

# Appendix CUL

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Cultural Resources Report

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY SURVEY**

**Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project  
circa 12.5-Acres  
City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California**

Prepared for

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July 31, 2021

## **ABSTRACT**

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving creation of a personal property self-storage commercial development, involving approximately 12.5-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, approximately 200 meters north of State Highway 4, approximately one mile west of Auto Center Drive, within the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California.

The proponent proposes to create a personal property self-storage commercial development, which will include grading and land recontouring, construction of new commercial buildings and structures, creation of access roads, placement of buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Existing records at the Northwest Information Center document that portions of the present APE had been subjected to previous archaeological investigation, and that no historic properties have been documented within the APE. As well, the present effort included an intensive-level pedestrian survey. No prehistoric or historic-era cultural resources were identified during the pedestrian survey.

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on June 21, 2021. The NAHC responded with a letter dated July 13, 2021, indicating that a search of their Sacred Lands files returned negative results.

The probability of encountering buried archaeological sites within the APE is low. This conclusion is derived in part from the observed soil matrices which have been subjected to a high degree of disturbance associated with past ranching and farming where ripping and discing penetrated through at least 24-inches of soils. Evidence of ground disturbance assisted in determining whether or not subsurface resources were present within the APE. Overall, the soil types present and contemporary disturbance would warrant a finding of low probability for encountering buried archaeological sites.

Based on the absence of significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources within the APE, archaeological clearance is recommended for the project/undertaking as presently proposed.

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## ATTACHMENTS

APE Map.

Records Search from NWIC File No. 20-2613, dated July 21, 2021.

Information request letter to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

Response from the NAHC.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## Project Background

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving creation of a personal property self-storage commercial development, involving approximately 12.5-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, approximately 200 meters north of State Highway 4, approximately one mile west of Auto Center Drive, within the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California.

The proponent proposes to create a personal property self-storage commercial development, which will include grading and land recontouring, construction of new commercial buildings and structures, creation of access roads, placement of buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Since the project will involve physical disturbance to ground surface and sub-surface components in conjunction with commercial development, it has the potential to impact cultural resources that may be located within the area of potential effects (APE). In this case, the APE would consist of the circa 12.5-acre land area within which the commercial development work will be undertaken. Evaluation of the project's potential to impact cultural resources must be undertaken in conformity with the City of Pittsburg and Contra Costa County rules and regulations, and in compliance with requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970, Public Resources Code, Section 21000, et seq. (CEQA), and The California CEQA Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, California Administrative Code, Section 15000 et seq. (Guidelines as amended).

## Regulatory Context

The following section provides a summary of the applicable regulations, policies and guidelines relating to the proper management of cultural resources.

### **The California Register of Historical Resources**

In California, the term “historical resource” includes “any object, building, structure, 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” (Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) “to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state’s historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change” (PRC Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP. According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains “substantial integrity,” and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

- (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

To understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)). The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

### **California Environmental Quality Act**

As described further, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources:

- PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines “unique archaeological resource.”
- PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) define “historical resources.” In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of a historical resource.
- PRC Section 21074(a) defines “tribal cultural resources.”
- PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.

### **California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5**

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can occur until the County Coroner has examined the remains (Section 7050.5b). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the County Coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the California NAHC within 24 hours (Section 7050.5c).

The NAHC will notify the Most Likely Descendant. With the permission of the landowner, the Most Likely Descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the Most Likely Descendant by the NAHC. The Most Likely Descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and items associated with Native Americans.

PRC Sections 21083.2(b)–(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; preservation-in-place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context, and may also help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

Under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause “a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)). If a site is either listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or if it is included in a local register of historic resources, or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of PRC Section 5024.1(q)), it is a “historical resource” and is presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource, even if it does not fall within this presumption (PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)).

A “substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource” reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired” (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, the significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project does any of the following:

- (1) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register; or
- (2) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
- (3) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA [CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(2)].

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any “historical resources,” then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource’s historical significance is materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Section 21083.2(a), (b), and (c)).

Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information
- (2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type
- (3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person

Impacts to non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (PRC Section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as tribal cultural resource (PRC 21074(c); 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described in the following text, these procedures are detailed in PRC Section 5097.98.

### **Native American Historic Cultural Sites**

State law (PRC Section 5097 et seq.) addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project; and established the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

In the event that Native American human remains or related cultural material are encountered, Section 15064.5(e) of the CEQA Guidelines (as incorporated from PRC Section 5097.98) and California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 define the subsequent protocol. In the event of the accidental discovery or recognition of any human remains, excavation or other disturbances shall be suspended of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent human remains or related material. Protocol requires that a county-approved coroner be contacted in order to determine if the remains are of Native American origin. Should the coroner determine the remains to be Native



American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in PRC Section 5097.98 (14 CCR 15064.5(e)).

## **Scope of Work**

Compliance with CEQA (and County rules and regulations) requires completion of projects in conformity with the amended (October 1998) Guidelines, including in particular Section 15064.5. Based on these rules, regulations and Guidelines, the following specific tasks were considered an adequate and appropriate Scope of Work for the present archaeological survey:

- Conduct a records search at the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System and consult with the Native American Heritage Commission. The goals of the records search and consultation are to determine (a) the extent and distribution of previous archaeological surveys, (b) the locations of known archaeological sites and any previously recorded archaeological districts, and (c) the relationships between known sites and environmental variables. This step is designed to ensure that, during subsequent field survey work, all significant/eligible cultural resources are discovered, correctly identified, fully documented, and properly interpreted.
- Conduct a pedestrian survey of the APE in order to record and evaluate any previously unidentified cultural resources. Based on map review, a complete coverage, intensive survey was considered appropriate, given the presence of moderate archaeological sensitivity within the property. The purpose of the pedestrian survey is to ensure that any previously identified sites are re-located and evaluated in relation to the present project/undertaking. For any previously undocumented sites discovered, the field survey would include formally recording these resources on State of California DPR-523 Forms.
- Upon completion of the records search and pedestrian survey, prepare a Final Report that identifies project effects and recommends appropriate mitigation measures for sites that might be affected by the undertaking and that are considered significant or potentially significant per CEQA, and/or eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

The remainder of the present document constitutes the Final Report for this project, detailing the results of the records search, consultation and pedestrian survey and providing recommendations for treatment of significant/eligible archaeological and historic sites. All field survey work followed guidelines provided by the Office of Historic Preservation (Sacramento) and conforms to accepted professional standards.

## **2. Location, Environmental and Cultural Context**

### **Location**

The project area consists of approximately 12.5-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, approximately 200 meters north of State Highway 4, approximately one mile west of Auto Center Drive, within the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California. Lands affected are located within a portion of Section 22 of Township 2 North, Range 1 East, as shown on the USGS Antioch North, California, 7.5' Series quadrangle (see attached *APE Map*).

### **Environment**

The present APE is located near the nexus between the Sacramento Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area. Waters flowing from the mountain ranges and into the Sacramento River, then flow through the San Francisco Bay Area, and ultimately are disbursed into the Pacific Ocean.

Geologically, the Bay Area region has undergone intensive alteration over the past 12,000 years. It was during the Pleistocene that the Pacific shoreline extended approximately 15 miles further west than its present location, with subsequent, catastrophic melting of continent-spanning glaciers responsible for the present sea levels and shore line proximity. Concomitant with increases to sea level was the intrusion of salt water, easterly, which ultimately formed the Suisun Bay and the West Delta. The landscapes created by these climatic conditions ranged from saltmarsh and redwood forests to mixed evergreen woodlands and grasslands.

Topography within the APE is relatively flat, with an elevation averaging approximately 40-feet above mean sea level. The region is characterized by a Mediterranean climate, with cool, rainy winters and hot, dry summers. The average annual temperature for the project area ranges from 36-91°F, with the hottest temperatures occurring in June. The average yearly rainfall totals for the area are approximately 13 inches, with the maximum annual precipitation occurring in January.

The region once supported a variety of flora and fauna taxa which have been subsequently replaced with domesticated plants and a slimmer variety of animals, including marsh birds, ducks, geese, raptors, reptiles, amphibians and small mammals.

In view of the substantial surface water sources throughout this area, prehistoric use and occupation was generally intensive, but the population was not randomly distributed. Clearly, the most intensively occupied land areas were at elevated locations along the bay, marsh and wetlands system margins.

## **Prehistory**

The Sacramento Valley/San Francisco Bay Area region generally has a long and complex cultural history with distinct regional patterns that extends back more than 11,000 years. The first generally agreed-upon evidence for the presence of prehistoric peoples in the area is represented by the distinctive fluted spear points (e.g. Heizer 1938), some resembling 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 between about 10,900 BP and 11,200 BP (Moratto 2004).

The next cultural period represented, the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition and thought by most to be subsequent to 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 about 8,000 and 10,000 years ago and its practitioners may be the precursors to the subsequent cultural pattern (Wallace 1978).

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, 1978). However, subsequent research suggests that the horizon may be more widespread than originally described and likely extended throughout the Valley (Moratto 2004); radiocarbon dates suggest a maximum age range between about 8,000 and 2,000 BP, but with most clustering between about 6,000 to 4,000 BP.

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 dated 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 along with regional exchange systems expanded significantly. Along the coast and in the Central Valley, archeological evidence of social stratification and craft specialization is indicated by well-made artifacts such as charmstones and beads, often found as mortuary items. Ethnographic lifeways serve as good analogs for this period.

## **Ethnography**

The project area is located within the ethnographic boundary of the Ompin tribe of the Bay Miwok (Kelly 1978) at the time of initial contact with European/American culture (circa AD 1776). The territorial boundaries of the Bay Miwok are described as extending along the northeastern portion of the east bay area, while the Ompin, specifically are generally confined to the present-day City of Pittsburg and north to rural south Solano County.

The Bay Miwok language group is part of the larger Utian language family (Shipley 1978), which likely entered the region via the lower Sacramento Valley between 4,500 and 4,000 YBP. The Bay Miwok were similar to many California Native American groups, for whom the basic social unit was the family, although the village, or tribelet, may also have functioned as a social, political and economic unit. Villages were usually located near water sources. Villages typically consisted of a scattering of houses, conically constructed of tule or grasses, and numbering from four or five to several dozen in larger villages, each house containing a single family of from three to seven people.

As with all northern California Indian groups, economic life for these groups revolved around hunting, fishing and the collecting of plant foods. Deer were an important meat source and were hunted by individuals by stalking or snaring, or by groups in community drives. Acorns represented one of the most important vegetal foods and were particularly abundant within the Valley Oak Woodlands, which once dominated lands in the project vicinity.

The ceremonial chief directed the entire tribelet's Kuksu Cult, a religious cult and secret society that performed tribal initiations, ghost ceremonies and curing ceremonies (Kroeber 1907).

The neighboring Coast Miwok were documented by Asians and Europeans as early as the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, while the Bay Miwok were likely not contacted by outsiders until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Prior to contact, their populations remained relatively stable until the incursion of Spanish settlers and missionaries during the latter portion of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The indigenous populations at this time were "missionized" and relocated to Mission San Francisco de Asis, and other missions southwest of their traditional territory. By 1812, church records indicated that 859 Bay Miwok had converted to Catholicism. By 1823, only 52 of these converts were living. Due to "missionization," inter-tribal marriages became more common, and new missions were established throughout the tribe's traditional lands.

## **Historic Context**

Recorded history in the project area begins with the attempts of Spanish colonists to explore parts of California beyond the coastal zone. Franciscan missions were initially established in San Jose, Sonoma and San Francisco, while a military fort (the Presidio) was established in what would become San Francisco in 1776. While no missions were established in the project region, Spanish expeditions did explore the east bay region.

With Mexico gaining independence from Spain in 1821, the newly formed government secularize the Spanish missions and thus increased its land holdings and wealth. Various Mexican governors, beginning in the 1830's, eventually parceled out these vast landholdings. Land was granted to various individuals in order to reward them for their services to the government and the military, as well to serve as an incentive to Mexicans living elsewhere to populate these newly secularized lands.

Between 1836 and 1846, fifteen land grants were established in Contra Costa County, one of these was the Rancho Los Medanos, which was granted by Mexican governor, Juan

Alvarado, in 1839, to Jose Antonio Mesa and Jose Miguel Garcia, within which the present project property is located (University of California, Berkeley 2003).

The ultimate result of the Mexican-American War, which lasted from 1846 to 1848, was the surrender of California under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The following year witnessed the Gold Rush into northern California, and the state, as a whole, underwent substantial demographic changes.

In 1849, Mesa and Garcia sold the southern half of their grant to Colonel Jonathan D. Stevenson. Legal clarification of the title resulted in an 1851 correction that Stevenson was in fact the owner of the western portion of the grant, not the southern portion of the grant, as originally stated. As commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> New York Volunteers, Stevenson had been part of the 1847 United States invasion and occupation of California, and once he had completed the grant acquisition, he went about surveying his lands, and named the community “New York of the Pacific.” In 1872, Stevenson successfully patented his lands, and sold the rancho to a San Francisco banking firm. Over the following decades, the land would exchange hands through various owners.

During Stevenson’s tenure, large quantities of coal were discovered in the region, and the community of New York of the Pacific became known as Black Diamond. In 1911, the community was named Pittsburg in honor of the steel and mining industries that the community shared with its Pennsylvania brethren.

Contra Costa County, within which the present APE is located, was one of the original 27 counties when California became a State in 1850. Initially, the County was to be named Mt. Diablo County, but was ultimately named based on different geographical proximities (*Contra*=opposite; *Costa*=coast).

It was during the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century that the economic setting of Contra Costa County began its shift into the agricultural sector, most notably in 1873 when Alamo farmer, Myron Hall successfully grafted a Persian walnut tree cutting to a native black walnut trunk. This invention led to a notably successful economic endeavor for many decades in the region (Emanuel 1993).

Finally, in 1878, the Southern Pacific Railroad extended service through the region, passing a short distance south of the present APE, while the Sacramento Northern Railroad, a subsidiary of Western Pacific, came into existence around 1929, and was composed of the Oakland, Antioch & Eastern Railroad, and the Northern Electric Interurban Railroad. Each of these latter lines were in service as early as 1900. A portion of this overall line trends east-west a short distance north of the APE.

### **3. RECORDS SEARCH and SOURCES CONSULTED**

Several types of information were considered relevant to evaluating the types of archaeological sites and site distribution that might be encountered within the project area. The information evaluated prior to conducting the pedestrian survey includes data maintained by the Northwest Information Center, and available published and unpublished documents relevant to regional prehistory, ethnography, and early historic developments.

#### **Northwest Information Center Records**

The official Contra Costa County archaeological records were examined on July 21, 2021 (NWIC File No. 20-2613). This search documented the following existing conditions for a 0.25-mile radius centered on the APE:

- According to the Information Center’s records, no cultural resources have been documented within the present APE’s boundary. Five (5) resources have been documented within the 0.25-mile search radius.
- According to the Information Center, portions of the present APE have been subjected to previous archaeological investigation as a result of seven (7) investigations. Twelve (12) additional investigations have been conducted within the 0.25-mile search radius. Finally, twenty-two (22) reports categorized as “Other Reports” due to a lack of pedestrian survey, ambiguous locational information, and often simply cultural overviews, have been documented within the APE and/or within the search radius. These forty-one (41) reports are summarized as follows.

<b>NWIC #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>
S-000595	1974	King
S-000848	1976	Fredrickson
S-001978	1960	Aiello
S-002458	1981	Ramiller, Ramiller, Werner, Stewart
S-002458a	1982	Ramiller
S-002458b	1982	Werner
S-002458c	1982	Stewart
S-002458d	1982	Stewart
S-002458e	1982	Ramiller
S-005208	1977	Greenway, Soule
S-007386	1985	Chavez
S-009214	1987	Ambro
S-009462	1977	Miller
S-009583	1978	Mayfield
S-009795	1986	Jackson
S-010040	1988	Bramlette, Praetzellis, Praetzellis, Fredrickson
S-010040a	1991	Bramlette, Praetzellis, Praetzellis, Dowdall, Brunmeier, Fredrickson
S-010268	1988	Chavez, Woodbridge
S-015529	1993	Gearhart, Bond, Hyot, Cleland, Anderson, Snethcamp, Wesson, Meville, Marcus, York, Wilson

<b>NWIC #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>
S-016660	1992	Fentress
S-017835	1975	Suchey
S-017993	1995	Hatoff, Voss, Waechter, Wee, Bente
S-017993a	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993b	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993c	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993d	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993e	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993f	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993g	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993h	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993i	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993j	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993k	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993l	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-017993m	1995	Woodward-Clyde Consultants
S-018217	1996	Gmoser
S-018352	1976	Arthur D. Little, Inc.
S-018352a	1976	Cvijanovic, Aull
S-018352b	1976	Busby
S-018440	1996	West, Welch
S-020395	1998	Gillette
S-022464	1999	Jones & Stokes Associates, Inc.
S-022929	2000	Atchley
S-022929a	2000	Dour-Smith
S-022929b	2000	Calpo
S-024322	1998	Morgan, Bachand
S-024322a	1998	Morgan, Bachand
S-024322b	2000	URS
S-030204	2003	Gillette
S-030579	2004	Busby
S-031375	2004	Lewis
S-031375a	2004	Heidecker
S-031375b	2004	Young, Rosenthal
S-031375c	2004	Bunse
S-031405	2006	Allan
S-032596	2006	Milliken, King, Mikkelsen
S-033600	2007	Meyer, Rosenthal
S-035196	2006	Estes, Arrigoni, Buckley, Allan, Self
S-035196a	2007	Donaldson, Fry
S-035244	2008	Baker, Shoup
S-035244a	2007	Shoup
S-035244b	2007	Hill, Shoup, Dobkin, Baker
S-035244c	2007	Baker, Shoup
S-037097	2010	Arrigoni, Young
S-046889	2011	Dexter, Cuellar
S-046889a	2014	Cimino, Carpenter, Meyer

<b>NWIC #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author(s)</b>
S-046889b	2014	Roland-Nawi, Leigh
S-046909	2015	Fahimi-Fike
S-046909a	2015	ICF International
S-049780	2017	Byrd, Whitaker, Mikkelsen, Rosenthal
S-049780a	2016	Polanco
S-050521	2017	Koenig
S-50521a	2019	Koenig

## **Other Sources Consulted**

In addition to examining the archaeological site and survey records of Contra Costa County maintained at the Northwest Information Center, the following sources were also included in the search conducted at the Information Center, or were evaluated separately:

- The National Register of Historic Places (1986, Supplements).
- The California Register of Historical Resources.
- The California Inventory of Historic Resources (State of California 1976).
- The California Historical Landmarks (State of California 1996).
- The California Points of Historical Interest (May 1992 and updates).
- The Historic Property Data File (OHP 2012).
- Plat of the Rancho Los Medanos (1872).
- GLO Plat, T2N, R1E (1870).
- USGS Pittsburg, CA 15' quadrangle (1908).
- USGS Pittsburg, CA 15' quadrangle (1953).
- Map of Contra Costa and Part of Alameda County (n.d.).
- NETR topographic maps (1908, 1914, 1918, 1936, 1943, 1947, 1951, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1969, 1978, 1986, 1995, 2012, 2015, 2018).
- NETR Aerials (1949, 1957, 1958, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1979, 1982, 1987, 1993, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018).
- Existing published and unpublished documents relevant to prehistory, ethnography, and early historic developments in the vicinity. These sources, reviewed below, provided a general environmental and cultural context by means of which to assess likely site types and distribution patterns for the project area.



## **4. CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY and CULTURAL INVENTORY**

### **Survey Strategy and Field Work**

All of the APE was subjected to intensive pedestrian survey by means of walking parallel transects spaced at 20-meter intervals.

In searching for cultural resources, the surveyor considered the results of background research and was alert for any unusual contours, soil changes, distinctive vegetation patterns, exotic materials, artifacts, feature or feature remnants and other possible markers of cultural sites.

Fieldwork was undertaken on July 25, 2021 by Principal Investigator, Sean Michael Jensen, M.A. Mr. Jensen is a professional archaeologist, historian and architectural historian, with 35 years of experience in archaeology, architectural history and history, who meets the professional requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation (Federal Register, Vol. 48, No. 190), as demonstrated in his listing on the California Historical Resources Information System list of qualified archaeologists, architectural historians and historians. No special problems were encountered and all survey objectives were satisfactorily achieved.

### **General Field Observations**

Fieldwork identified the following general conditions within the project area. All of the present APE has been impacted directly by a series of intensive disturbances, including past ranching and farming, followed by wholesale grubbing and grading, and ultimately unauthorized trash dumping.

Examination of the USGS quadrangles, NETR topographic maps and historic aerials, confirmed that no buildings or structures ever occupied the present APE. Adjacent features (i.e., railroad spur and line, Contra Costa Canal) appear to have marginally affected the present APE's boundary.

### **Prehistoric Resources**

No evidence of prehistoric activity or occupation was observed during the present pedestrian survey. The absence of such resources may be explained, at least in part, by the historic through contemporary disturbances to the entire APE. As previously noted, the entire APE has been subjected to ranching, farming, soil discing and ripping, as well as contemporary grubbing and grading, and unauthorized trash dumping.

### **Historic Resources**

No historic-era sites were observed within the present APE. The absence of such resources is best explained by the degree of disturbance to which all of the APE has been subjected.

## **5. ELIGIBILITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Sites identified within the project area were to be evaluated for significance in relation to CEQA significance criteria. Historical resources per CEQA are defined as buildings, sites, structures, objects, or districts, each of which may have historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific significance. CEQA requires that, if a project results in an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, alternative plans or mitigation measures must be considered; however, only significant historical resources need to be addressed. Therefore, before developing mitigation measures, the significance of cultural resources must be determined in relation to criteria presented in PRC 15064.5, which defines a historically significant resource (one eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, per PRC SS5024.1) as an archaeological site which possess one or more of the following attributes or qualities:

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

In addition, CEQA further distinguishes between archaeological sites that meet the definition of a significant historical resource as described above (for the purpose of determining effects), and "unique archaeological resources." An archaeological resource is considered "unique" (Section 21083.2(g)) when the resource not merely adds to the current body of knowledge, but when there is a high probability that the resource also:

- Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
- Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
- Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

## **6. PROJECT EFFECTS**

A project may have a significant impact or adverse effect on significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources if the project will or could result in the physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance or values of the historic resource would be materially impaired. Actions that would materially impair a cultural resource are actions that would alter or diminish those attributes of a site that qualify the site for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.

Based on the specific findings detailed above under ***Cultural Resources Survey and Cultural Inventory***, no significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources are present within the project area and no significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources will be affected by the undertaking, as presently proposed.

## **7. NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION**

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on June 21, 2021. The NAHC responded with a letter dated July 13, 2021, indicating that a search of their Sacred Lands files returned negative results.

## **8. PROJECT SUMMARY**

This report details the results of a cultural resources inventory survey involving creation of a personal property self-storage commercial development, involving approximately 12.5-acres of land located immediately adjacent to the south side of Pittsburg-Antioch Highway, approximately 200 meters north of State Highway 4, approximately one mile west of Auto Center Drive, within the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California.

The proponent proposes to create a personal property self-storage commercial development, which will include grading and land recontouring, construction of new commercial buildings and structures, creation of access roads, placement of buried utilities, and general landscaping.

Existing records at the Northwest Information Center document that portions of the present APE had been subjected to previous archaeological investigation, and that no historic properties have been documented within the APE. As well, the present effort included an intensive-level pedestrian survey. No prehistoric or historic-era cultural resources were identified during the pedestrian survey.

Consultation was undertaken with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) re. sacred land listings for the property. An information request letter was delivered to the NAHC on June 21, 2021. The NAHC responded with a letter dated July 13, 2021, indicating that a search of their Sacred Lands files returned negative results.

The probability of encountering buried archaeological sites within the APE is low. This conclusion is derived in part from the observed soil matrices which have been subjected to a high degree of disturbance associated with past ranching and farming where ripping and discing penetrated through at least 24-inches of soils. Evidence of ground disturbance assisted in determining whether or not subsurface resources were present within the APE. Overall, the soil types present and contemporary disturbance would warrant a finding of low probability for encountering buried archaeological sites.

Based on the absence of significant historical resources/unique archaeological resources within the APE, archaeological clearance is recommended for the project/undertaking as presently proposed, although the following general provisions are considered appropriate:

1. **Consultation in the event of inadvertent discovery of human remains:** In the event that human remains are inadvertently encountered during any project-associated ground-disturbing activity or at any time subsequently, State law shall be followed, which includes but is not limited to immediately contacting the County Coroner's office upon any discovery of human remains.
2. **Consultation in the event of inadvertent discovery of cultural material:** The present evaluation and recommendations are based on the findings of an inventory-level surface survey only. There is always the possibility that important unidentified cultural materials could be encountered on or below the surface during the course of future construction activities. This possibility is particularly relevant considering the constraints generally to archaeological field survey, and particularly where past ground disturbance activities (e.g., farming, grading, etc.) have partially obscured historic ground surface visibility, as in the present case. In the event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unidentified cultural material, archaeological consultation should be sought immediately.

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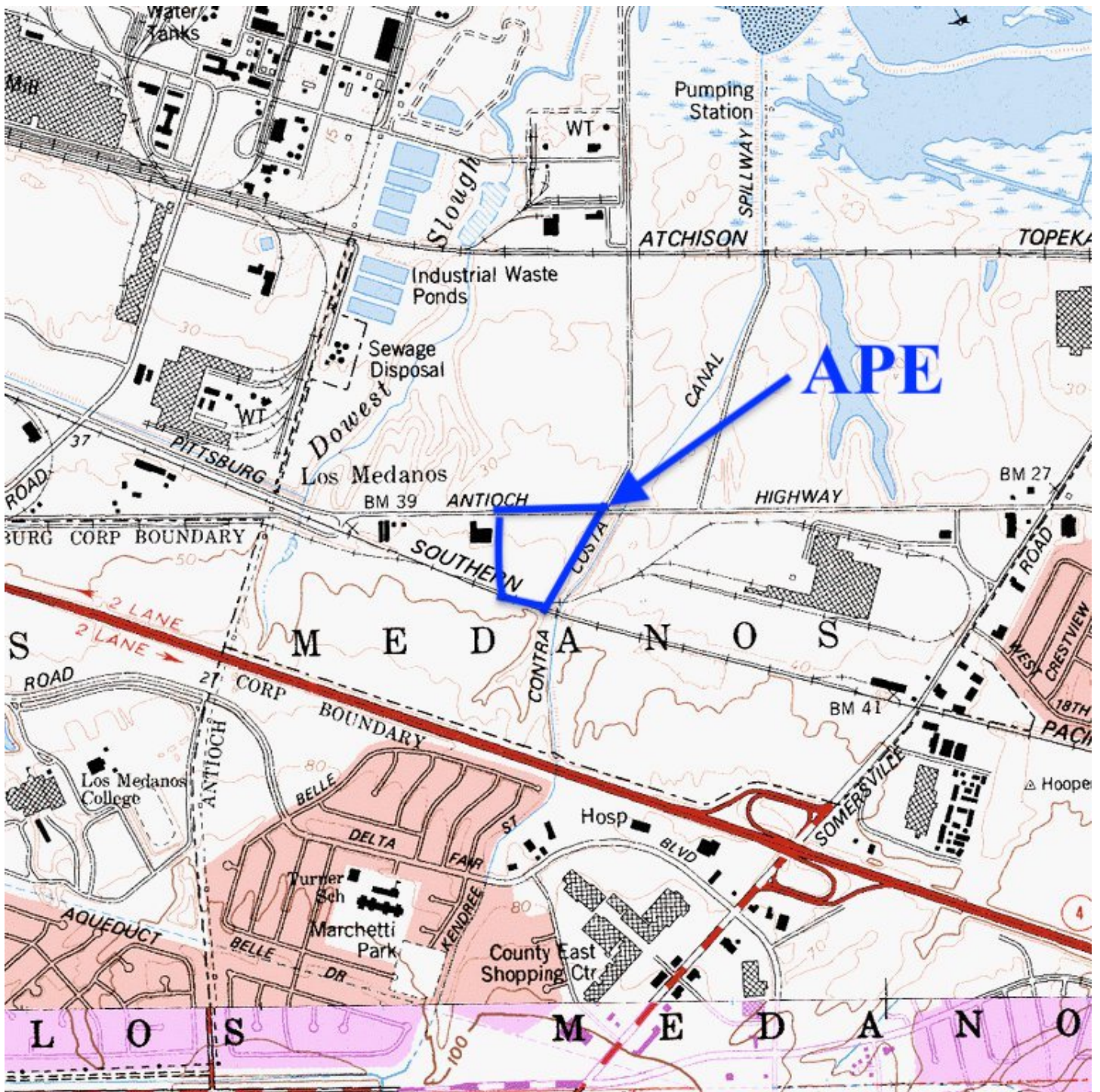
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## **CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY SURVEY**

**Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project  
circa 12.5-Acres  
City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California**

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- APE Map
- Records Search from Northwest Information Center (NWIC)
- Information request letter to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)
- Response from the NAHC





7/21/2021

NWIC File No.: 20-2613

Sean Jensen  
Genesis Society  
127 Estates Drive  
Chico, CA 95928

Re: Pittsburg Self Storage

The Northwest Information Center received your record search request for the project area referenced above, located on the Antioch North USGS 7.5' quad(s). The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and a one-quarter mile radius:

Resources within project area:	None
Resources within ¼-mile radius:	P-07-000487, P-07-000813, P-07-002877, P-07-002878, P-07-002879
Reports within project area:	S-10040, S-17993, S-24322, S-31405, S-35196, S-35244, S-37097; Other Reports S-00595, S-00848, S-01978, S-02458, S-05208, S-09462, S-09583, S-09795, S-15529, S-16660, S-17835, S-18217, S-20395, S-30204, S-32596, S-33600, S-49780
Reports within ¼-mile radius:	S-07386, S-09214, S-10268, S-18352, S-18440, S-22464, S-22929, S-30579, S-31375, S-46889, S-46909, S-50521; Other Reports S-12790, S-22812, S-30728, S-33545, S-49320

- Resource Database Printout (list):**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Resource Database Printout (details):**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Resource Digital Database Records:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (list):**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (details):**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Report Digital Database Records:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Resource Record Copies:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Report Copies:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- OHP Built Environment Resources Directory:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- CA Inventory of Historic Resources (1976):**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed
- Caltrans Bridge Survey:**       enclosed     not requested     nothing listed

**Ethnographic Information:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Historical Literature:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Historical Maps:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Local Inventories:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

**Shipwreck Inventory:**

enclosed  not requested  nothing listed

Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you do not include resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at the phone number listed above.

The provision of CHRIS Data via this records search response does not in any way constitute public disclosure of records otherwise exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act or any other law, including, but not limited to, records related to archeological site information maintained by or on behalf of, or in the possession of, the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, or the State Historical Resources Commission.

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. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the record search number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Thank you for using the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

Sincerely,

Jessika Akmenkalns, Ph.D.  
Researcher

# GENESIS SOCIETY

*a Corporation Sole*

127 ESTATES DRIVE  
CHICO, CALIFORNIA 95928  
(530) 680-6170  
seanjensen@comcast.net

June 21, 2021

## **Native American Heritage Commission**

1550 Harbor Boulevard,  
West Sacramento, California 95691

***Subject: Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project, circa 12.5-acres, City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa County, California.***

Dear Commission:

We have been requested to conduct the archaeological survey, for the above-cited project, and are requesting any information you may have concerning archaeological sites or traditional use areas for this area. Any information you might supply will be used to supplement the archaeological and historical study being prepared for this project.

*Project Name:* Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project  
*County:* Contra Costa  
*Map:* USGS Antioch North, CA 7.5'  
*Location:* Portion of T2N, R1E, Section 22

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Regards,

*Sean Michael Jensen*

**Sean Michael Jensen, Administrator**

*Genesis Society  
a Corporation Sole*



## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

July 13, 2021

Sean Michael Jensen, Administrator  
Genesis Society

Via Email to: [seanjensen@comcast.net](mailto:seanjensen@comcast.net)

### Re: Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project, Contra Costa County

Dear Mr. Jensen:

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 me. 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: [Sarah.Fonseca@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Sarah.Fonseca@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Sarah Fonseca  
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
Chumash

SECRETARY  
**Merri Lopez-Keifer**  
Luiseño

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Russell Attebery**  
Karuk

COMMISSIONER  
**William Mungary**  
Paiute/White Mountain  
Apache

COMMISSIONER  
**Julie Tumamait-Stenslie**  
Chumash

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
**Christina Snider**  
Pomo

**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**  
1550 Harbor Boulevard  
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West Sacramento,  
California 95691  
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NAHC.ca.gov

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Contra Costa County  
7/13/2021**

**Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista**

Irene Zwierlein, Chairperson  
3030 Soda Bay Road  
Lakeport, CA, 95453  
Phone: (650) 851 - 7489  
Fax: (650) 332-1526  
amahmutsuntribal@gmail.com  
Costanoan

**Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe**

Cosme Valdez, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 580986  
Elk Grove, CA, 95758-0017  
Phone: (916) 429 - 8047  
Fax: (916) 429-8047  
valdezcome@comcast.net  
Miwok

**Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians**

Lloyd Mathiesen, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1159  
Jamestown, CA, 95327  
Phone: (209) 984 - 9066  
Fax: (209) 984-9269  
lmathiesen@crtribal.com  
Me-Wuk

**North Valley Yokuts Tribe**

Timothy Perez,  
P.O. Box 717  
Linden, CA, 95236  
Phone: (209) 662 - 2788  
huskanam@gmail.com  
Costanoan  
Northern Valley  
Yokut

**Guidiville Indian Rancheria**

Donald Duncan, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 339  
Talmage, CA, 95481  
Phone: (707) 462 - 3682  
Fax: (707) 462-9183  
admin@guidiville.net  
Pomo

**North Valley Yokuts Tribe**

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P.O. Box 717  
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Phone: (209) 887 - 3415  
canutes@verizon.net  
Costanoan  
Northern Valley  
Yokut

**Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan**

Ann Marie Sayers, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 28  
Hollister, CA, 95024  
Phone: (831) 637 - 4238  
ams@indiancanyon.org  
Costanoan

**The Ohlone Indian Tribe**

Andrew Galvan,  
P.O. Box 3388  
Fremont, CA, 94539  
Phone: (510) 882 - 0527  
Fax: (510) 687-9393  
chochenyo@AOL.com  
Bay Miwok  
Ohlone  
Patwin  
Plains Miwok

**Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan**

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San Jose, CA, 95122  
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kanyon@kanyonconsulting.com  
Costanoan

**Tule River Indian Tribe**

Kerri Vera, Environmental  
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This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Pittsburg Self Storage Development Project, Contra Costa County.



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Native American Contact List  
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7/13/2021**

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