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## CULTURAL RESOURCE EVALUATION OF A PORTION OF 16750 HERRINGTON ROAD, MIDDLETOWN, CA APN 013-060-40



Prepared at the request of: Valentino Dimitrov 28592 N. 68th Ave. Peoria, AR 85383

Prepared by: John W. Parker, Ph.D., RPA

USGS Quad: Middletown 7.5'

February 28, 2020

#### CONTENTS

| SUMMARY                         |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND     | 2 |
| Natural Setting                 | 3 |
| Prehistoric Background          | 3 |
| Historic Background             | 4 |
| FIELD INSPECTION                | 5 |
| STUDY RESULTS                   | 6 |
| Legal Framework                 | 6 |
| Prehistoric                     | 7 |
| Historic<br>Significance        |   |
| CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS | 8 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY                    | 8 |

## **SUMMARY**

On February 6th, Mr. Dimitrov requested that the author conduct a cultural resource investigation of ~20 acres on a parcel northeast of Hidden Valley Lake. The purpose of the investigation was to locate, describe, and evaluate any archaeological or historical resources that may be present in the project area. In addition, the author was to assess the impact that might occur as a result of cannabis cultivation activities.

The background research indicated that no cultural sites had been recorded within the project area. However, 3 historic sites and 1 prehistoric site had been recorded within 1 mile of the parcel.

The field inspection found two isolated historic artifacts within the project area and a historic rock wall outside the project area.

No evidence of prehistoric cultural activity was discovered.

Though isolated artifacts can sometimes provide information about past cultural uses, they are not considered "significant" cultural resources as defined in the

Public Resources Code<sup>1</sup>. Recording their location in this report mitigates any impact that might occur as a result of project development.

The rock wall may be considered a significant historic site, however, it was located outside the project area.

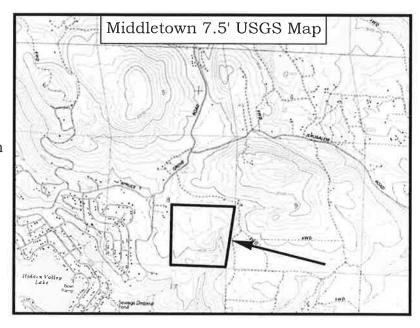
Due to the fact that no "significant" historic resources were found within the project area, it is recommended that the proposed project be approved as planned. Though outside the project area, the rock wall and its immediate surroundings should be avoided by project construction and staging activities.

In the event that undiscovered cultural sites are encountered during the ground clearing process, these should be evaluated for significance by a qualified archaeologist and either preserved or mitigated as outlined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)<sup>2</sup>.

### INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The fieldwork carried out as part of this study was conducted by John and Cheyanne Parker. Dr. Parker holds a Ph.D. in Archaeology, and is a Registered Professional Archaeologist. Cheyanne has 23 years of archaeological field and lab experience. The fieldwork took place February 26th, 2020.

The proposed project will require a local discretionary permit indicating that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) applies to the project. Therefore, this cultural resource evaluation was written to comply with the requirements set forth in CEQA (sec. 21083.2). This report follows the outline for identification of cultural resources as presented in the "Archaeological Resource Management Reports (ARMR): Recommended Contents and Format" (State of California



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sec. 5024.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CEQA sec. 15126.4c

1990).

The parcel consisted of level to gently rolling terrain located in the southeast 1/4 of Section 8, T11N, R6W.

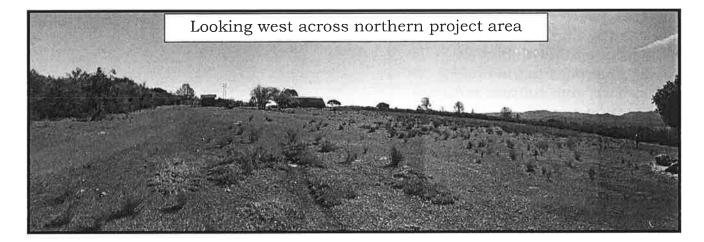
The parcel is listed as 16750 Herrington Road, Middletown.

## Natural Setting

The project area was located on a rolling plateau north of the Putah Creek Floodplain. The plateau consisted of vesicular basalt flows and red volcanic ash soils. These soils supported a blue oak/chaparral woodland and grassland environment.

Portions of the parcel had been brushed. A barn-like structure, dirt roads, and fence lines existed on the parcel. The majority of the area was undeveloped.



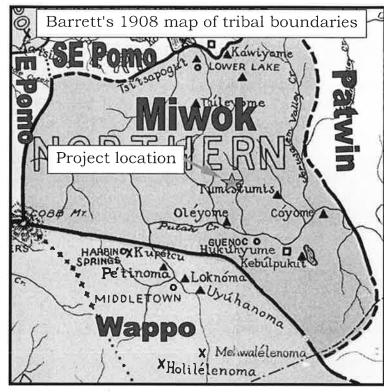


# Prehistoric Background

Prior to European arrival, the project area was located within the Lake Miwok territory (Barrett 1908, Kniffen 1939). Barrett's map suggests that the project area may have been controlled by the village of Oléyomi, located along Putah Creek to the south.

The Miwok language belongs to the Penutian language family. People representing the Penutian language family appear to have entered the California Central Valley sometime during the past 2,000 to 3,000 years (Moratto 1984:557).

Prior to the arrival of the Penutian speakers, the area was inhabited by Yukian and Hokan speaking people. These were most likely the earliest inhabitants of the project area. Both language families are considered the oldest in the New World (Shipley 1978:81). Research has recently established that the Hokan language family "is the oldest linguistic relationship among Western North American languages that can be



established by normal comparative linguistic methods" (Golla 2004).

The oldest archaeological sites in the region have been dated between 14,000 and 20,000 years. These sites indicate that a wave of people (most likely Hokan speakers) entered the area by way of the Cache Creek drainage from California's Central Valley (Parker 1994, 2008).

Throughout the 14,000+ years of Yukian, Pomoan, and Miwok habitation, there have been many political, technological, and cultural changes as these people sought to adjust to changes in climate, resource availability, and population growth.

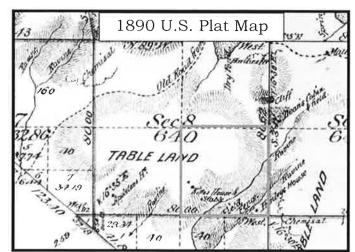
It is likely that the Miwok either displaced or intermarried into the existing Hokan

or Yukian speaking groups that once controlled this area.

# Historic Background

The 1890 Government Plat Map lists Kitto's House and Stable as well as Henley's (Hanly) house on the parcel.

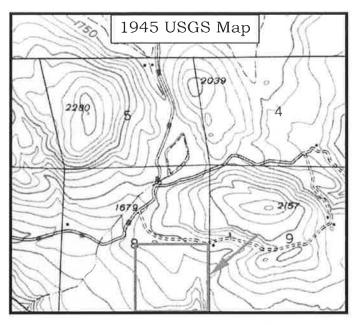
In 1891, a land patent was issued to Marguerite Kitto for 3/4 of the parcel. In 1892, a land patent was issued to Thomas Hanly for 1/4 of the parcel (see



patents at end of report). Neither Kitto nor Hanly are mentioned in the Lake County Histories (Slocum, Bowen & Co. 1881, Carpenter et.al. 1914). Thomas Hanly is listed as a trustee of the Sunset School between 1896 and 1902 (Mauldin nd:9517).

The wagon road from Napa, Calistoga, and Middletown to Clear Lake is depicted on the 1890 map (now known as Spruce Grove Road).

The 1945 USGS map shows no historical development on the parcel.



### FIELD INSPECTION

Prior to the field inspection, a record search was conducted at the Sonoma State University office of the California Historical Resource Information System. This record search indicated that the project area had not been previously inspected for cultural resources. However, 3 historic sites and 1 prehistoric site had been recorded within 1 mile of the parcel.

The nearest archaeological inspections were conducted immediately north of the project area (Napton 1994, Greenway 1992).

A review was also made of the National Register of Historic Places and State Register of Historic Resources.

On February 18th, a sacred lands file search was requested from the State Native American Heritage Commission. Their review failed to turn up any evidence of previously recorded sacred sites (see attached).

A letter was also sent to Ryan Peterson (Middletown Rancheria Tribal Historic Preservation Dept.), requesting information about any traditional cultural resources that may exist within the area.

Mr. Peterson responded in an email on February 28th:

"We've reviewed the project in our internal database and didn't see any known resources within project area. Thank you for reaching out.

Regards, Ryan Peterson" Mr. Peterson was invited to join the author during the field inspection.

The field inspection involved a complete on-foot reconnaissance of the project area. All areas were carefully inspected. The ground surface was examined for historic and prehistoric cultural materials. This inspection was conducted by walking transects across the parcel spaced 5 to 8 meters apart. Whenever grass cover or leaf litter was encountered, a trowel was used intermittently to clear to the mineral soil. All cut banks and tree root balls were examined to observe buried soils. Rock outcrops were inspected for seed preparation and rock art activities.

The sparse grass over most of the project area enabled a complete inspection of the mineral soil. It is possible that isolated historic or prehistoric artifacts may have been missed, however, we are sure that any significant cultural sites would have been observed and recorded.

### STUDY RESULTS

## Legal Framework

CEQA relies on the California Register of Historic Resources to determine what is a "Unique" or "Significant" historical or tribal cultural resource (CEQA Sec. 15064.5 a and 21074 a).

According to the California Register, a resource is determined "significant" if it meets one 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 value; or
- D. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory. (Pub. Res. Code Sec. 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Sec. 4852)
- A Tribal Cultural Resource may also be determined significant if:
- 1. It is a feature, place, cultural landscape, or objects with cultural value to descendant communities, or
- 2. It is a sacred place such as a sanctified cemetery, place of worship, religious or ceremonial site, or sacred shrine that is listed on the California Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File.

John Parker

## **Prehistoric**

No prehistoric cultural materials were encountered.

## Historic

#### **Isolated Harrows**

Two isolated historic harrow pieces were discovered within the project area. These appeared represent a 2-section Kenwood "U" Bar Steel Lever Harrow, most likely made between 1870 and 1930.

#### **Rock Wall**

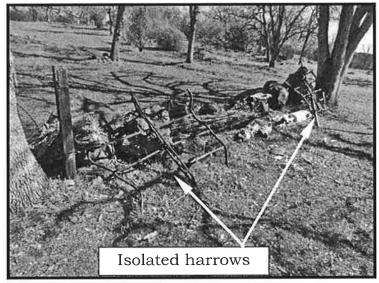
A portion of a rock wall was encountered outside and southeast of the project area on a steep hillside. The rock wall was at least 42 meters long, 1 meter high and 1.5 meters wide. It had a UTM location of 539934mE/4296378mN.

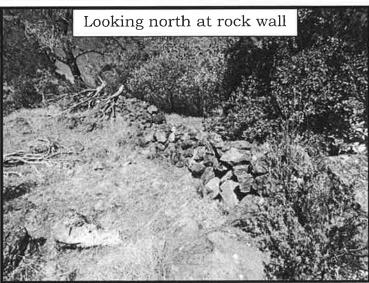
It is possible that the rock wall was either a boundary line between the Thomas Hanly and Marguerite Kitto properties or part of an animal enclosure on the Hanly property.

# Significance

Though the location of the isolated harrows do provide some information about the historical use of the area, there were no other associated cultural artifacts or features.

These isolated artifacts are not considered "significant" historic resources as defined by the Public Resources Code<sup>3</sup>. Recording their location in this report mitigates any impact that might occur as a result of project activities.



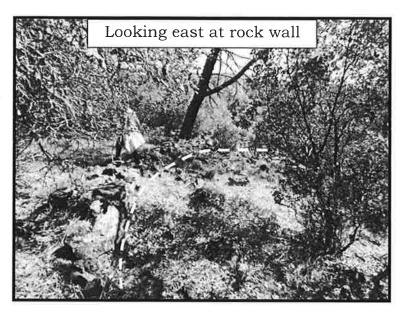


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Sec. 5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Sec. 4852

The rock wall does appear to be a significant historic resource. As it may define historic land use patterns in the area, it likely meets criteria "D" listed above.

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As no significant historic or prehistoric cultural materials or features were encountered within the project areas during the field inspection, it is recommended that the proposed project be approved as planned.



The rock wall exists ~250 feet southeast and downslope from the southern project area. It is recommended that no project construction or staging activities take place in the vicinity of the rock wall (see attached resource map).

In the event that undiscovered cultural sites are encountered during the ground clearing process, these should be evaluated for significance by a qualified archaeologist and either preserved or mitigated as outlined in CEQA (sec. 21083.2 [b] or 15126.4c).

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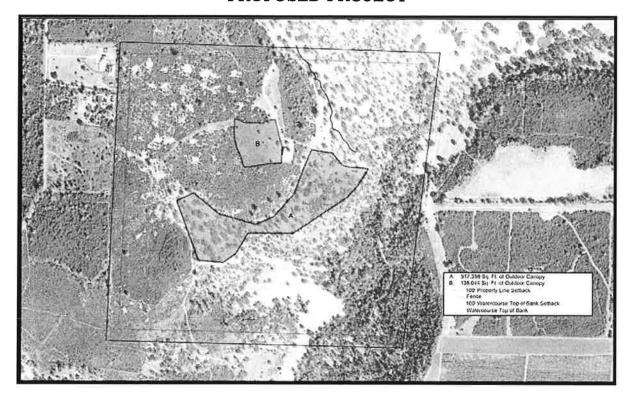
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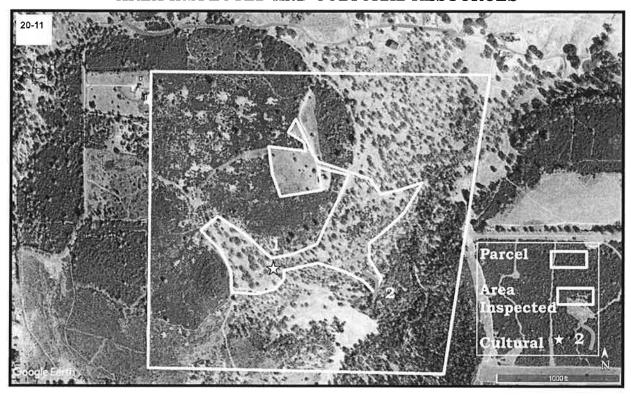
State of California

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# PROPOSED PROJECT



# AREA INSPECTED AND CULTURAL RESOURCES



- 1) Cultivators 2) Rock Wall

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

No all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

| CERTIFICATE COMPETENS Margainite L. Ritto of Lake County California   |
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## 1892 LAND PATENT

# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

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# California HISTORICAL RESOURCES Information System



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| NWIC Billing Worksheet  Client Name: John Parker Phone: (707) 274-2233  Affiliation: Archaeological Research  Proj Name/Number: 20-4, 20-5, 20-6, 20-7  Date Request Rec'd: 1/28/2020 Date of Response: 1/28/2020  Check In: 1:21:00 PM Check Out: 1:48:00 PM Check In: Check Out: In-person Time: Hour(s): 0.45  S In-Person Time: In-person | m      |
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| Labor Charge: Hour(s): \$   | 0.00   |
| PDF Pages: Page(s): \$  | 0.00   |
| PDF Plat Fee:   | 0.00   |
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| CHRIS Access and Use Agreement No.: 252  **This is not an invoice. Sommua State University will send separate invoice.**  |        |



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February 25, 2020

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Via Email to: dr.john@wolfcreekarcheology.com

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Suite 100 West Sacramento. California 95691 (916) 373-3710 nahc@nahc.ca.gov NAHC.ca.gov

Re: 20-11 WeGrow LLC Cannabis Project, Lake County

Dear Dr. Parker:

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.

Sincerely,

Sarah Fonseca

Cultural Resources Analyst

**Attachment** 

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