

**CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE
A-Z TRUCK CENTER PROJECT, CITY OF CHOWCHILLA,
MADERA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Prepared by

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Prepared for

Precision Engineering
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June 19, 2023
(Job #23-027)

INTRODUCTION

The Project proposes a truck stop with car and semi-truck fuel canopies, convenience store/market, fast food restaurants with drive-through, and semi-truck maintenance shop off SR 99 in Chowchilla, CA. It includes parcels 014-020-043, -044, -045, -046, and -047, and is located near the southeast area of SR 99 and Avenue 26.

Project use of the individual parcels will be:

APN 014-020-43: Proposing 4 quick serve restaurants (2800 sf each) with drive throughs and 138 total parking stalls.

APN 014-020-44 and 014-020-045: Proposing convenience store and restaurant (12,800 sf), car fuel canopy with 28 fuel pumps (10,896 sf), semi-truck fuel canopy with 12 fueling stations (6,.50 sf) with 136 total parking stalls.

APN 014-020-46 and 014-020-045: Proposing a truck maintenance shop (20,640 sf) with 46 on-site parking not inclusive of 17 truck maintenance parking stalls and an additional 77 long term truck parking stalls for 140 total parking stalls.

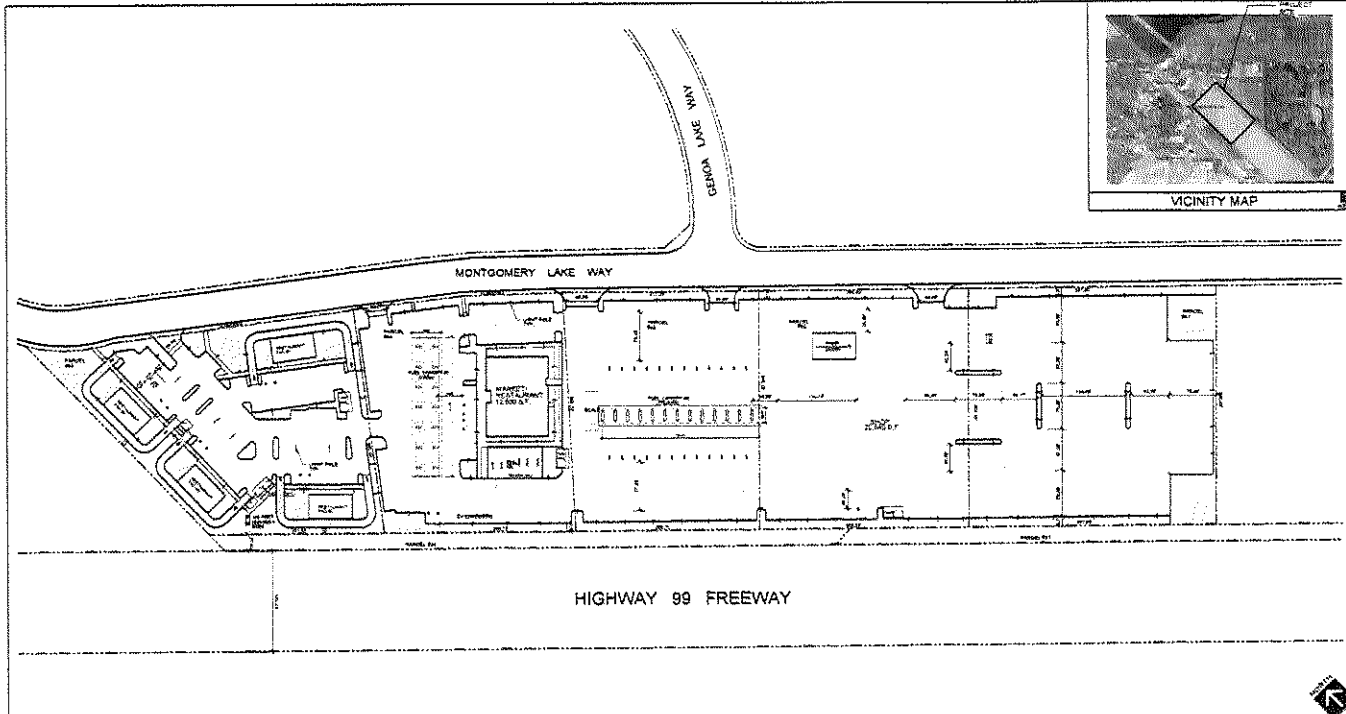
All uses are permitted in the existing zone district with a conditional use permit. A general plan amendment and rezone will not be a part of the application.

The project area is mapped in Section 29, Township 9 South, Range 16 East, mapped on the Berenda and LeGrand United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles (Figures 1 and 2).

Melinda A. Peak, senior historian/archeologist with Peak & Associates, Inc. served as principal investigator for the study, with archeologist Michael Lawson completing the field survey (resumes, Appendix 1).

REGULATORY CONTEXT

State historic preservation regulations affecting this project include the statutes and guidelines contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Public Resources Code sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 and sections 15064.5 and 15126.4 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines). CEQA Section 15064.5 requires that lead agencies determine whether projects may have a significant effect on archaeological and historical resources. Public Resources Code Section 21098.1 further cites: A project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment.



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Project Name:
 Project Address:
 Project City/State/Zip:

A-Z TRUCK CENTER

MARKET/GAS, MAINTENANCE CENTER & TRUCK STOP



APN: 214-00-001-0000-000
 214-00-001-0000-000
 214-00-001-0000-000
 214-00-001-0000-000

SITE PLAN		PARKING-PROVIDED		PARKING-REQUIRED		PARKING-PROVIDED		PARKING-REQUIRED		PARKING-PROVIDED		PARKING-REQUIRED	
<p>MAINTENANCE SHOP</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 2.52 ACRES</p> <p>BUILDING AREA: 20,940 S.F. MAINTENANCE SHOP (100' X 90')</p> <p>PARKING-REQUIRED MAINTENANCE SHOP 1 SPACE (100' X 90')</p> <p>PARKING-PROVIDED PROPOSED STANDARD PARKING: 44 SPACES PROPOSED VAN ACCESSIBLE: 1 SPACE PROPOSED STANDARD ACCESSIBLE: 1 SPACE TRUCK MAINTENANCE PARKING: 1 SPACE TRUCKS WITH HANDS (100' X 200') (20%): 10 SPACES</p>	<p>CONVENIENCE STORE / RESTAURANT</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 2.82 ACRES</p> <p>BUILDING AREA: 12,800 S.F. CONVENIENCE STORE / RESTAURANT (100' X 100')</p> <p>PARKING-REQUIRED FULL CANNOPY (100' X 100') (20%): 20 SPACES FULL CANNOPY (100' X 100') (20%): 20 SPACES</p> <p>PARKING-PROVIDED MARKET/CONVENIENCE STORE: 22 SPACES RESTAURANT: 10 SPACES RESTAURANT: 10 SPACES 100' X 200' (20%): 20 SPACES</p>	<p>FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 SITE AREA: 3.11 ACRES</p> <p>BUILDING AREA: RESTAURANT PAD #1 FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH: 2,400 S.F. RESTAURANT PAD #2 FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH: 2,400 S.F. RESTAURANT PAD #3 FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH: 2,400 S.F.</p> <p>PARKING-REQUIRED RESTAURANT PAD #1: 100 S.F. 200 SEATS = 100' X 10' PARKING RESTAURANT PAD #2: 100 S.F. 200 SEATS = 100' X 10' PARKING RESTAURANT PAD #3: 100 S.F. 200 SEATS = 100' X 10' PARKING</p> <p>PARKING-PROVIDED PROPOSED STANDARD PARKING: 120 SPACES PROPOSED VAN ACCESSIBLE: 4 SPACES PROPOSED STANDARD ACCESSIBLE: 4 SPACES</p>	<p>PROJECT DATA</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 8.15 ACRES</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 2.52 ACRES</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 2.82 ACRES</p> <p>APN: 214-00-001-0000-000 AREA: 3.11 ACRES</p> <p>PROPOSED USE: MARKET/CONVENIENCE STORE / RESTAURANT, MARKET/CONVENIENCE STORE / RESTAURANT, FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH, FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH, FAST FOOD RESTAURANT WITH DRIVE THROUGH</p> <p>ZONING: HC - HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL</p> <p>APPROVED USE IN HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONE P - USE RESTRICTED BY RESULT C - USE REQUIRES CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT A - USES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED B - USES THAT ARE ALLOWED BUT NOT MEETING ALL REQUIREMENTS OF PLANS S - RESTAURANT, LIQUOR SERVICE WITHOUT CREDIT, PICK UP DELIVERY I - CONVENIENCE STORE WITH OR WITHOUT FUEL SALES J - MOTOR SERVICE REPAIR OR SERVICE BAY K - TRUCK STOP OR TRAVEL CENTER</p>										

SITE PLAN

FIGURE 1

A - Z TRUCK CENTER

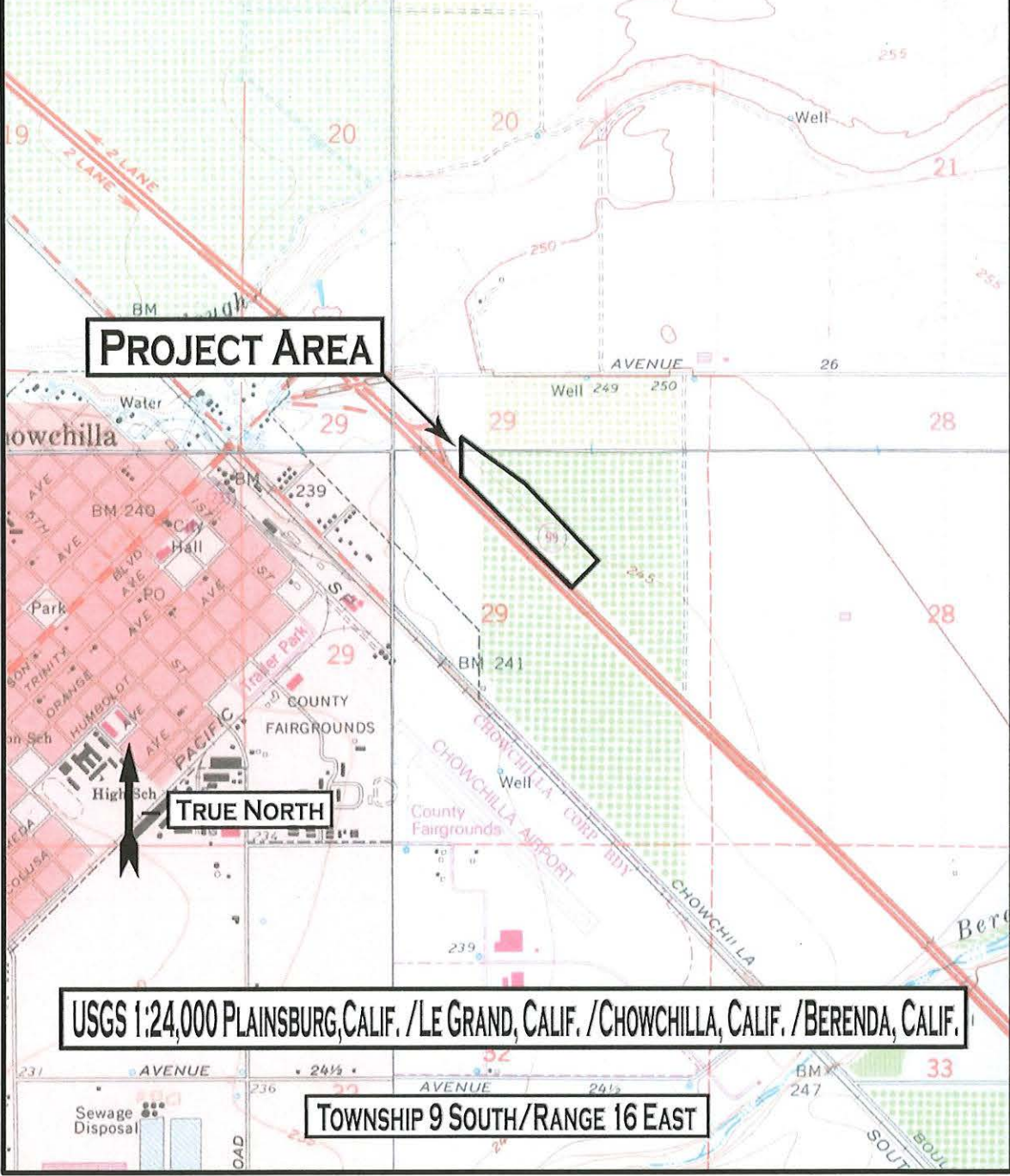


Figure 2

An “historical resource” includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that is historically or archaeologically significant (Public Resources Code section 5020.1).

Advice on procedures to identify such resources, evaluate their importance, and estimate potential effects is given in several agency publications such as the series produced by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR), *CEQA and Archaeological Resources*, 1994. The technical advice series produced by OPR strongly recommends that Native American concerns and the concerns of other interested persons and corporate entities, including, but not limited to, museums, historical commissions, associations, and societies be solicited as part of the process of cultural resources inventory. In addition, California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods regardless of the antiquity and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, California Public Resources Codes Sections 5097.94 et al).

The California Register of Historical Resources (Public Resources Code Section 5020 et seq.)

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) maintains the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Properties listed, or formally designated as eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places are automatically listed on the CRHR, as well as State Landmarks and Points of Interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

For the purposes of CEQA, an historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. When a project will impact a site, it needs to be determined whether the site is an historical resource. The criteria are set forth in Section 15064.5(a) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, and are defined as any resource that does any of the following:

- 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, the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(a) (4) states:

The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, not included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant

to section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.

California Health and Safety Code Sections 7050.5, 7051, And 7054

These sections collectively address the illegality of interference with human burial remains, as well as the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites. The law protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction, and establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project, including the treatment of remains prior to, during, and after evaluation, and reburial procedures.

California Public Resources Code Section 15064.5(e)

This law addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction. The section establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project and establishes the Native American Heritage Commission as the entity responsible to resolve disputes regarding the disposition of such remains.

Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 establishes a formal consultation process for California tribes as part of CEQA and equates significant impacts on tribal cultural resources with significant environmental impacts. AB 52 defines a “California Native American Tribe” as a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission.

AB 52 requires formal consultation with California Native American Tribes prior to determining the level of environmental document if a tribe has requested to be informed by the lead agency of proposed projects. AB 52 also requires that consultation address project alternatives, mitigation measures, for significant effects, if requested by the California Native American Tribe, and that consultation be considered concluded when either the parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, or the agency concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached.

Under AB 52, such measures shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document and adopted mitigation monitoring program if determined to avoid or lessen a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource.

CULTURAL SETTING

Archeology

The Central Valley region was among the first in the state to attract intensive fieldwork, and research has continued to the present day. This has resulted in a substantial accumulation of data, but the emphasis has been in the northern portion of the valley. In the early decades of the 1900s, E.J. Dawson explored numerous sites near Stockton and Lodi, later collaborating with W.E. Schenck (Schenck and Dawson 1929). By 1933, the focus of work was directed to the Cosumnes locality, where survey and excavation were conducted by the Sacramento Junior College (Lillard and Purves 1936). Excavation data, from the stratified Windmill site (CA-Sac-107), suggested two temporally distinct cultural traditions. Later work at other mounds by Sacramento Junior College and the University of California, Berkeley, enabled the investigators to identify a third cultural tradition, intermediate between the previously postulated Early and Late Horizons. The three-horizon sequence, based on discrete changes in ornamental artifacts and mortuary practices, as well as on observed differences in soils within sites (Lillard, Heizer and Fenenga 1939), was later refined by Beardsley (1954). An expanded definition of artifacts diagnostic of each time period was developed, and its application extended to parts of the central California coast. Traits held in common allow the application of this system within certain limits of time and space to other areas of prehistoric central California.

In the southern San Joaquin Valley, apart from Hewes's excavation at CA-FRE-48 (the Tranquility Site), the foci of early investigations have been the old shorelines of the interior lakes: Tulare, Kern, and Buena Vista. In 1899, Dr. P. M. Jones directed fieldwork in the Buena Vista-Tulare Lake area of Kern County. Jones investigated 150 mounds and conducted trenching of several sites including CA-Ker-53. In 1909, N. C. Nelson investigated prehistoric Site CA-Ker-49, which is located to the west of Buena Vista Lake. Later, four surveys and excavations were conducted in the same locale under the auspices of the University of California. A compilation of these investigation results was published in 1926 by Gifford and Schenck.

As a result of this early work, an elaborate culture complex was defined for the late prehistoric period. This complex can be ascribed probably to the Yokuts and their direct ancestors. The material culture of this late temporal period complex included steatite vessels and beads, finely-made projectile points, pottery, shaped stone mortars, *Tivela* disc beads, use of asphaltum, and the presence of metates and manos. Flexed burials were the predominant interment mode. Earlier complexes underlying the late cultural expressions were represented by chipped stone crescents, large projectile points, atlatl spurs, and weights. Mortuary practices, generally thought to be related, include extended rather than flexed burial position, a situation analogous to that of the northern valley (Gifford and Schenck 1926; Lillard, Heizer, and Fenenga 1939; Moratto 1972).

Presence of "Early Man," although not found in direct association with extinct animals, is demonstrated by the frequency of chipped stone crescents and fluted points like those of the Clovis-Folsom Complex in the American Southwest. Although fluted points have been found near

the shores of Tulare Lake, an area that has also produced surface finds of extinct mammal bone of Pleistocene age, the association is not substantiated by controlled excavations and remains speculative (Riddell and Olsen 1969). Most of the point collection had been acquired by D. Witt over a period of 30 years.

Under the direction of Wedel (1941), the Civil Works Administration, in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution, initiated the first major excavations using stratigraphic controls. Investigations of CA-KER-39 and CA-KER-60 as well as several smaller sites near Buena Vista Lake produced evidence of two distinct cultural entities or occupation periods. Wedel lacked methods for dating these two entities by cross-comparison of the assemblages, he tentatively stated that the early occupation at Buena Vista Lake appeared to be temporally older and less developed than the Early Horizon (Windmill Pattern) of the Delta region. He compared this early component to the Oak Grove or Milling Stone culture of the Santa Barbara area (Rogers 1939). He divided the later cultural entity into two distinct phases, both clearly distinguished from the earlier cultural phase by artifact types. Wedel (1941:144-145) estimated that neither of these cultural periods exceeded 1500 B.P. (years Before the Present). Later, other investigators proposed far earlier ages for these early occupations, with dates ranging from 2000 to 7000 B.P. (Baumhoff and Olmstead 1963, 1964; Heizer 1964; Meighan 1959).

Later investigations in 1963 and 1964 at CA-KER-116 near Buena Vista Lake produced materials like Wedel's early occupation. These materials occurred in the lower levels of the "upper deposit," while an even deeper cultural deposit yielded materials akin to those of the San Dieguito Complex. Artifacts included a chipped stone crescent, crude point fragments, and an atlatl spur. Radiocarbon age determinations on shell from the lowest cultural levels returned a date of circa 8200 B.P. (Fredrickson and Grossman 1966, 1977; Fredrickson 1967).

Despite the previously mentioned investigations, the prehistory of the San Joaquin Valley remains not well understood, without a tightly defined chronological sequence of cultural development.

Ethnology

Ethnographic literature is often uncertain in definition of cultural boundaries for Indian groups. Early displacement by white intrusion resulted in population shifts to avoid conflict with the Spanish, and later with the miners and settlers. The ravages of disease and warfare decimated the native people, further weakening cultural identity. Informants were often uncertain of original territories of the various tribal groupings.

The Northern Valley Yokuts were members of the Penutian language family which controlled all the Central Valley, San Francisco Bay Area, and the Pacific Coast from Marin County to near Point Sur. The Yokuts differed from other ethnographic groups in California as they had true tribal divisions with group names. The project area appears to be in the territory of the *Chawchila*. Each tribe spoke a particular dialect, common to its members, but similar enough to other Yokuts that they were mutually intelligible (Kroeber 1925; Wallace 1978).

Trade was well developed, with mutually beneficial interchange of needed or desired goods. Obsidian, rare in the San Joaquin Valley, was obtained by trade with Paiute and Shoshoni groups on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada, where numerous sources of this material are located, and to some extent from the Napa Valley to the north. Shell beads, obtained by the Yokuts from coastal people, and acorns, rare in the Great Basin, were among many items exported to the east by Yokuts traders (Davis 1961).

Economic subsistence was based on the acorn, with substantial dependency on gathering and processing of wild seeds and other vegetable foods. The rivers, streams, and sloughs which formed a maze within the valley provided abundant food resources such as fish, shellfish, and turtles. Game, wild fowl, and small mammals were trapped and hunted to provide protein augmentation of the diet. In general, the eastern portion of the San Joaquin Valley provided a lush environment of varied food resources, with the estimated large population centers reflecting this abundance (Cook 1955; Baumhoff 1963).

Settlements were oriented along the water ways, with their village sites normally placed adjacent to these features for their nearby water and food resources. House structures varied in size and shape (Latta 1949; Kroeber 1925). The housepit depressions ranged in diameter between three to eighteen meters.

Latta (1949:99) reported that a village of 200 to 300 Yokuts might have four or five large houses that were used for ten or twelve years or until a family member died, at which time the Indians burned the house in which the death had occurred. If a sick or aged person died outside the dwelling, the family did not burn the house. When a Northern Yokuts died, his body was cremated or buried in a flexed position. Southern tribes normally buried their dead, although they did cremate shamans, persons who died away from their village and, among the one group, persons of great importance.

The Yokuts experienced severe depopulation after contact with the Spanish and subsequent explores. The most devastating impacts of the Spanish colonization effort were not the result of military conflicts, but came from Old World diseases newly introduced to the native people.

Historical Background

An increasing number of Euro-American enter the San Joaquin Valley after 1824 accelerating cultural change and the loss of cultural integrity by the native peoples. Although cultural retention was apparent until the early 1900s, there was a gradual weakening of attachment to the old lifeways and greater adoption of white styles. More significant in terms of cultural deterioration were the ravages of disease--in particular, the documented drastic disease epidemic of 1831-1833 (Cook 1955). Native people had no natural immunity to introduced diseases, and nearly 75 percent of the valley population succumbed during the early 1830s to an illness Cook and other authorities believe to have been malaria. Decimation of the valley people essentially destroyed the Yokuts culture, with only partial continuation possible.

Although the immediate effects of the Gold Rush overleapt the Southern Central Valley, the decline of mining was accompanied by a shift of white attention to the rich agricultural promise of the valley. The remaining Valley Yokuts people became pressured from the lands they held, usually those with highest farming potential, and driven into the mountains.

White newcomers quickly recognized the agricultural promise of the valley and began an intensive alteration of the area that made it increasingly suitable for cultivation. Farmers and ranchers drained the marshes and lakes and established irrigation systems. Today, the valley floor, for the most part, bears little resemblance to its pre-contact condition. The oak groves are gone and lakes are dry. The vast marshes, once the refuge for enormous flocks of waterfowl, no longer exist. The grazing lands of the elk and antelope have become cultivated fields, producing a wide variety of crops. The native faunal community, has been replaced by primarily domestic livestock, except for burrowing mammals.

The early interior route used by the Spanish to travel from El Pueblo de Los Angeles to the San Francisco Bay Area, followed the routes of earlier antelope and Indian trails. This roadway, known to the early Hispanic inhabitants of the San Joaquin Valley as El Camino Viejo à Los Angeles, was traversed by ox-cart, with individuals stopping their teams at the various watering holes along the west side of the Central Valley. Later, portions of the trail were turned into wagon roads (Latta 1936).

The Chowchilla River was named for the Yokuts tribe on the lower course of the river, mentioned in Mexican documents in the 1830s. The Chowchilla River appears under that name in maps in the 1850s (Gudde 1969:64). The land remained in use for ranching for many years. In 1912, an investor of many properties in the region acquired the Chowchilla Ranch. Over one half of the ranch was divided in a colonization scheme with lots for small farmers. The northeast portion of the ranch was set aside for the site of the town of Chowchilla. Streets were laid out in the town area and surrounding country. Other improvements include a hotel, town water system, and office buildings. In October, 1912, the colony opened with more than 4,000 people reportedly there to inspect the land and town. A post office opened at Chowchilla in 1912 (Frickstad 1955).

RESEARCH

A record search was conducted for the project area with a ½ mile radius at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on May 30, 2023 (RS#23-174, Appendix 2). A portion of the project area had been surveyed by Napton in 1989 (Report #MA-00304). There are no sites recorded in the project area, but Avenue 26 to the north, lying within the record search radius was recorded as P-20-003120.

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Michael Lawson (resume, Appendix 1) completed a field survey of the project site on June 16, 2023 (Figure 3). Lawson checked for any evidence of prehistoric or historic period resources.

The survey area is a narrow strip of flat field directly adjacent to State Route 99, northbound side, with a frontage road on the NE boundary that provides access to new subdivisions and open lots.

A chain link fence separates the survey area from the freeway, and another fence runs along the northern border with a car dealership.

The survey area is flat, with a slight drainage swale running along the freeway-side. Mature palm trees grow in a line twenty feet northeast of the freeway fencing, along the length of the parcel. Whether or not the survey area has been shaped or graded as part of freeway construction is not obvious. The entire parcel beginning 8' northeast of the palms has been plowed for fire prevention, including the acreage adjacent to and southwest of the southwest end of the parcel.

Soil was determined to be a light brown silty loam with little stone inclusion. Micro particles of the silt contain granitic elements. Soil color and constituents are uniform throughout the survey area.

Aside from the landscaped southwest portion of the parcel with palm trees and low ground cover in between, most of the volunteer vegetation has been mechanically removed or tilled in.

Due to plowing, soil visibility was excellent in most of the acreage. In the remaining strip of landscaped area next to Highway 99, ground visibility was good.

Parallel transects no more than ten meters apart were walked to conduct a general survey, which was adequate due to lack of sensitivity for possible resources.

No artifacts or features, Native American or historical in nature were discovered during the survey.

CONCLUSIONS

There are no historical resources—either prehistoric or historic---within the project area. For the purposes of CEQA, we conclude that there will be no impact to important cultural resources from implementation of the project.

A - Z TRUCK CENTER

SURVEY COVERAGE

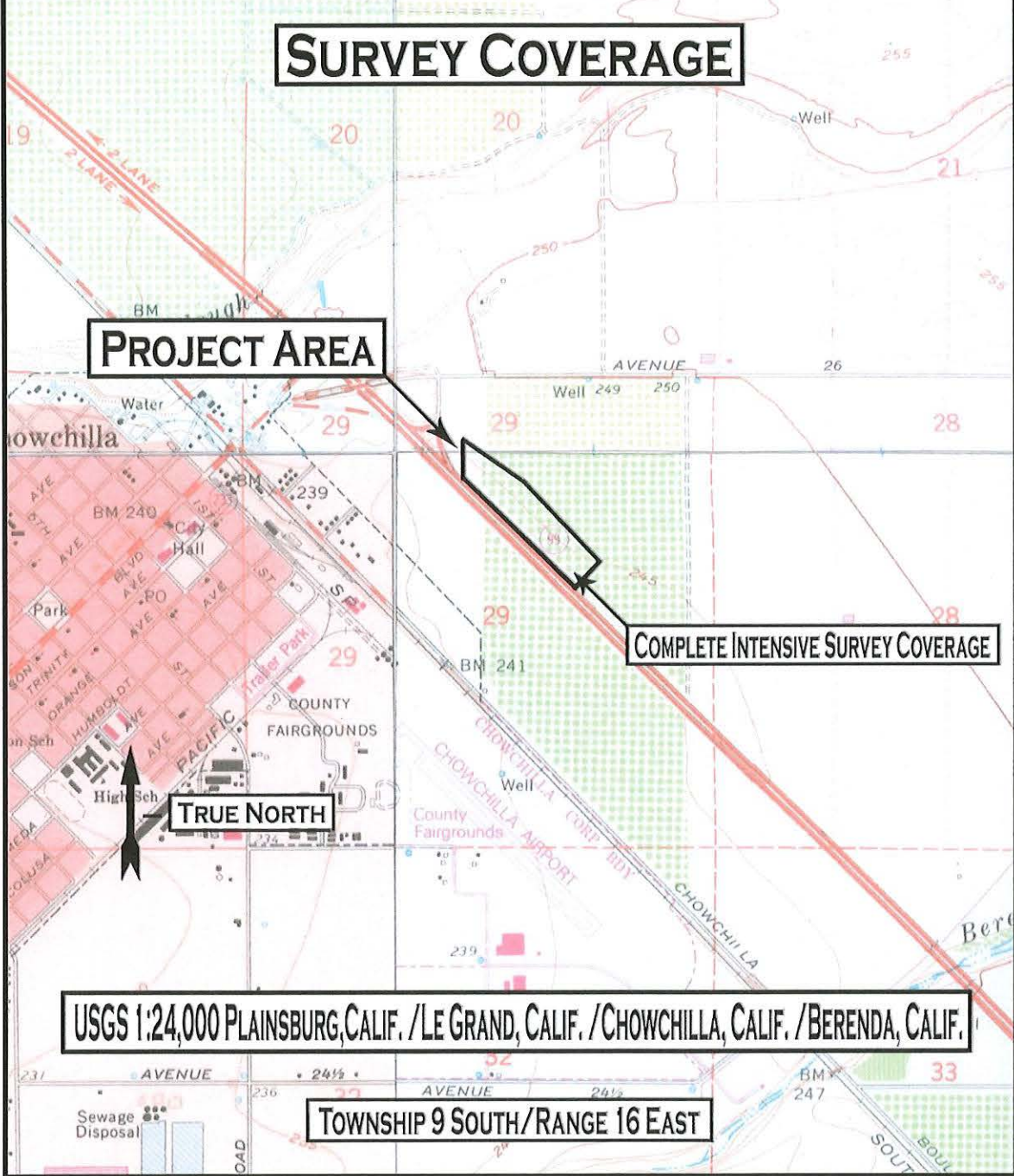


Figure 3

RECOMMENDATIONS

There is always a possibility that a site may exist in the project and be obscured by vegetation, siltation, or historic activities, leaving no surface evidence. If artifacts, exotic rock, shell, or bone are uncovered during the construction, work should stop in that area immediately. A qualified archeologist should be contacted to examine and evaluate the deposit, and consult with the appropriate Native American groups.

Discovery of Human Remains

In the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the Madera County Coroner has determined that the remains are not subject to any provisions of law concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner and cause of death, and the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to his or her authorized representative. The coroner shall make his or her determination within two working days from the time the person responsible for the excavation, or his or her authorized representative, notifies the coroner of the discovery or recognition of the human remains.

If the Madera County Coroner determines that the remains are not subject to his or her authority and if the coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American, or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, he or she shall contact, by telephone within 24 hours, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC).

After notification, the NAHC will follow the procedures outlined in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, that include notification of most likely descendants (MLDs), and recommendations for treatment of the remains.

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APPENDIX 1

Resumes

**PEAK & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RESUME**

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January 2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ms. Peak has served as the principal investigator on a wide range of prehistoric and historic excavations throughout California. She has directed laboratory analyses of archeological materials, including the historic period. She has also conducted a wide variety of cultural resource assessments in California, including documentary research, field survey, Native American coordination, and report preparation.

In addition, Ms. Peak has developed a second field of expertise in applied history, specializing in site-specific research for historic period resources. She has completed many historical research projects for a wide variety of site types.

Through her education and experience, Ms. Peak meets the Secretary of Interior Standards for historian, architectural historian, prehistoric archeologist, and historic archeologist.

EDUCATION

M.A. - History - California State University, Sacramento, 1989
Thesis: *The Bellevue Mine: A Historical Resources Management Site Study in Plumas and Sierra Counties, California*
B.A. - Anthropology - University of California, Berkeley

PROJECTS

In recent months, Ms. Peak has completed several determinations of eligibility and effect documents in coordination with the Corps of Engineers for projects requiring federal permits, assessing the eligibility of many sites for the National Register of Historic Places.

She has also completed historical research projects on a wide variety of topics for many California projects including the development of navigation and landings on the Napa River, wineries, farmhouses dating to the 1860s, bridges, an early roadhouse, Folsom Dam, and a section of an electric railway line.

In recent years, Ms. Peak has prepared a number of cultural resource overviews and predictive models for blocks of land proposed for future development for general and specific plans. She has been able to direct many surveys of these areas, allowing the model to be tested.

She served as principal investigator for the multi-phase Twelve Bridges Golf Club project in Placer County. She served as liaison with the various agencies, helped prepare the historic properties treatment plan, managed the various phases of test and data recovery excavations, and completed the final report on the analysis of the test phase excavations of many prehistoric sites. She is currently involved as the principal investigator for the Teichert Quarry project adjacent to Twelve Bridges in the City of Rocklin, coordinating contacts with Native Americans, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Office of Historic Preservation.

Ms. Peak has served as project manager for many major survey and excavation projects in recent years, including the many surveys and site definition excavations for the 172-mile-long Pacific Pipeline proposed for construction in Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles counties. She also completed an archival study in the City of Los Angeles for the project. She also served as principal investigator for a major coaxial cable removal project for AT&T.

Additionally, she has completed hundreds of small surveys, served as a construction monitor at several urban sites, and conducted emergency recovery excavations for sites found during monitoring. She has directed the excavations of several historic complexes in Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado Counties.

Ms. Peak is the author of a chapter and two sections of a published history (1999) of Sacramento County, *Sacramento: Gold Rush Legacy, Metropolitan Legacy*. She served as the consultant for a children's book on California, published by Capstone Press in 2003 in the Land of Liberty series.

PEAK & ASSOCIATES, INC.
RESUME

MICHAEL LAWSON

January 2023

Archeological Field Director

3941 Park Drive, Suite 20-329

El Dorado Hills, CA 95672

(916) 939-2405

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. Lawson has compiled an excellent record of undertaking excavation and survey projects for both the public and private sectors over the past thirty years. He has conducted many surveys throughout northern and central California and Hawaii, as well as serving as an archeological technician, site monitor, crew chief and field director for a number of excavation projects.

Mr. Lawson is qualified by the Bureau of Land Management as a field director for archeological surveys and excavations. In 2022, he led teams as the field director on several field surveys in the Sierras for the proposed undergrounding of PG&E transmission lines, dealing with both historic and prehistoric cultural resources. Lawson works for several firms based in the Sacramento Area and Bay Area.

EDUCATION

B.A. - Anthropology - California State University, Sacramento

Special Course: Comparative Osteology. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Forensic Anthropology Center. January 2018.

The special course included: intensive lab and outdoor study with human example from outdoor research facility, including typical and non-metric examples, compared with the fifty non-human species most confused with human remains. Work at the outdoor research facility "The Body Farm" study included survey, photography, collection, and identification of faunal and human bone fragments, with a Power Point presentation discussing finds.

EXPERIENCE

- Extensive monitoring of open space, streets and project development areas for prehistoric period and historic period resources. Areas monitored include Sutter Street in Folsom; Mud Creek Archeological District in Chico; Camp Roberts, San Luis Obispo County; Avila Beach, San Luis Obispo County; Edgewood Golf Course, South Lake Tahoe; Davis Water Project, Davis; Star Bend levee section, Sutter County; Feather River levees, Sutter County; Bodega

Bay, Sonoma County; San Jose BART line extension, Santa Clara County; and numerous sites for PG&E in San Francisco.

- Over thirty years of experience working in cultural resource management, volunteer, and academic settings in California historic, proto-historic, and prehistoric archaeology.
- Expertise in pedestrian survey, excavation, feature (including burial) exposure, laboratory techniques, research. Field positions include field director, assistant field director, crew chief and lead technician.

APPENDIX 2

SSJVIC Record Search



5/30/2023

Robert Gerry
Peak & Associates, Inc.
3941 Park Drive Ste 30-329
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Re: Chowchilla Travel Station
Records Search File No.: 23-174

The Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center received your record search request for the project area referenced above, located on the Plainsburg, Le Grand, Chowchilla, Berenda USGS 7.5' quads. The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and the 0.25 mile radius:

As indicated on the data request form, the locations of resources and reports are provided in the following format: custom GIS maps GIS data

Resources within project area:	None
Resources within 0.25 mile radius:	P-20-003120
Reports within project area:	MA-00304
Reports within 0.25 mile radius:	MA-00970, 01349

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:

Not available at SSJVIC; please see <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/environmental-analysis/cultural-studies/california-historical-bridges-tunnels>

Ethnographic Information:

Not available at SSJVIC

Historical Literature:

Not available at SSJVIC

Historical Maps:

Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>

Local Inventories:

Not available at SSJVIC

GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps:

Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/search/default.asp#searchTabIndex=0&searchByTypeIndex=1 and/or>

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/view?docId=hb8489p15p;developer=local;style=oac4;doc.view=items>

Shipwreck Inventory:

Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<https://www.slc.ca.gov/shipwrecks/>

Soil Survey Maps:

Not available at SSJVIC; please see

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

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

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

Sincerely,



Jeremy E David
Assistant Coordinator

Report List

SSJViC Record Search 23-174

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
MA-00304		1989	Napton, L. Kyle	Cultural Resource Investigation of the Eastside Annexation Area, 1370 Acres in Chowchilla, Madera County, California	California State University, Stanislaus	
MA-00970	IC Record Search Nbr - 03-367	2003	Wren, Donald G.	A Cultural Resource Study: A Resurvey of Land APN 026-130-017 & 026-130-013, Chowchilla, California	Individual Consultant	
MA-01349		2021	Hudlow, Scott M.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for Montgomery Farms, 21 Lot Subdivision, City of Chowchilla, California	Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates	

Resource List

SSJVIC Record Search 23-174

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-20-003120	CA-MAD-002840H	Resource Name - Avenue 26; Resource Name - Madera HDR-1	Structure	Historic	HP37	2016 (HDR EOC, HDR EOC, Inc.)	MA-01267

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

Primary # Madera HDR-1 P-20-003120
HRI #
Trinomial CA-MAD-2840 H
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page 1 of 8

*Resource Name or #: Madera HDR-1

P1. Other Identifier: Avenue 26

P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

- *a. County: Madera and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Le Grand & Raynor Creek Date: 1983 T9SR16E N/ A ¼ of N/ A ¼ of Sec 21 & 22 M.D.B.M.
c. Address: 18000 Avenue 26 City: Chowchilla Zip: 93610
d. UTM: Zone: 10S; NAD83; western extent: 746959 mE/ 4112601 mN (G.P.S.) to
Eastern extent: 764698 mE/ 4113067 mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate) Elevation: 266 ft. to 322 ft.
From CA-99 travel east on Avenue 26 for approximately 1.75 miles to the eastern edge of the Pheasant Run Golf Club in Chowchilla, CA to the western extent of the road segment. Continue east on Avenue 26 for 11 miles until the segment terminates at Road 29.

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)
The resource is an 11 mile segment of Avenue 26 which is a historic route that has been in existence since at least the early 20th century according to historic topographic maps. From west to east the 1 mile section between the Pheasant Run Golf Club and Road 19 dates to the 1940s, the 1 mile section between Road 19 and Road 20 that crosses Berenda Slough dates to the 1980s, and the 9 mile section between Road 20 and Road 29 has been in use since at least 1918. In the early 20th century the road connected Chowchilla, CA to the town of Medano (abandoned), the town of Buchanan (abandoned), the town of Daulton, and a number of large ranches and farms. Although it is not known exactly when Avenue 26 was created, it is likely the road dates to the late 19th century because the town of Buchanan was a copper mining town only in existence between 1873 and 1903. Today the road still provides access to Daulton, several large private ranches and farms, and the Eastman Lake Recreation Area where the town of Buchanan once stood. It is likely the road was originally a dirt road which transitioned to an oiled dirt road in the early 20th century and was later paved during the late 20th century. The road is currently a deteriorating asphalt route.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP37. Highway/trail, AH7. Roads/trails

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo:
Overview of Avenue 26 at Road 24 facing west.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources: Historic Prehistoric Both

*P7. Owner and Address:
Madera County
200 W. 4th street
Madera, CA 93637

*P8. Recorded by:
HDR EOC, Inc. 8690 Balboa Avenue,
Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92123

*P9. Date Recorded: 2016-12-15

*P10. Survey Type: Intensive Survey

*P11. Report Citation: Michael Connolly and Wayne Glenny 2017. *Cultural Resources Report: Avenue 26 and Road 29 Rehabilitation Project CA FLAP MAD 26(1), Madera County, California*. Prepared by HDR, Inc. for the Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands Highway Division.

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Sketch Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List):

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD

Page 2 of 8

*Resource Name or #: Madera HDR-1

***A1. Dimensions:** a. Length: 11 miles (E/ W) x b. Width: 26 feet (N/ S)

Method of Measurement: Paced Taped Visual estimate Other: GIS

Method of Determination (Check any that apply.): Artifacts Features Soil Vegetation Topography
 Cut bank Animal burrow Excavation Property boundary Other (Explain):

Reliability of Determination: High Medium Low Explain: The road is easily identifiable in the field and on historic and modern maps.

Limitations (Check any that apply): Restricted access Paved/built over Site limits incompletely defined
 Disturbances Vegetation Other (Explain):

A2. Depth: None Unknown Method of Determination:

***A3. Human Remains:** Present Absent Possible Unknown (Explain):

***A4. Features** (Number, briefly describe, indicate size, list associated cultural constituents, and show location of each feature on sketch map.): There are 5 deteriorating culverts with steel and concrete pipes as well as concrete headwalls. The construction of the headwalls indicates they are poured concrete structures likely dating to the 1960s or later. No date stamps were present on any of the headwalls for the culverts, a typical practice during the early to mid 20th century. The headwalls measure approximately 4 feet in length and 8 inches in thickness with heights ranging from 1 to 2 feet; although, the headwalls were all partially buried. The resource crosses the historic AT & SF Railroad and the historic Madera Canal. - Please see Continuation Sheets.

***A5. Cultural Constituents** (Describe and quantify artifacts, ecofacts, cultural residues, etc., not associated with features.): There were no artifacts, ecofacts and/ or cultural residues associated with this resource.

***A6. Were Specimens Collected?** No Yes (If yes, attach Artifact Record or catalog and identify where specimens are curated.)

***A7. Site Condition:** Good Fair Poor (Describe disturbances.): The asphalt route is in a deteriorated state.

***A8. Nearest Water** (Type, distance, and direction.): The resource crosses the Madera Canal and Berenda Slough.

***A9. Elevation:** 266 ft. to 269 ft.

A10. Environmental Setting (Describe culturally relevant variables such as vegetation, fauna, soils, geology, landform, slope, aspect, exposure, etc.): The resource passes through ranch and agricultural properties with numerous irrigation canals, creeks, and streams. Soils mainly consist of 10YR 6/ 3 pale brown and 5YR 4/ 6 yellowish red sandy loam. Vegetation consists of grasses.

A11. Historical Information: N/ A

***A12. Age:** Prehistoric Protohistoric 1542-1769 1769-1848 1848-1880 1880-1914 1914-1945
 Post 1945 Undetermined Describe position in regional prehistoric chronology or factual historic dates if known: N/ A

A13. Interpretations (Discuss data potential, function[s], ethnic affiliation, and other interpretations): Avenue 26 is a historic route that has been in existence since at least the early 20th century according to historic topographic maps. The 1 mile section between the Pheasant Run Golf Club and Road 19 dates to the 1940s, the 1 mile section between Road 19 and Road 20 that crosses Berenda Slough dates to the 1980s, and the 9 mile section between Road 20 and Road 29 has been in use since at least 1918. The resource is currently an asphalt road with no unique characteristics and is relatively indistinguishable from any other asphalt road in the area. - Please see continuation sheet for complete evaluation.

A14. Remarks: N/A

A15. References (Documents, informants, maps, and other references): Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC (NETR) 2016 <http://www.historicaerials.com/>. Topographic Maps 1918-current.

A16. Photographs (List subjects, direction of view, and accession numbers or attach a Photograph Record.):
Original Media/Negatives Kept at: HDR, 8690 Balboa Ave, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92123

***A17. Form Prepared by:** M. Connolly
Affiliation and Address: HDR, 8690 Balboa Ave, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92123

Date: 2016-12-15

L1. Historic and/or Common Name: Avenue 26

L2a. Portion Described: Entire Resource Segment Point Observation **Designation:** HDR-1

b. Location of point or segment: (Provide UTM coordinates, legal description, and any other useful locational data. Show the area that has been field inspected on a Location Map)

HDR-1: UTM: Zone 10S; Western extent: 746959 mE / 4112601 mN, Eastern extent: 764698 mE / 4113067 mN. Located in Sections 21 and 22 of Township 9 South, Range 16 East of the Le Grand USGS 7.5' Quadrant; Mount Diablo Base Meridian. The feature connects Chowchilla, CA on the western extent to Road 29 on the eastern extent.

L3. Description: HDR-1 is a historic road which originally connected Chowchilla, CA to the town of Buchanan, the town of Daulton, and a number of large ranches and farms. The road has been in existence since at least the early 20th century according to historic topographic maps. From west to east the 1 mile section between the Pheasant Run Golf Club and Road 19 dates to the 1940s, the 1 mile section between Road 19 and Road 20 that crosses Berenda Slough dates to the 1980s, and the 9 mile section between Road 20 and Road 29 has been in use since at least 1918. The resource is currently a deteriorating asphalt road with no unique characteristics and is relatively indistinguishable from any other asphalt road in the area.

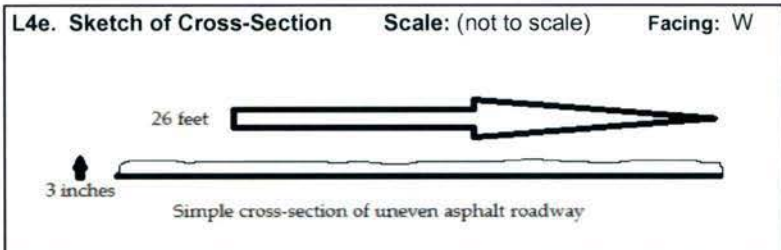
L4. Dimensions:

a. **Width:** 26 ft.

c. **Height or Depth:** 3 in. (thickness)

d. **Length of Segment:** 11 miles

L5. Associated Resources: HDR-1 is associated with historic Road 29 (Madera HDR-2), the Madera Canal (Madera HDR-3), and the AT & SF Railroad (Madera HDR-4).



L6. Setting: HDR-1 passes through ranch and agricultural properties with numerous irrigation canals, creeks, and streams.

L7. Integrity Considerations: It is likely the road was originally a dirt road which transitioned to an oiled dirt road in the early 20th century and was later paved during the late 20th century. Madera HDR-1 and associated culverts do not qualify for listing under Criteria A through D of the NRHP, or under Criteria 1 through 4 of the CRHR in that they are not directly associated with significant events or personages from our past on a national or state level, do not embody distinctive characteristics of type or period, do not represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value, and are unlikely to yield information important to our history or prehistory. They are also considered non-unique resources because they cannot answer important scientific research questions, are not the oldest or best available examples of their type, and are not associated with a scientifically important event or person. Therefore, Madera HDR-1 is assessed as ineligible for the NRHP and CRHR.

L8a. Photograph, Map or Drawing



L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing: Overhead / Plan View of the HDR-1 feature and the surrounding area.

L9. Remarks: Currently the road is scheduled to be repaved with some portions being widened and having drainage improvements installed. The work on Avenue 26 will not affect the historic alignment or damage any associated features.

L10. Form Prepared by:

M. Connolly
HDR, 8690 Balboa Ave, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92123-1502

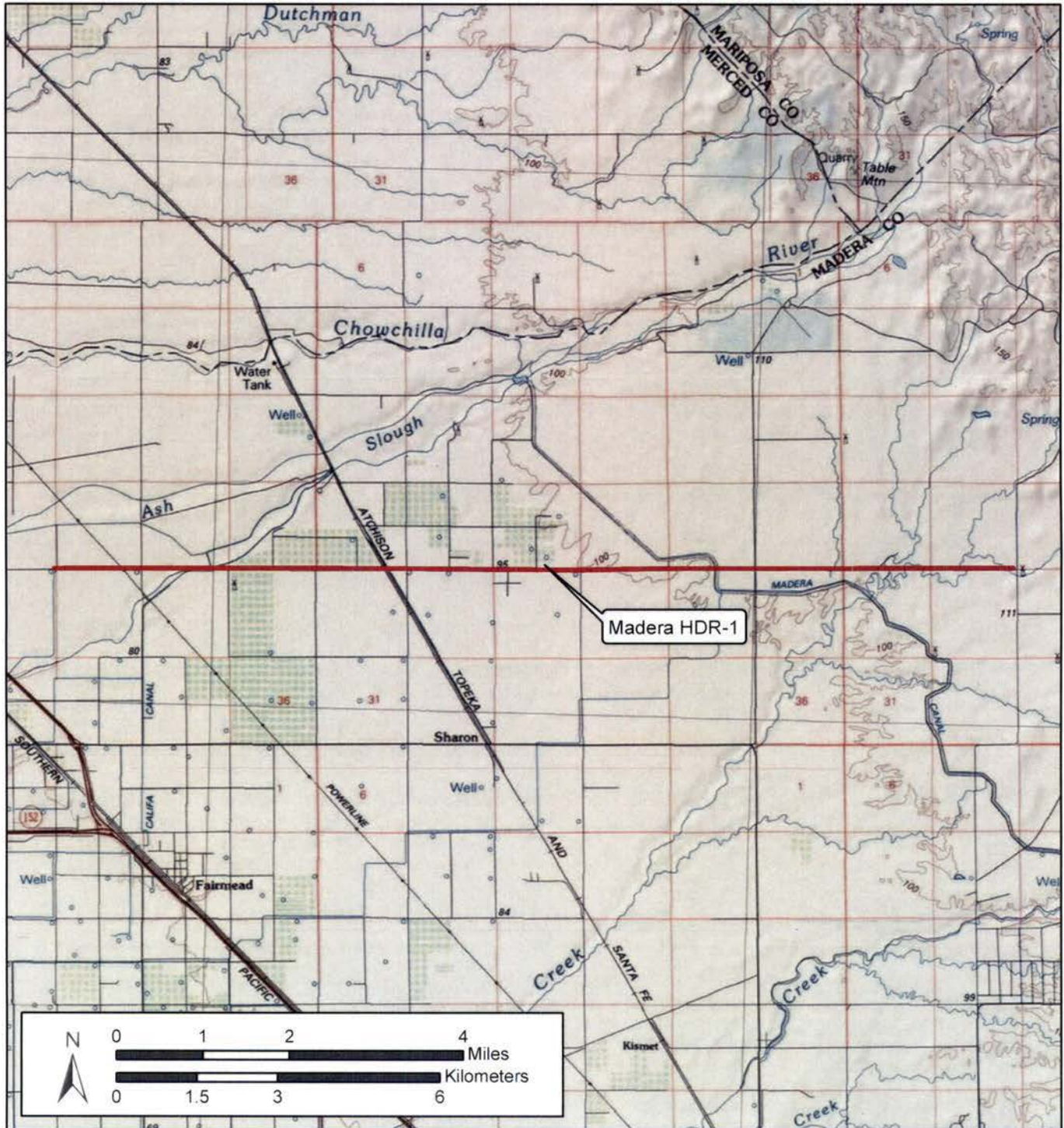
L11. Date: 12/ 15/ 16

LOCATION MAP

Page 4 of 8

*Resource Name or #: Madera HDR-1

*Map Name: Merced, CA 30x 60 min Quadrangle *Scale: 1:100,000 *Date of Map: 1983



SKETCH MAP

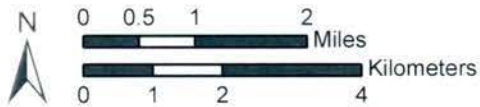
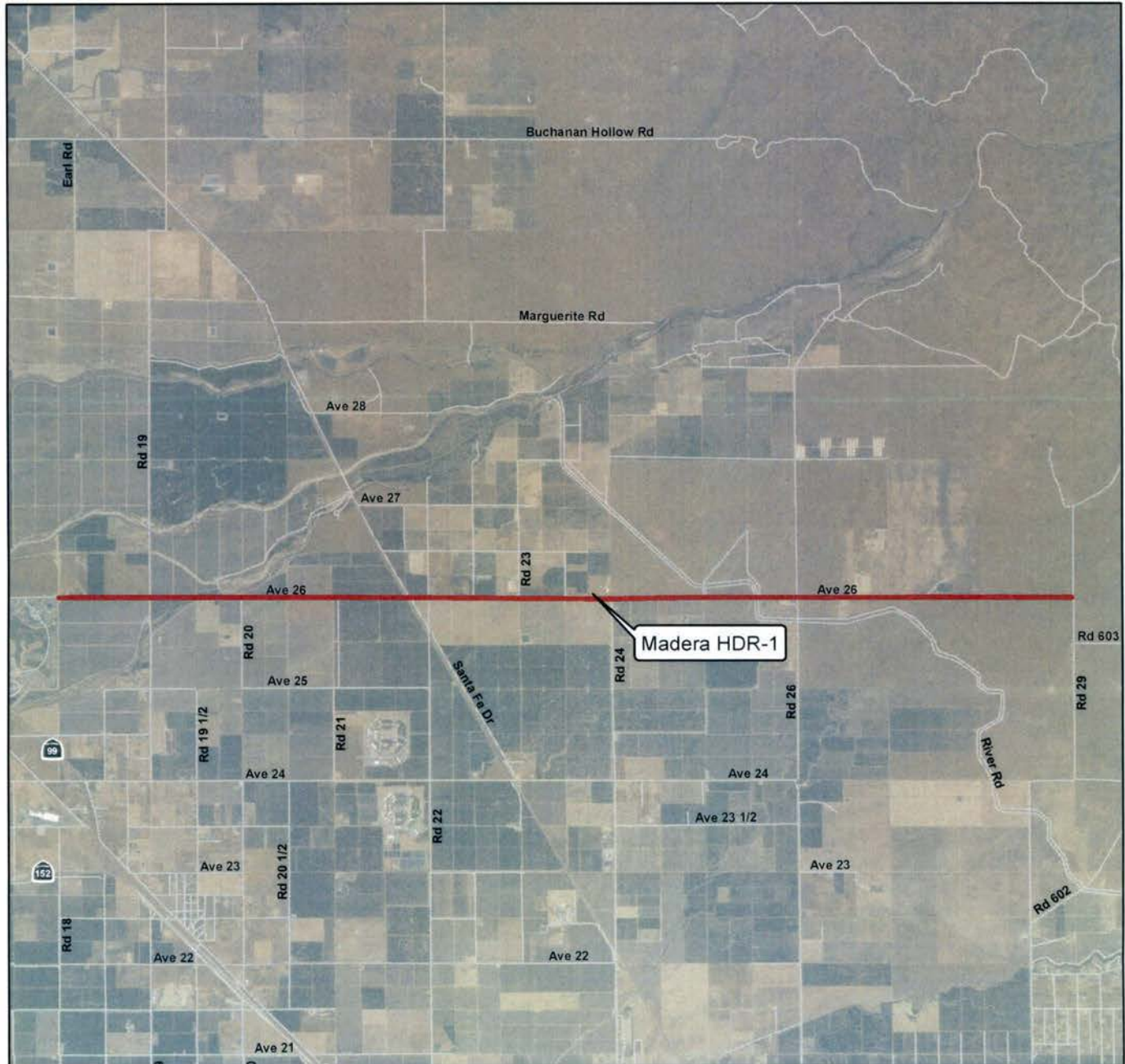
Page 5 of 8

*Resource Name or #: Madera HDR-1

*Drawn By: HDR

*Scale: 1:100,000

*Date of Map: 2017



Site

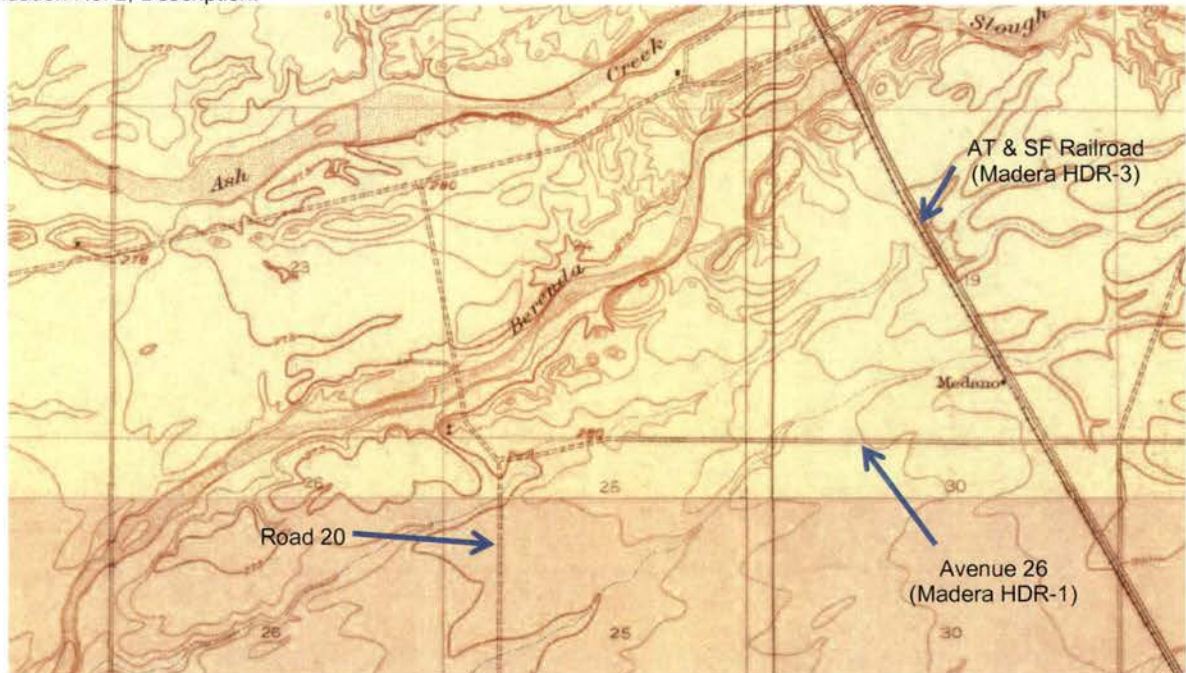
*Recorded by: HDR-EOC

*Date: 2016-12-15

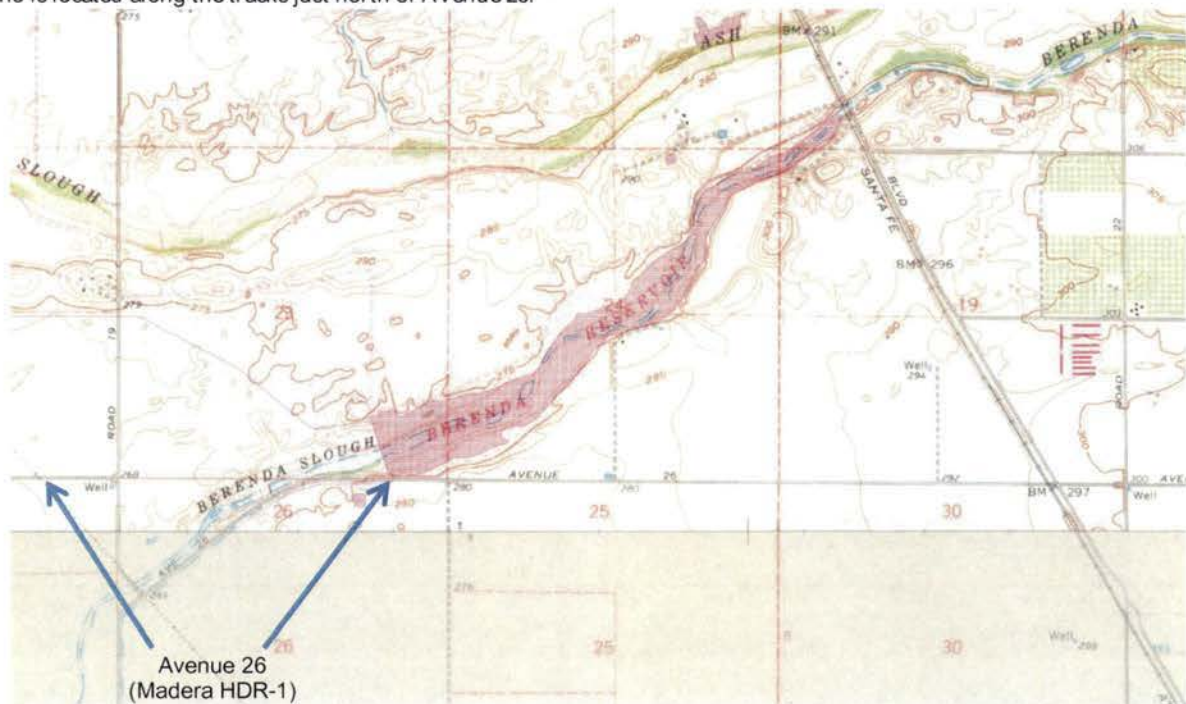
Continuation

Update

Continuation No. 2, Description:



Above is a section from a 1918 topographic map depicting Avenue 26 at its westernmost extent during this time. The road is depicted with two solid lines indicating that it is at least semi-improved. The dirt road running north/ south is the approximate location of the current Road 20. In the 1940s a more direct connection to Chowchilla was established across Berenda Slough as seen in the 1981 topographic map below. Avenue 26 turns to the south, crosses the slough, connects to road 19, and then reconnects with the western portion of Avenue 26 to Chowchilla. During the mid 1980s a straight, completely direct route was constructed across Berenda Slough and the section of Avenue 26 that turns to the southwest was abandoned. Also, the now abandoned town of Medano is located along the tracks just north of Avenue 26.



*Recorded by: HDR-EOC

*Date: 2016-12-15

Continuation

Update

Continuation No. 2, Description:

Five historic culverts, likely dating to the 1960s, are present along Avenue 26 between Road 20 and Road 26. All of the culverts consist of a concrete headwall on the south side of the road with concrete or steel pipes. All culverts are either badly damaged or completely filled in with sediment and no longer serve their intended purpose.

Culvert #1 is located on Avenue 26 approximately 40 feet to the west of the Road 23 intersection. The culvert consists of a 3 foot by 8 inch by 2.5 foot poured concrete headwall on the south side of the road with a 1 foot diameter steel pipe under Avenue 26. The pipe is approximately 30 feet in length at a depth of approximately 2 feet under the roadway.

Culvert #2 is located on Avenue 26 approximately 240 feet to the east of the Road 23 ½ intersection. The culvert consists of a double headwall on the south side of the road. The southernmost headwall measures approximately 2 feet in length, 8 inches in width, and 2 feet in height. The northern headwall measures approximately 3 feet in length, 8 inches in width, and 3 feet in height. The headwalls were once connected by a section of concrete pipe; however, the connector pipe has broken away. The pipe is approximately 2 feet in diameter, 30 feet in length, at a depth of approximately 2 feet under the roadway, and is almost completely filled with sediment.

Culvert #3 is located on Avenue 26 approximately 1,050 feet to the west of the Road 24 intersection. The culvert consists of a 2.5 foot by 8 inch by 1.5 foot poured concrete headwall on the south side of the road with a 1.5 foot diameter steel pipe under Avenue 26. The pipe is approximately 30 feet in length at a depth of approximately 2 feet under the roadway. The culvert pipe is almost completely filled with sediment.

Culvert #4 is located on Avenue 26 approximately 820 feet to the east of the Road 24 intersection. The culvert consists of a 3 foot by 8 inch by 2.5 foot poured concrete headwall on the south side of the road with a 1 foot diameter steel pipe under Avenue 26. The pipe is approximately 30 feet in length at a depth of approximately 2 feet under the roadway. On the north side of the road the pipe opening is encased by a 2 foot by 2 foot concrete box. The height of the concrete box is unknown as it is almost completely buried by sediment.

Culvert #5 is located on Avenue 26 approximately 1,080 feet to the west of the Road 26 intersection. The culvert consists of two 3 foot by 8 inch by 2.5 foot poured concrete headwalls on the north and south sides of the road with a 1.5 foot diameter steel pipe under Avenue 26. The pipe is approximately 30 feet in length at a depth of approximately 2 feet under the roadway.

*Recorded by: HDR-EOC

*Date: 2016-12-15 Continuation Update

Continuation No. 3:



Headwall for Culvert 1. The headwall and pipe are constructed of concrete, the pipe may be transite but determination is difficult. The form impressions indicate this is a poured concrete structure and not precast. The pipe at the bottom of the photo is metal and travels under the roadway. The pipe diameters range from 1 foot to 1.5 feet.

Culvert 2. All headwalls are on the south side of Avenue 26, no headwalls are present on the north side. This photograph of Culvert 2 highlights the deteriorated condition of the older culverts along Avenue 26. The openings under the headwalls are blocked, connector pipes are broken, and the culvert is no longer serving its intended purpose.

Culvert 5. The photograph shows the form impressions on the headwall indicating it is a poured concrete structure. The pipe is almost completely filled with sediment hindering the functionality of the structure. The photo also shows the deteriorated condition of the asphalt roadway. Note: Culverts 3 and 4 are identical to Culvert 5 in appearance.