

**CULTURAL RESOURCE RECONNAISSANCE OF 10.21+/- ACRES**  
**CITY OF ST HELENA, NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**  
(Long Meadow Ranch APN's 009-070-049, 052, 053, &054)

This report presents the results of a cultural resources survey conducted on May 31, 2016 by Jay M. Flaherty, Flaherty Cultural Resource Services (FCRS), Mr. Flaherty, the principal investigator, has a Master of Arts degree in Cultural Resources Management and more than 40 years of relevant experience in California, 34 years in Napa County; he is listed on the Registry of Professional Archaeologists (ID# 10330) and he meets the Secretary of the Interior's standard (48 FR 44716) for principal investigator. **No cultural resources were discovered within the project boundaries.** The survey area consisted of approximately 10+/- acres situated within the City of St Helena, Napa County, California. The investigation was mandated by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and was required by the City of St Helena after a determination that the project was situated in a cultural sensitive zone. The City of St Helena as the designated CEQA lead agency for approval of this project is responsible for compliance with requirements regarding the identification and treatment of historic and prehistoric cultural resources.

CEQA requires public or private projects financed or approved by public agencies to assess the effects of the project on cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21082, 21083.2, and 21084.1 and California Code of Regulations 15064.5). Cultural resources are defined as buildings, sites, structures, or objects that may have historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific importance. CEQA states that if a project results in significant impacts on important cultural resources, then alternative plans or mitigation measures must be considered.

The CEQA Guidelines define significant historical resources as "resources listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (CHR)" (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A historical resource may be eligible for inclusion in the CHR if it:

- A) is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- B) is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- C) 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; or
- D) has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, Section 15064.5(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines also requires consideration of an archaeological site that does not meet the criteria defined in subsection (a), but does meet the definition of "a unique archaeological resource" described in Section 21083.2 of the Public Resource Code.

Public Resources Code Section 5097 specifies procedures to be followed in the event that human remains are discovered. The disposition of Native American burials falls within the jurisdiction of the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5 (f) identifies the need to establish procedures to be followed in the event of the discovery during construction of buried cultural resources other than human bone on nonfederal land.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING**

The geology in the survey area consisted of Alluvium (Keoing 1976). Soils consisted of Bale loam, Pleasanton loam, and Cortina very gravelly loam (Lambert and Kashiwagi 1978). Native vegetation would have been a Mixed Hardwood Forest (Kuchler 1973). CalVeg describes the vegetation as agriculture. Nearest water was Sulphur Creek 1,300 feet northwest of the project boundaries. The climate around the study area can be characterized as Mediterranean, dry in the summer and only moderately wet in the winter. Local climates present a complex mosaic in the North Coast Ranges and figure prominently in the vegetation patterning. Within the survey area, winter temperature can fall below 20 degrees F. but can reach highs of 70 degrees F. and in the summer, to 100+ degrees F.

## **PREHISTORIC/ETHNOGRAPHIC CONTEXT**

Prehistoric human use of the survey vicinity extends over several thousand years. Fredrickson's discussion of the prehistory of the Russian River Subregion within Mendocino, Lake, and Napa Counties offers a time depth covering the entire Holocene to 12,000 B.P. (Fredrickson 1984). The current project area is located along the southern boundary of the Russian River Subregion, adjacent to the San Francisco Bay Region. The earliest widespread culture appears related to the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition and known locally as the Borax Lake Pattern. This largely indigenous culture was dominant until groups of people from the North Bay encroached into the southern areas of the North Coast Ranges; the Berkeley Pattern represents these people. An innovation brought in by the southerners was the bowl mortar. The most recent prehistoric culture was very widespread throughout Central California. The so-called Augustine Pattern is notable for the move from dart to arrow points. Fredrickson's chronological scheme consists of five periods and associated patterns and Aspects. The periods and patterns are: the Emergent Periods (1850 to 500 AD) (Clearlake Aspect of the Augustine Pattern), the Upper Archaic Period (500 AD to 1,000 BC)(Houx Aspect of the Berkeley Pattern), Middle Archaic Period (1,000 BC to 3,000 BC) (Mendocino Aspect of the Borax Lake Pattern), Lower Archaic Period (3,000 BC to 6,000 BC) (Borax Lake Aspect of the Borax Lake Pattern), and the Paleo Indian

Period (6,000 BC to 10,000 plus BC) (Post Pattern).

Sawyer (1978:256-263) provides a modern summary of what is positively known about pre-contact Wappo culture and language. The Southern Wappo language group appears to have occupied the project area before the arrival of European settlers.

The history of the Wappo people is rather unique for California inasmuch they represent one-half of the parties involved in the Wappo-Pomo War. According to Sawyer (1978:258), the brief war began when some Alexander Valley Pomo took some of the Wappo winter supply of acorns. Two attacks occurred, several Pomo died, and the latter sought peace, which was granted by the Wappo. However, the Pomo seem to have ceded Alexander Valley to the Wappo inasmuch as they never reoccupied their villages. Another interesting aspect of Wappo language is that it represents what linguists call a relict language but how it became relict was disputed; at least in 1978. Sawyer (1978:258) argued that the fact that the Wappo language seems to confuse vocabulary items that differed from their Yukian parent language in tone only suggests that the Wappo language movement was from Yukian source to the Wappo and not the reverse; however, the matter is not settled.

The Wappo were a tribe that appears to have fought hard but unsuccessfully against Spanish incursions. Mission Sonoma held surviving Central and Southern Wappo people between 1823 and 1834 (Sawyer 1978:258) but it is likely that all Wappo language speakers ended up at this mission. Those that escaped missionization however were greatly influenced by the mission as determined by the number of Spanish loan words found in surviving Wappo dialects (Sawyer 1978:258).

### **Expectations: Prehistoric Archaeological Sites**

The types of prehistoric sites likely to be found in the project area are typical for the North Coast Ranges of California. The predominant artifact will be stone; chipped items will be manufactured largely from local obsidian. Other local and exotic stone materials could include petrified wood, Monterey chert, quartz crystals, basalt, and quartzite. Bedrock features such as mortars, grinding slicks, and petroglyphs could occur but they are not expected and have not been reported from surrounding locations. Neither have pictographs. Both mortars and petroglyphs occur in Napa County. Open middens or deposits of locally darkened anthrosols are likely anywhere native inhabitants lived for an extended period. Anthrosols are locally darkened sediments often with a loamy texture, greasy feel, and very rich organic content; they are often acid reactive exhibiting broken pieces of shell and bone. Anthrosols may or may not occur in a mound. Human graves are typical occurrences in anthrosols and should be presumed whenever such deposits are encountered.

## HISTORIC-PERIOD CONTEXT

Cultural context in California is generally broken into the historical, ethnographic, and prehistoric periods. Sometimes a protohistoric period is added between the ethnographic and historical periods. The dating of each period varies with location. In Napa County, it may be argued that the historical period began with the founding of Mission San Francisco Solana or Sonoma Mission in July 1823. However, European or more specifically Spanish influence affected Napa County's indigenous inhabitants before the turn of the nineteenth century; largely indirectly.

The Indian culture of Napa County and the North Bay Area more generally continued to exist with minimal effects from the occupation of the South Bay and San Francisco Peninsula by 1773 (Grossinger, et al. 2003:15). Milliken (1975) argued that for various reasons lands north of San Francisco Bay were not occupied by the Spanish while Spanish exploration and settlement immediately south of San Pablo Bay had a disastrous impact on native Californians before 1810 (Milliken 1995:10). Milliken established that indigenous people immediately north of San Pablo Bay moved south to the missions at San Francisco de Assis or Mission Dolores and San Jose between 1811 and 1816, while native people in Upper Napa Valley moved to Mission San Francisco between 1810 and 1822. With the founding of Mission San Rafael Arcangel in 1817 and Mission Sonoma, missionization of native Californians from further north occurred (Milliken 1995:10).

In September 1821, Mexico won its independence from Spain and soon thereafter Father Jose Altamira recently arrived at Mission Dolores disliked the climate conditions there and requested approval for founding a new mission further north of San Rafael. While the head of Roman Catholic Alta California missions was unresponsive to Altamira's request to establish a new mission, he by passed his superior and contacted California Governor Luis Arguello thought it wise to increase Mexican authority further north to offset any Russian explorations from the trading post at Fort Ross, established in 1812, on Bodega Bay. Arguello provided Altamira a few mounted soldiers and Indian workers for expedition beginning in June 1823 to determine a site for a new mission. While Mission San Rafael is thought to represent the first permanent Spanish settlement in the North Bay Area, Smilie (1975) and Milliken (1978) provide evidence for earlier poorly documented Spanish excursions into the North Bay before 1817. Grossinger, et al. (2003:15) stated that priests at Mission Dolores recorded entries for new baptisms of Napa County native people before 1817 in their "Libro de Bautismos;" however, some of these could represent voluntary relocation south by North Bay Area natives. Smith and Elliott (1878: 2) reported that the Spanish established a fort in 1776 "a short distance northwest of Napa;" however, this facility is not mentioned by Menefee (1873), Wallace (1901), the internet generally, or any verifiable source. During the brief period of Mexican control the government established fourteen land grants in Napa County (<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/ranchos>, accessed 20 May 2016).

In 1845, The United States and the Republic of Mexico fought a brief war after which the latter ceded almost all of its land north of the modern boundary separating the two countries to the former. On 5 July 1846, the military force of the briefly existing California Republic's was incorporated into the California Battalion commanded by U.S. Army Brevet Captain John C. Frémont and whatever remained of the California Republic ceased to exist on 9 July when U.S. Navy Lieutenant Joseph Revere raised the United States flag in front of Sonoma Barracks (Bancroft V:185-186). Thus began the period of American control of California. California became a state in 1850.

The project area is within the boundaries of Rancho Carne Humana. Rancho Carne Humana was a 17,962 Acre Mexican land grant given in 1841 by Governor Juan Alvarado to Edward Turner Bale. Land use in the general project area would have included many types of farming, ranching (including livestock grazing), dry crop farming, and today's irrigated crops.

### **Expectations: Historic Archaeological Sites**

The types of historic archaeological sites associated with historic activities and that might be within the project area might include remains of rural residence and smaller structures associated with ranching and agricultural residential compounds. These structures may no longer be standing but might have been built of stone footings, dry-laid stone foundations, or directly on the ground. The ruins of a residence might include a group of stones exhibiting some organizational patterning, fragmented pieces of milled wood, square cut nails, and 19th-century trash; associated features might include stone fences, stone-lined wells, shallow stone-line root cellars, privy pits, and trash deposits. Other small features could exist with or independently from residential compounds.

### **PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION**

The survey area was situated within T. 8 N., R. 5 W., Rancho Carne Humana as depicted on the ST. Helena, California 1960, (PR 1993) 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle (see Project Location Map). Boundaries were determined by the use of USGS topographic maps, project map, GPS, prominent natural and manmade features. The subject property's terrain was flat. Vegetation at the time of the survey consisted of several types of vegetable gardens. The proposed project consisted of a commercial development.

### **METHODS**

The method employed in the cultural resources investigation consisted of two steps. Initially, the ethnographic literature, archaeological base maps, site records, and prior survey reports on file at the Historical Resources Information System Northwest Information Center, housed at Sonoma State University, were reviewed to determine whether recorded archaeological or ethnographic sites were situated within the project area. As a result of the records search (15-1676) it was determined that no archaeological or ethnographic sites had been recorded within the boundaries of the project. Several cultural resources

studies conducted in the recent past in the general project area resulted in the discovery of both prehistoric and historic sites in similar environmental settings to that of the study area. On the basis of the records search and past surveys in the area, the author formed the opinion that the probability of cultural resources being situated within the boundaries of the current study area was moderate to high.

It should be noted as part of the record search for this project The Directory of Properties in the Historic Property File for Napa County maintained by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) was reviewed to determine if any historic structures had been listed in the 10.21 project area. No historic structures have been listed in the 10.21 acre project area. Also reviewed at the Information Center were historic maps including General Land Office maps, United States Geological Survey maps, and United States Army Corps of Engineers maps.

The Native American Heritage Commission has been contacted and responded that they know of no cultural resources located within the 10.21 acre project. We have also contacted the Native American groups recommended by the Native American Heritage Commission, one group did respond with no concerns, the other groups have not responded to date (see attached).

The second part of the investigation consisted of a complete on-foot survey of the project area. Greater attention was paid to areas within the project area where the ground could be observed. North south transects were used to cover the project area. Transect width varied from a few meters to 30 m depending on ground cover. Ground visibility was fair in most areas.

## **RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

No cultural resources were discovered as a result of the survey; however, the possibility of buried or obscured cultural resources does exist. Should archaeological materials be discovered during future development, we recommend that all activity be temporarily halted in the vicinity of the find(s), and that a qualified archaeologist be retained to evaluate the find(s) and to recommend mitigation procedures, if necessary.

Prehistoric archaeological materials include, but are not limited to, obsidian, chert, and basalt flakes and artifacts, groundstone (such as mortars and pestles) and human graves. Historic archaeological materials include, but are not limited to, glass bottles, privys, and ceramics.

It is unlikely that human remains will be discovered during future development. If, however, human remains of any type are encountered it is recommended that the project sponsor contact a qualified archaeologist to assess the situation. We also suggest that Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines be reviewed, as it details the legal procedure to follow in case of the accidental discovery of human remains during excavation or construction.

## **LIMITATIONS AND UNIFORMITY OF CONDITIONS**

This report is issued with the understanding that it is the responsibility of the client to transmit the information and recommendations to appropriate parties including the lead agency so that the necessary steps may be taken by the various parties to appropriately implement them. The conclusions and recommendations presented in this report are s

The professional staff of Flaherty Cultural Resource Services (FCRS) makes every effort to perform contracted services in a professional manner with reasonable care and completeness: The report's conclusions however are not infallible. Further, the report is based upon field considerations extant at the time of the investigation and there is the potential for discovery of buried cultural resources or those obscured by dense surface vegetation and brush, or, other natural or human-induced factors, or, new classes of cultural resources. FCRS staff is therefore unable to eliminate all risks, provide guarantees, or warrant our conclusion(s) against unforeseen or hidden discoveries.

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