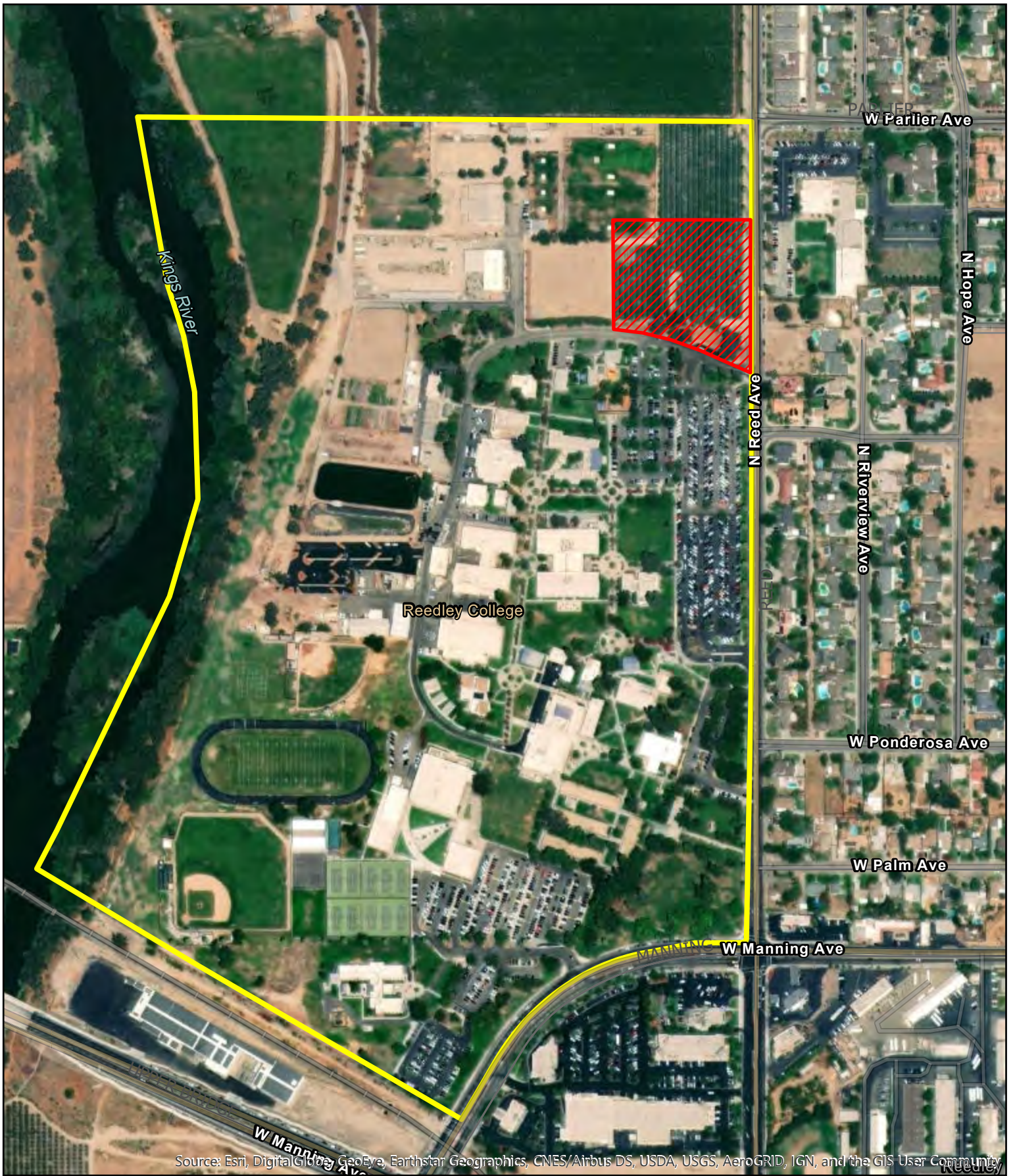
**ODELL Planning & Research, Inc.**  
 Environmental Planning • School Facility Planning • Demographics

- Reedley College
- City of Reedley
- Project Location
- Fresno County

0 1,250 2,500 5,000  
 Feet







Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

**Project Site**

Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project  
 State Center Community College District

**ODELL Planning & Research, Inc.**  
 Environmental Planning • School Facility Planning • Demographics

 Reedley College  Project Location

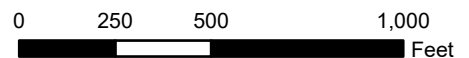


Figure 2



# TABLE MOUNTAIN RANCHERIA

## TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE

CERTIFIED 7522 8459

August 1, 2019

Leanne Walker-Grant  
Tribal Chairperson

Beverly J. Hunter  
Tribal Vice-Chairperson

Craig Martinez  
Tribal Secretary/Treasurer

Matthew W. Jones  
Tribal Council Member

Richard L. Jones  
Tribal Council Member

Daniel Brannick  
Odell Planning and Research, Inc.  
49346 Road 426, Suite 2  
Oakhurst, Ca. 93644

RE: Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project

Dear: Daniel Brannick

Table Mountain Rancheria is responding to your letter dated, June 20, 2019, regarding, Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project. Thank you for notifying Table Mountain Rancheria of the potential development and request for consultation. The Rancheria is very interested in this project as it lies within our cultural area of interest.

If you have already conducted a record search, please provide Table Mountain Rancheria with copies of any cultural resource report you may have.

At this time, please contact our office at (559) 325-0351 or [rpennell@tmr.org](mailto:rpennell@tmr.org) to coordinate a discussion and meeting date regarding your project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Pennell", is written over a blue oval scribble.

Robert Pennell  
Tribal Cultural Resources Director

23736  
Sky Harbour Road  
Post Office  
Box 410  
Friant  
California  
93626  
(559) 822-2587  
Fax  
(559) 822-2693

**Appendix B**  
**Survey Forms (DPR 523)**

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Map Ref. #1

**\*P1. Resource Name(s) or Number:** Reed Ranch Canary Island Date Palm

**\*P2. Location:** \*a. County: Fresno

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Reedley quad 7.5 1966 revised 1981, T15S R23E Section 22 sw 1/4

c. Address: 995 N. Reed Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654

d. Assessor's Parcel Number: 363-10-056ST

**\*P3a. Description:**

A single Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) is located at the former entrance to the Thomas Law Reed Ranch house and complex, thus on the west side of N. Reed Avenue. It is approximately 60 feet in height and has a circumference at the base of the trunk of 96". The tree has a setback of 22.9 feet from the painted right-of-way line on N. Reed Avenue and is not aligned with the Mexican fan palms along N. Reed Avenue. A memory map prepared by a former resident (who later graduated from Cal Berkeley in architecture) dates the palm as one of two that stood in a line east to west in front of the Reed Ranch house (Ishimaru map n.d; Ishimaru 4 February 2020). Whether there were other palms at an earlier time is unknown. In 2000 the El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust has placed a plaque on the tree with the inscription "Living Monument Canary Island Date Palm Site of Reed Ranch Headquarters Est. 1884."

**\*P3b. Resource Attributes:** H29 (Landscape Architecture)

**\*P4. Resources Present:** ●Site



**\*P5b Photo date:** 19 December 2019

**\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** circa 1908

**\*P7. Owner and Address:**  
State Center Community  
College District  
1711 Fulton Street, #615  
Fresno, CA 93721

**\*P8. Recorded by:**  
Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue  
Fresno 93704

**\*P9. Date Recorded:** 24  
January 2020

**\*P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

**\*P11. Report Citation:** "Historical Resources Survey Report for the Proposed Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project February 2020" Prepared By Johnston and Associates, Fresno.

**\*Attachments:** ●Building, Structure and Object Report; ●Continuation Sheet

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

\*NRHP Status Code: 3CS

\*Resource Name: Canary Island Date Palm Reed Ranch

**B3. Original Use:** landscaping for Thomas Law Reed Ranch    **B4. Present Use:** isolated tree, community landmark

\***B5. Architectural Style:** N/A

\***B6. Construction History:** Planted circa 1907 as entryway to new ranch house for the Thomas Law Reed Family

\***B7. Moved?**  No

\***B8. Related Features:** It is set back from Reed Avenue and is bordered to the west by a mature orchard

**B9a. Architect:** N/A

**B9b. Builder:** Planted by the Thomas Law Reed family

\***B10. Significance: Theme:** California Historic Rural Landscapes    **Area:** Reedley

**Period of Significance:** c1907    **Property Type:** Designed Historic Landscape Feature    **Applicable**

**Criteria:** 1, 2 California Register of Historical Resources

The Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) is an ornamental slow-growing tree which is native to the Canary Islands (Wikipedia). Canary Island palms were brought to California in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by Spanish missionaries. Junipero Serra planted them at each of the missions he established. Some of the oldest are found at the Presidio in San Francisco. (Richter, 2005). The use of palm trees to mark the entrance to a home or ranch, either as an allee or as a more simple gateway, was popular in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century California on urban and rural properties. Two matched palms in front of a home were a common signature. This Canary Island date palm is located on the west side of N. Reed Avenue on the proposed project parcel and once marked the entry to the Reed Ranch Headquarters. It is one of two palms and is clearly seen on the 1957 aerial of the ranch site and appears to be mature. Both trees were also included in the memory map of the ranch complex from 1946-1955 prepared by a former resident of the ranch, Jim Ishimaru. This extant tree has been landmarked by the El Rio Reyes Conservation Trust who placed a plaque about 12 feet above grade stating: "Living Monument Canary Island Date Palm Site of Reed Ranch Headquarters Est. 1884" (Jewell 9 January 2020; site visit 24 January 2020.) The Canary Island date palm appears to be eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources under Criteria 1 and 2 for its association with the Thomas Law Reed Ranch as well as its importance to the local Reedley community.

**B11. Additional Resource Attributes:**

\***B12. References:** Richter, Judy, "Palms Up!" *The San Francisco Chronicle* 30 July 2005; "Phoenix canariensis" *Wikipedia*; Personal communication with Anthony Jewell 9 January 2020; Taped interview and follow-up communications with Jim Ishimaru 27 January 2020; Misc. historic photos.

\***B14. Evaluator:** Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue Fresno, CA 93704

\***Date of Evaluation:** 5 February 2020

(This space reserved for official comments.)



**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_

HRI# \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

\*Recorded by: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.

\*Date: 24 January 2020

■ Continuation



*Landmarking the tree September 16, 2000 (Photo courtesy Kenneth Zech)*

**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Map Ref. #2**

**\*P1. Resource Name(s) or Number:** Mexican Fan Palms Designed Historic Rural Landscape, Reed Ranch

**\*P2. Location:** \*a. County: Fresno

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Reedley quad, 7.5 1966 revised 1981, T15S R23E Section 22 sw 1/4

c. Address: 995 N. Reed Avenue, Reedley CA 93654

d. Assessor's Parcel Number: 363-10-056ST

**\*P3a. Description:** One Mexican fan palm (*Washingtonia robusta*) is located on the northeast corner of the proposed project site. It is one of 25 extant palms fronting the college and extending north along the west side of Reed Avenue from Manning Avenue to South Avenue. The trees are part of the former boundary of the Thomas Law Reed Ranch; additional Mexican fan palms are extant along the Manning Avenue streetscape of the Reedley College Campus. The trees are approximately 50 feet in height and are spaced irregularly along the right-of-way, due to trees that have been removed either by the college or through vandalism. The trees were professionally pruned after the site visit and photo on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**\*P3b. Resource Attributes:** H29 (Landscape Architecture)

**\*P4. Resources Present:** ●Site



**\*P5b Photo date:** 19 December 2019

**\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** c1900; historic photo, published histories, oral interviews

**\*P7. Owner and Address:**  
State Center Community  
College District  
1711 Fulton Street, #615  
Fresno, CA 93721

**\*P8. Recorded by:**  
Karana Hattersley-Drayton,  
M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue  
Fresno 93704

**\*P9. Date Recorded:** 24  
January 2010

**\*P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

**\*P11. Report Citation:** "Historical Resources Survey Report for the Proposed Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project February 2020" Prepared By Johnston and Associates, Fresno.

**\*Attachments:** ● Building, Structure and Object Report; ● Continuation Sheet

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

\*NRHP Status Code: 3CS

\*Resource Name: Mexican Fan Palms Designed Historic Rural Landscape, Reed Ranch

**B3. Original Use:** Landscape boundary for Thomas Law Reed Ranch      **B4. Present Use:** Streetscape

\***B5. Architectural Style:** N/A

\***B6. Construction History:** Planted circa 1900 according to local histories and historic photos

\***B7. Moved?** ■No

\***B8. Related Features:** Trees line the west side of N. Reed Avenue as they did in 1900 and are adjacent to Reedley College.

**B9a. Architect:** N/A

**B9b. Builder:** Planted c 1900 by Thomas Law Reed

\***B10. Significance: Theme:** California Historic Rural Landscapes      **Area:** Reedley, California

**Period of Significance:** circa 1900      **Property Type:** designed historic rural landscape

**Applicable**

**Criteria:** 1,2,3 California Register of Historical Resources

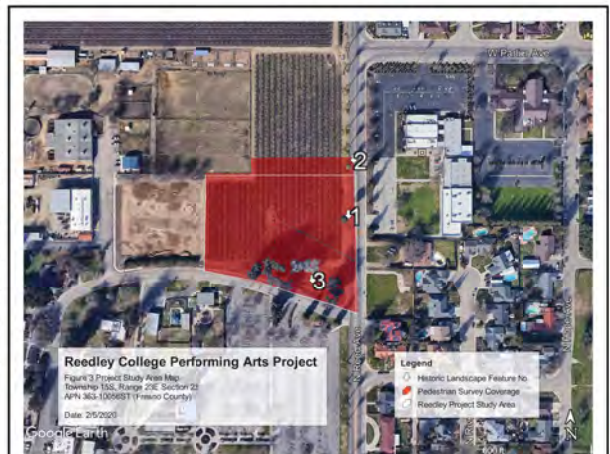
*Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican fan palms, are native to western Sonora and Baja California Sur in northwestern Mexico and can grow to a height of 82 feet. It is unknown when the first Mexican fan palms were planted as ornamental trees in California but they date to at least the 1880s in the San Joaquin Valley. The earliest settlers understood the importance of trees in providing both a direction to their holdings, shade and aesthetic pleasure. Beginning in the 1870s tree-lined boulevards were adopted by city planners and landowners throughout the Valley as either an integral part of a new town plan, as a property boundary, or as a gateway to a city or ranch site (Hattersley-Drayton 2008:17-19). In June of 1880 Theodore Kearney and N.K. Masten purchased the 2560 Easterby Rancho southeast of Fresno. The men planted several large-scale vineyards and the remainder of the property was subdivided into 20-acre parcels. Kearney kept 392 acres which he named "The Vineyard." He and his crews dug irrigation canals to water the orchards and vineyards and Kearney supervised the planting of olive and Mexican fan palm trees which 120 years later still line the neighborhood streets and are now protected as a Fresno County Landmark (Musson and Williams 2000). Kearney next purchased 6,800 acres of land southwest of Fresno (continued)

\***B12. References:** Karana Hattersley-Drayton, Architecture, Ethnicity and Historic Landmarks of California's San Joaquin Valley, 2008; "Washingtonia robusta," Wikipedia; Karen Musson and Sue Williams, "'Fresno County Historic Landmarks and Records Commission Historic Places Application,'" 2000; Marlea Graham and Julie Cain, in Hattersley-Drayton 2008; Katherine Nickel, "A Treasury of Historical Accounts 'Till 1913..." 1961; Personal communication with Anthony Jewell, 9 January 2020; Hover et al, Historic Spots in California 1990; Personal communication with Karey Olson, 7 January 2020

\***B14. Evaluator:** Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue Fresno, CA 93704

\***Date of Evaluation:** 5 February 2020

(This space reserved for official comments.)





**CONTINUATION SHEET**

\*Recorded by: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.

\*Date: 24 January 2020

■ Continuation

he called the "Fruit Vale Estate." In 1889 he began a landscape project he boasted "will be without equal in any part of the world" (Graham and Cain 2008:31-32). The three road system, patterned after the French manner, was flanked on all sides by Mexican fan palms, eucalyptus and pink and white oleanders. The 15-mile boulevard leading west from Fresno to Kerman has been called "one of the most striking drives in California" (Hoover et al 1990:89). Other communities took note of Kearney's landscape project: Las Palmas Avenue leading to Patterson was planted in 1909 by Thomas Patterson, apparently in emulation of Chateau Fresno Avenue, and Robertson Boulevard in Chowchilla (1912) was designed as a bold diagonal slash across the section lines to serve as a gateway to Robertson's new town (Hattersley-Drayton 2008: 17-19). Individual ranches also adopted palm lined allees leading into their properties.

According to published histories, historic photographs and oral sources, the Mexican fan palms along N. Reed and Manning Avenues were planted circa 1900 by the Reeds to mark the boundary of the Thomas Law Reed Ranch (Nickel 1961:76, Jewell 9 January 2020, Olson 7 January 2020). In the spring of 1886 Reed purchased two sections of land including Section 22, Township 15 South, Range 23 East (now bounded by Manning, Reed and South Avenues and the Kings River). The western half of Section 22 became the Reed's "Home Ranch" (now the site of Reedley College). In the fall of 1886 the family moved into their new home; a horse barn was constructed in 1887 (Nickel 1961:74). In 1906 Mrs. Reed commissioned a new 10-room house in an American foursquare style. The ranch complex included a tankhouse, bunkhouse, and other outbuildings. The planting of Mexican fan palms to mark the boundaries of the ranch was in keeping with the fashion of the time.



*Palm trees and other vegetation along either Reed Avenue or Manning Avenue circa 1900*

*(Photo courtesy: Kenneth Zech Fresno Historical Society)*

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

\*Recorded by: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.

\*Date: 24 January 2020

■ Continuation

A 1955 aerial photo indicates that several trees along N. Reed have since been removed as part of the improvements at the college (or from vandals), however, a significant number (25) are still extant and provide integrity to the period of significance of circa 1900. The local community, through the Reedley Historical Society, strongly endorses preservation of the trees as an important aspect of local history. The N. Reed row of Mexican fan palms thus appears to be eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources under Criteria 1 and 2 for their association with the Thomas Law Reed Ranch (The town of "Reedley" is named for Thomas Law Reed) as well as for their importance to the local Reedley community. In addition, this landscape feature is also eligible under Criterion 3 as a designed historic landscape, as a type of landscaping popular among San Joaquin Valley property owners and city planners at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The entirety of the extant landscape feature, thus including the trees on Manning Avenue, should in future be evaluated for both the California Register as well as the National Register of Historic Places, however, the Manning Avenue palms are beyond the scope of the current project.



*Aerial of future site of Reedley College (Reed Ranch) July 26, 1955  
Note the borders of Mexican fan palms (Photo courtesy of Kenneth Zech)*

**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Map Ref. #3**

**\*P1. Resource Name(s) or Number:** Eucalyptus Trees

**\*P2. Location:** \*a. County: Fresno

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Reedley quad 7.5 1966 revised 1981, T15S R23E Section 22 sw 1/4

c. Address: 995 N. Reed Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654

d. Assessor's Parcel Number: 363-10-056ST

**\*P3a. Description:** Two stands of Eucalyptus trees are located on the .8-acre corner near the campus access road adjacent to the southwest corner of the proposed project site. Four trees are located closest to N. Reed Avenue and two others are set further west along the drive into the school. Two species have been identified: the two trees standing together are Red Ironbark Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*). Two additional Red Ironbark trees are in the center of the stand of four. The species of the trees standing on the outside of the four trees could not be identified. The mature trees are approximately 40-50 feet tall. Red ironbark trees are notable for their deeply furrowed trunk bark. In January 2020 the trees were in bloom with pink blossoms.

**\*P3b. Resource Attributes:** H29 (Landscape Architecture)

**\*P4. Resources Present:** ●Site



**\*P5b Photo date:** 19 December 2019

**\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:** late 1970s, oral interviews with community members

**\*P7. Owner and Address:**  
State Center Community  
College District  
1711 Fulton Street, #615  
Fresno, CA 93721

**\*P8. Recorded by:**  
Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue  
Fresno 93704

**\*P9. Date Recorded:** 24  
January 2020

**\*P10. Survey Type:** Intensive

**\*P11. Report Citation:** "Historical Resources Survey Report for the Proposed Reedley College Performing Arts Center Project February 2020" Prepared By Johnston and Associates, Fresno.

**\*Attachments:** ●Building, Structure and Object Report

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

\*NRHP Status Code: 6Z

\*Resource Name: Eucalyptus Trees, Reedley College

**B3. Original Use:** Planted initially as border on northern boundary of school property **B4. Present Use:** isolated landscape feature

\*B5. Architectural Style: N/A

\*B6. Construction History: Several eucalyptus trees were planted in the late 1970s as a border demarcating the northern edge of the Reedley College property and southern property line of ag land owned by Mard Peloian.

\*B7. Moved?  No

\*B8. Related Features: The trees are located along the service entry to the college

**B9a. Architect:** N/A **B9b. Builder:** Attributed to either Jim Watson of the College's Forestry Club

\*B10. Significance: **Theme:** California Historic Rural Landscapes **Area:** Reedley

**Period of Significance:** late 1970s **Property Type:** Rural landscape **Applicable Criteria:** N/A

These six mature eucalyptus are an apparent remnant from an earlier line of trees that were planted in the late 1970s either by Jim Watson of the College's Landscape Horticulture Program to demonstrate the strengths and drawbacks of varieties of eucalyptus trees (Olson 7 January 2020) or by the college's Forestry Club for firewood. Over time several of the trees fell or were removed, possibly because the ground at the time pooled following a hard rain (Jewell 9 January, 3 February 2020). Eucalyptus were first introduced from Australia during the Gold Rush and by 1900 had "fully invaded" California. It is difficult to think of the California landscape devoid of these non-natives. These two small stands of trees are, however, less than 50 years of age. They are lovely and emblematic of California and should be preserved but they do not rise to the level of historical significance under the California Environmental Quality Act.



\*B12. References: Robert L. Santos, "The Eucalyptus of California: Seeds of Good or Seeds of Evil? 1997; Personal communications with Anthony Jewell, 9 January and 3 February 2020; Personal communication with Karey Olson 7 January 2020.

\*B14. Evaluator: Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.  
4110 N. Maroa Avenue Fresno, CA 93704

\*Date of Evaluation: 5 February 2020

(This space reserved for official comments.)

**Appendix C**  
**Summary of Interview with Jim**  
**Ishimura**

## **Summary of Taped Interview with Jim Ishimaru**

by Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.

27 January 2020

**Jim Ishimaru** was born in Los Angeles in 1937. His Japanese-American family was interned in Arkansas during World War II. In 1946 his father, an experienced gardener, moved the family to the former Thomas Law Reed Ranch in Reedley and became the ranch manager for Mard Peloian. The Ishimarus lived on the bottom floor of the 2-story bunkhouse; his mother cooked for the family as well as for the 4-5 Japanese-American workers who served as farm laborers. The Ishimarus moved from the site in 1955 when they purchased a gas station at the corner of Reed Avenue and Manning, diagonally across from what is now Reedley College. Jim Ishimaru left Reedley to attend U.C. Berkeley and he graduated 6 years later with a degree in architecture.

This interview includes valuable descriptions of the ranch buildings (including a hand drawn map by Mr. Ishimaru) as well as personal memories of growing up on the Reed Ranch.

**Karana Hattersley-Drayton** (Interviewer) has a B.A. and M.A. and spent 3 years in the Ph.d. program in Architecture, also at U.C. Berkeley. She formerly worked for Caltrans, District 6 and served as the Historic Preservation Project Manager for the City of Fresno from 2002-2017. Her special interests include vernacular architecture, social history through oral history, and historic landscapes.

**Summary: Taped Interview with Jim Ishimaru 27 January  
2020**  
**by Karana Hattersley-Drayton, M.A.**

*Interview recorded in the Main Street Cafe, Reedley as part of the environmental review for the proposed new Performing Arts Complex at Reedley College. Mr. Ishimaru's wife Julie was also present. Off-tape Ms. Drayton asks and is given permission to tape record the session. Mr. Ishimaru reviewed the manuscript after it was completed and made some valuable revisions and additions, particularly regarding the Japanese workers on the ranch. These additional comments are in italics.*

**Tape is cued up. Mr. Ishimaru's background in architecture.**

Both Mr. Ishimaru and Ms. Drayton are graduates of Cal Berkeley. Mr. Ishimaru's degree is in Architecture. Wurster was the head of the department at the time. He graduated in 1963 after 6 years; first major was engineering and then he switched to the 5-year architecture program. He eventually opened two offices, one in Oakland and one in Mountain View, IDG architects (Ishimaru Design Group). He taught at Cal for a few years. In his business he had to deal with projects with EIRs. His wife Julie went to Reedley College and Fresno Pacific.

**His early childhood.**

Mr. Ishimaru was born in Los Angeles. His father was born in Japan, his mother in Seattle. They understood when the War broke out that if you lived on the "inland" side of Highway 99 you would not be relocated to the internment camps. His dad moved the family---wife, two children and grandmother---to Fowler. Jim was born in 1937. All Japanese-Americans in California were in fact sent to internment camps and they ended up in Arkansas, near Little Rock. They were temporarily housed at the Fresno fairgrounds. They were released in 1945. His father had been a gardener and his previous clients advised him to NOT return to Los Angeles as racial tensions were "pretty high." Father became a farm laborer and at some point was offered a job working for the [Mard] Peloian Farms.

**Family moves to the Reed Ranch circa 1946.**

Peloians were an Armenian farming family. They owned a large packing house in downtown Reedley which is still there and he owned the former "Reed Ranch," 650 to 700 acres. (*We move locations due to background noise*). Soon after they moved to the ranch his father was put in charge of

running the farm at the Reed Ranch site. After the War there were Japanese men, some born in Japan, some born in Hawaii, who after internment were looking for work. Reed Ranch functioned also as a labor camp with several Japanese laborers living there. The Ishimarus lived on the property (of the former Ranch) from circa 1946 until they moved away in 1955.

*The laborers were a mixture of those born in Japan and those born in Hawaii. All were in the Japanese internment camps during the war. Those born in Japan were older, having come to the USA to earn money to send home. Non English speaking, they were here working on the farms prior to the war. Those born in Hawaii were younger, having served in the US Army. After the war, they needed work, did not want to return to Hawaii, and therefore farm labor was available to them. Their numbers changed from time to time, but the stable crew was about 4 to 5 in addition to our family. There were less born in Japan laborers over time; and more Japanese American laborers during the later years I was there. Hiro Kawasaki, was one of the Hawaii born Japanese who served on the famous 442nd army division, came to Reed Ranch with 2 others after their army service, and stayed on for years, managing the ranch for Peloian after my dad, until the college took it from Mard Peloian.*

**Reed Ranch property, use of buildings.** *(We refer to his hand drawn map of property as well as historic photos which Ms. Drayton brought to the interview; see attached).*

Ranch house was vacant for most of the time they lived on the property. They lived in a portion of the downstairs of the two-story bunkhouse. The remainder of the downstairs was used for more senior workers and the entire upstairs functioned as a dormitory for the Japanese workers most of whom had been born in Japan and had come to the United States to earn money to send back home. Karana asks about what appears to be a one-story addition on the back of the main house. We conclude that it probably was a screened porch and an addition.

**Location of original Reed farmhouse, as indicated on 1891 Thompson and historic photo.**

Ms. Drayton wonders about location of original Reed farmhouse. Was it on this property? Did it become an outbuilding or bunkhouse? Both early depictions indicate the house is closely set back from what was/is Reed Avenue. He has clear memories of the "new" house, the two-story American Foursquare. He remembers the river rocks used in the foundation of the porch and he has a photo of his family on the porch. He has no idea about location of the original ranch house.

**Reed Ranch property continued. Historic landscapes.**

He remembers the tankhouse. One of his father's laborers, second in command under his father, lived on the second floor, up the stairs.



Appears that this was a three-story structure, including the tank (on the third story). Two stories with tank over correlates to his map. (*Ms. Drayton takes out the Atlas map lithograph of the ranch and we discuss this vis-a-vis the historic photograph and the map he drew of the ranch complex as he remembered it from his childhood.*) Based on one photograph from circa 1906 it looks like the Mexican fan palms were planted along Reed Avenue in 1900. He recalls the one palm in front of the house, which was not in line with the other palm trees on the avenue. He thinks this was the same variety as the other trees (thus a Mexican fan palm). Mrs. Ishimaru comments that one President of Reedley College wanted to remove the palms. Drayton reiterates her support for these San Joaquin Valley landscape features, also that the historical society is quite adamant about their support. Behind the tankhouse was a building that served as the kitchen and dining room. His mother cooked for all the laborers. The upper floor of the bunkhouse which served as a dormitory was open, with beds for the workers. The barn was huge. At that point only used for storage of hay in the back. There were two horse stalls on the outside of the barn. His job was to feed and water the horses every day. There was a tack room just inside of the horse stalls. A place on the opposite side of the barn accommodated a few parked cars. Drayton assumes that the barn is a remnant of the Reed Ranch rather than newly built by the Peloians.

### **Peloians use of land.**

The land was farmed, as a mixture of stone fruit trees and vines. As marked on his map there was a small orchard of orange trees next to the main house as well as a row of orange trees along a small road on the south side of the house.

### **Ishimaru family continued.**

They moved from the property when he was 18 during his senior year in high school. Family moved to a service station his family purchased on the corner of Reed and Manning. Father remained the manager of the farm for a little while. Parents names were Jim and Mary; he also had one sister [Dawn].

### **Ranch buildings continued.**

Building behind the barn was an equipment shed, for tractors. "One of the lovely things about the place that I liked the best was actually between the tankhouse and this house [the two-story bunkhouse] was an arbor, a grape arbor. It was probably about 15 feet wide...shady during the summers; I used to spend a lot of time under that." Drayton comments that the area near a tankhouse was usually the coolest on a ranch.

### **Peloian Family continued.**

He remembers Mard Peloian as a very serious farmer. His son [Edward] attended Stanford and was prominent in Fresno; a benefactor of the Fresno Art Museum. Mr. Ishimaru went right to Berkeley from high school, received a scholarship. He put himself through college by working during the summers, had a little help from his folks.

### **Native Americans; Garden.**

He has no memory of Native Americans working at the ranch...no memories of Natives at all from his childhood. In front of bunkhouse he raised a garden for his grandmother, which included fresh Japanese style vegetables. When he was digging in the garden one day he unearthed a brass medallion from the 1897 completion of the Valley Railroad into Visalia. He speculates that Thomas Law Reed must have been given this souvenir when he attended the ceremony in Visalia. He has since read that Thomas Reed convinced the railroad to extend their line into Reedley.

### **Eucalyptus on corner near project site.**

He has no memories of these trees from his tenure at the ranch. Notes a large dark tree on the south side of the tankhouse. Does not remember what kind of tree it was.

### **Privy on ranch site. Reed Ranch house.**

They had an outdoor toilet. But at some point they must have had a septic tank system put in. Did he ever go into the main house? His dad went in there on occasions; he was responsible to make certain everything was ok. The house was over a basement. Storage included mannequins for dress making. His dad told the story "over and over again, he was down there and he bumped into this mannequin and it scared the holy beegzezus out of him." The house was in good shape. He thinks maybe it was rented out after they left the farm.

### **The ranch after the Ishimarus. College's acquisition of land.**

Who lived on the ranch before they arrived in 1946? He does not know. What about after they left? The "second in command" who lived in the tankhouse was Hiro Kawasaki, born in Hawaii, joined the 442<sup>nd</sup> division during the War and fought in Europe. He may have been in charge of the farm until the college "took the land by eminent domain." The Peloians did NOT want to sell the land to the college. "He knew the value of this land; all the bluff, the entire length of bluff land." Mrs. Ishimaru notes that the location on the bluff creates a horrific traffic jam, what with only two bridges over the river. Mr. Ishimaru was sad when they demolished

the Reed Home; "I would have been a proponent for keeping it, restoring it and using it as the President's home or something of that nature, yeah." Karana notes that Mr. Jewell remembers that the house was torn down around 1977. Mr. Ishimaru thinks that is about the right date. He is pleased that the proposed building will be one of the few distinctive buildings on the campus. [Design apparently is by Darden Architects, according to Art Dyson FAIA]. Karana notes that there is a hope that this history and historic photos can be incorporated into exhibits within the performing arts center.

### **Irrigation Ditch along back of property.**

There were times before the dam [Pine Flat] was built, the river would flood during winter months. During the summer it would be "the smallest little creek you could imagine." Flow is reversed today due to the dam. He used to spend "hours and hours down here along the river's edge." When the river flooded, the entire lower part of the grape fields would be covered with water from bank to flood bank.

### **Japanese baths on the ranch property.**

Slight memory of a Japanese *furo*, a bath, a wooden tub with cold water coming in and a wood fire built underneath, temperature of water controlled by the amount of cold water let into the bath. He is not sure but bath would have been included in its own building next to the living quarters.

### **Creation of map of Reed ranch complex (see attached).**

When did he create map? It was drawn from memory, possibly on the urging of Tony Jewell. Dimensions he took from aerial photographs. He was able to measure the distance between the trees from the photos and so used this information for other approximately dimensions for the buildings and site.

### **Retention of Japanese customs and traditions?**

No real Japanese traditions on the ranch other than Japanese food which his mother prepared for the laborers. Most laborers were 15 or so years older than him. Most were born in Hawaii or the United States. They had to go into the service during the War. One old man was born in Japan, he didn't speak English. Ishimaru's father was born in Japan; mostly spoke Japanese. Mother, born in Seattle, could understand Japanese and speak some. Mother's mother had been born in Japan and only spoke Japanese.

## **Crew, harvesting on the ranch.**

Crew size was normally 5 or so who lived on site year-round. During harvests more workers of course were needed. He himself drove a tractor. Hiro Kawasaki hired Jim to ride up and down the rows of vines during harvest to make sure the pickers had not missed any large sections. "(Laughing) I don't know if this job was created for me... I was probably early high school." (Mrs. Ishimaru reminds him about the incidents with one of the horses.) There were two horses on the ranch; a pinto and a beautiful valuable palomino. Mr. Peloian's son would ride the palomino on his vacations when he was home from Stanford. The horse did not like Ed Peloian and because it was cooped up in a corral all day whenever Peloian took him out the horse did not want to come back. Ultimately the horse bucked Peloian off and the horse would come back alone and "I was waiting because I knew what would happen. I was always waiting for the horse, and when he showed up, grab the reins and walk him, start walking him back to where I knew Peloian was." He would take the horse, never say thank you... he was so angry.

## **Fun memories on the ranch.**

A friend had a Model A flatbed pickup. They would nail a long 2x6 board across the back, like an outrigger, tie ropes on to it and drive alongside the irrigation canal on the back of the property, taking turns getting dragged through the water [laughter]. Did they ever swim in the canal, no, they swam in the river. His father and he at the corner of Reed and Manning next to the row of palm trees, they planted 20 acres of muscat grapes. They were only there for two-three years before the college was developed and the grapes ripped out.

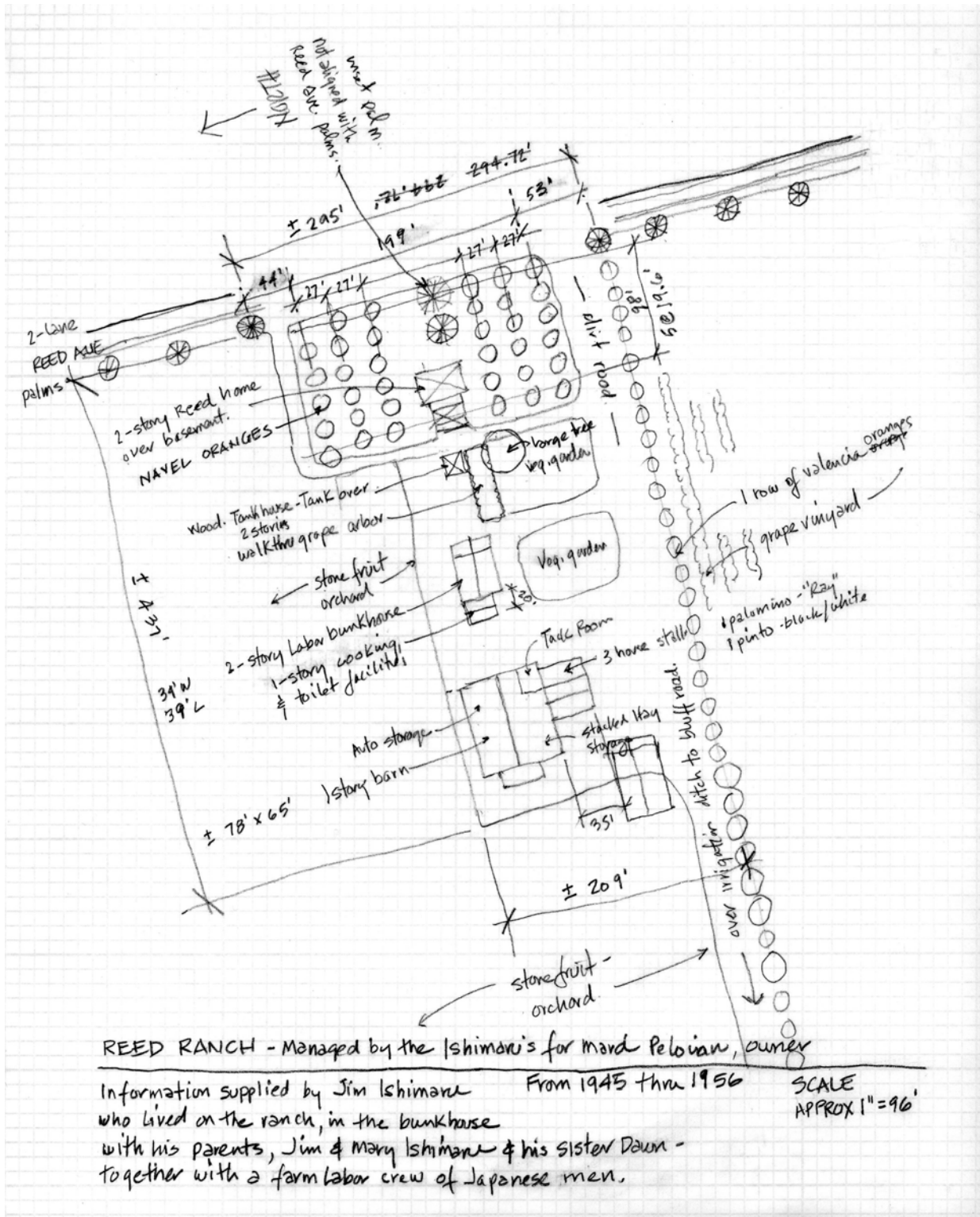
## **Palms along Manning.**

His parents purchased the gas station at the corner of Reed and Manning and they have photographs showing the palms on Manning. This is in the 1950s; trees are substantially shorter in the photos. Agrees that these were part of the boundary of the Reed Ranch property.

## **[End of taped interview]**

Off tape, Mr. Ishimaru remarks that he went to Lincoln Elementary School. He and other kids walked to school barefoot; some even rode their horses. Pavement in summer was quite hot. Ms. Drayton thanks the Ishimarus for their time.

# Memory Map of Reed Ranch Complex, by Jim Ishimaru



**Appendix D**  
**Record Search # 19-237**  
**Southern San Joaquin Valley**  
**Information Center**



**To:** Nicole Hoke  
ODELL Planning & Research, Inc.  
49346 Road 426, Suite 2  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

**Record Search 19-237**

**Date:** June 24, 2019

**Re:** Reedley College Performing Arts Project, 995 North Reed Avenue, Reedley

**County:** Fresno

**Map(s):** Reedley 7.5'

### **CULTURAL RESOURCES RECORDS SEARCH**

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to maintain information in the CHRIS inventory and make it available to local, state, and federal agencies, cultural resource professionals, Native American tribes, researchers, and the public. Recommendations made by IC coordinators or their staff regarding the interpretation and application of this information are advisory only. Such recommendations do not necessarily represent the evaluation or opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer in carrying out the OHP's regulatory authority under federal and state law.

The following are the results of a search of the cultural resource files at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center. These files include known and recorded cultural resources sites, inventory and excavation reports filed with this office, and resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Historic Property Directory, California State Historical Landmarks, California Register of Historical Resources, California Inventory of Historic Resources, and California Points of Historical Interest. Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area.

### **PRIOR CULTURAL RESOURCE STUDIES CONDUCTED WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA AND THE ONE-HALF MILE RADIUS**

According to the information in our files, there have been no previous cultural resource studies conducted within the project area. There have been six studies within the one-half mile radius, FR-00830, 01629, 01635, 02219, 02273, and 02312.

**KNOWN/RECORDED CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA AND THE ONE-HALF MILE RADIUS**

There are no recorded cultural resources within the project area, and it is not known if any exist there. There is one recorded resource within the one-half mile radius, P-10-000066, a prehistoric lithic scatter.

There are no recorded cultural resources within the project area that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, the California Points of Historical Interest, California Inventory of Historic Resources, or the California State Historic Landmarks.

**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

We understand this project consists of construction and operation of a new performing arts center on the existing Reedley College campus. Further, we understand the project area has been historically used for agriculture and is currently an orchard. Please note that agriculture does not constitute previous development, as it does not destroy cultural resources, but merely moves them around within the plow zone. Because a cultural resource study has not been conducted on this property, it is unknown if any other cultural resources are present. Therefore, prior to any ground disturbance activities, we recommend the property be surveyed for cultural resources by a qualified, professional consultant. A list of qualified consultants can be found at [www.chrisinfo.org](http://www.chrisinfo.org).

We also recommend that you contact the Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento. They will provide you with a current list of Native American individuals/organizations that can assist you with information regarding cultural resources that may not be included in the CHRIS Inventory and that may be of concern to the Native groups in the area. The Commission can consult their "Sacred Lands Inventory" file in order to determine what sacred resources, if any, exist within this project area and the way in which these resources might be managed. Finally, please consult with the lead agency on this project to determine if any other cultural resource investigation is required. If you need any additional information or have any questions or concerns, please contact our office at (661) 654-2289.

By:



Celeste M. Thomson, Coordinator

**Date:** June 24, 2019

Please note that invoices for Information Center services will be sent under separate cover from the California State University, Bakersfield Accounting Office.