

## Notice of Exemption

**To:** Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:** Department of State Hospitals  
1600 Ninth Street, Room 120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Title:** California Memorial Project at Department of State Hospitals - Napa

**Project Location – Specific:** 2100 Napa Vallejo Highway

**Project Location - City:** Napa

**Project Location - County:** Napa County

**Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The project is construction of a memorial for patients that have been buried in unmarked graves at DSH-Napa. The project includes construction of accessible parking, a ramp, patio, vertical granite slabs engraved with patient names, landscape, and irrigation. The memorial wall is circular in shape so that the visitor, while inside of the memorial, will be able to view the cemetery grounds beyond, with the wall inscribed with the names of patients buried in the cemetery, always in the foreground. The memorial will be specifically located on the northeast corner of the cemetery site and close to Madrone Drive.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Department of State Hospitals

**Name of Person Carrying Out Project:** Debi Nishimoto, DSH (debi.nishimoto@dsh.ca.gov)

**Exempt Status:** Categorical Exemption: Section 15301 – Existing Facility

**Reasons why project is exempt:**

Class 1 exemption allows for the minor alteration of existing public facilities that involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. The project is located within an existing cemetery on the Napa State Hospital campus. The proposed memorial is considered a minor alteration to the cemetery. The memorial is sited outside an area scanned by ground penetrating radar absent of underground anomalies, therefore no disturbance of human remains is expected. Site grading will be kept to a minimum and any soil movement associated with construction of the memorial will be negligible in depth. Siting the memorial close to Madrone Drive and towards the front of the cemetery avoids disturbance to the remaining areas of the cemetery. Other construction related impacts will be short term and insignificant. Adequate parking exists at the site for construction workers. With concurrence from State Office of Historic Preservation the Napa State Hospital cemetery is not eligible for listing on any State or federal historic preservation list. The memorial is not expected to create a significant increase in visitors to the cemetery. Construction of the memorial will accomplish the goals of the California Memorial Project to honor individuals who lived and died in State institutions. The State confirms that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of an exemption for this project. The project will not have a significant effect on resources in the area.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Robert Horsley Telephone: (916) 562-2298

**Signature:** Robert Horsley **Date:** 5/10/2021  
Title: Chief, Business Management Branch

**Signed by Lead Agency:** Yes

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.  
Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code.