

November 23, 2022 Project No: 22-13433

Mike Berg Chowchilla Union High School District 805 Humboldt Avenue Chowchilla, California 93610

## Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Chowchilla High School Sports Complex and Career Building at 805 and 725 Humboldt Avenue, Chowchilla, California

Dear Mr. Berg,

This letter report presents the findings of a cultural resources assessment completed in support of the Chowchilla High School Sports Complex and Career Building project (proposed project) located at 805 Humboldt Avenue in Chowchilla, California. Chowchilla Union High School District retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to support the proposed project's compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This letter report documents the results of the tasks performed by Rincon, specifically a cultural resources records search, archival and background research, a Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, a cultural resources field survey, and the evaluation of one building for historical resources eligibility. All work was completed to support compliance with CEQA and applicable local regulations; the City of Chowchilla is the lead CEQA agency.

## Project Site and Description

The project site is located at 805 and 725 Humboldt Avenue in Chowchilla, Madera County, California (Attachment 1, Figure 1). It encompasses portions of Sections 29-32, Township 09 South, Range 16 East on the Berenda and Chowchilla, California, United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Attachment 1). The project site is located on Madera County Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 002-300-001, 002-190-001, and 002-098-001. APN 002-300-001 is currently located on an unoccupied vacant field and is approximately 20.3 acres. APN 002-300-001 is bordered by Road 16 along the eastern edge of the parcel. APN 002-190-001, an approximately 3.0-acre parcel, borders APN 002-300-001 directly to the north and is also an unoccupied vacant field. APN 002-190-001 is bordered by West Mariposa Avenue along the northern edge of the project site. APN 002-098-001 is approximately 2.4 acres and is currently used as Chowchilla Union High School District's (CHUSD) bus garage and parking area. APN 002-098-001 is bordered by Humboldt Ave to the north, South 7th Stret to the east, Alameda Avenue to the south and South 8th Street to the West. The project site is regionally accessible from United States (U.S.) Route 99 and State Route (SR) 152 Altogether, these parcels comprise a project site that is discontiguous and includes two main portions: one located between West Mariposa Avenue and Road 16 (the proposed athletic fields site) and the other located at 725 Humboldt Avenue (the proposed career building site).



The proposed project would entail the construction of the following on the vacant roughly 23-acre proposed athletic field site: a football stadium with artificial turf field, a baseball diamond, a softball diamond, and two concession/restroom buildings. In addition, the project would include demolition of an existing building (bus garage) and associated parking located on the proposed career building site and the redevelopment of the northwestern corner of the proposed athletic fields site to contain the following: staff and bus parking, a new bus garage that would include an office, restroom, driver's lounge, parts room, and dressing room, and a bus washing stall. Additionally, a new 6,000-square-foot career building with classrooms and shop spaces would be constructed on the proposed career building site.

## Methods

## Background and Archival Research

Rincon completed background and archival research in support of this assessment in October 2022. A variety of primary and secondary source materials were consulted. Sources included, but were not limited to, historical maps, aerial photographs, and written histories of the area. The following sources, in addition to those listed in the References section, were utilized to develop an understanding of the project site and its context:

- Madera County Assessor's Office
- Historical aerial photographs accessed via NETR Online
- Historical aerial photographs obtained from Environmental Resources Data, Inc.
- Historical aerial photographs accessed via University of California, Santa Barbara Library FrameFinder
- Historical USGS topographic maps
- Historical newspaper clippings obtained from Newspapers.com, ProQuest Historical Newspapers.com, and the California Digital Newspaper Collection

## California Historical Resources Information System Records Search

On October 17, 2022, Rincon received California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search results (No.: 22-385) from the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) (Attachment 2). The SSJVIC is the official state repository for cultural resources records and reports for the county in which the proposed project falls. The purpose of the records search was to identify previously recorded cultural resources, as well as previously conducted cultural resources studies within the project site and a 0.5-mile radius surrounding it. Rincon also reviewed the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), the California Historical Landmarks list, and the Built Environment Resources Directory to identify known cultural resources in the vicinity of the proposed project site.

## Sacred Lands File Search

Rincon contacted the NAHC on October 3, 2022, to request a search of the SLF, as well as a contact list of Native Americans culturally affiliated with the project site vicinity. On November 28, 2022, the results of this request were received, including a contact list of Native Americans culturally affiliated with the project site vicinity.



## Cultural Resources Field Survey

Rincon Archaeologist Sabdy Jimenez, BA, conducted a cultural resources field survey of the project site on October 20, 2022. Under the direction of Rincon Architectural Historian Andrew Rodriguez, Ms. Jimenez visually inspected all built environment resources within the project site, including buildings, structures, and landscape elements. Pursuant to the California Office of Historic Preservation Guidelines (OHP 1995: 2), properties over 45 years of age were recorded and evaluated for inclusion in the NRHP, CRHR, and local historical designation on California Department of Parks (DPR) 523 series forms. During the field survey, the overall condition and integrity of built features on the project site were and site characteristics and conditions were assessed and documented using notes and digital photographs. Notes and photographs, which were later reviewed by Mr. Rodriguez, are maintained at Rincon's Fresno office.

Additionally, Ms. Jimenez conducted a pedestrian archaeological survey of the project site. Areas of exposed ground were inspected for prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a midden, soil depressions, and features that indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows and drainages were also visually inspected. Survey accuracy was maintained using a handheld Global Positioning Satellite unit and a georeferenced map of the project site. Site characteristics and survey conditions were documented using field records and a digital camera. Copies of the survey notes and digital photographs are maintained at our Rincon Ventura office.

## **Findings**

## Known Cultural Resources Studies

The CHRIS records search and background research identified eight cultural resources studies within 0.5-mile of the project site (Attachment 2). Of these studies, none include a portion of the project site, and none include areas directly adjacent to the project site.

## **Known Cultural Resources**

The SSJVIC records search and background research identified one cultural resource within a 0.5-mile of the project site. Of these resources, no resources are recorded within the project site. Resources recorded in the search radius are listed in Table 1 below. Resources recorded within approximately 0.5-mile of the project site are discussed in further detail below.

Table 1 Known Cultural Resources within 0.5-mile of Project Site

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	Eligibility Status	Relationship to Project Site
P-20- 0022519	JMA-008	Historic	Robertson Boulevard Palm trees	1989; 2009 (Joseph Freeman, Rebecca Flores; JRP Historical Consulting)	Not evaluated	Outside



#### P-20-002519

P-20-002519 was recorded by JRP Historical Consulting in 2009 as a historical road, known as Robertson Boulevard, with two rows of palm trees on either side dating to 1912–1913. The resource includes two types of palm trees: Mexican Fan palm and Canary Island date palm. The palm trees are spaced approximately 25 feet apart from one another. The palm trees were planted at the same time the thoroughfare was developed in 1912–1913. The tree-lined boulevard is 100-feet wide and 11-miles long. The road was Chowchilla's main street and principal thoroughfare into town from the southwest. The tree-lined boulevard was listed as a Point of Historical Interest in 1989 by the Board of Supervisors of Madera County. This site does not appear to have been evaluated for inclusion in the CRHR/NRHP; no other cultural materials were identified in the area.

## Sacred Lands File Search Results

On November 28, 2022, the NAHC responded with the SLF search results. The SLF check for the project site vicinity was negative. For the SLF search results and a list of Native American contacts provided by the NAHC, see Attachment 2.

## Aerial Imagery and Historical Topographic Maps Review

Rincon completed a review of historical topographic maps and aerial imagery to ascertain the development history of the project site. In the early twentieth century, the project site is depicted in the 1918 *Chowchilla, California* USGS topographic map as within and adjacent to the town of Chowchilla, with the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad at the current location of Mariposa Avenue. The Chowchilla Pacific Railroad was built in 1913 and operated for 40 years (City of Chowchilla 2022). Residential homes are shown located north and west of the project site.

By the mid-twentieth century, the project site is depicted in the USGS 1942 Ahlone, California, topographic map as developed with Chowchilla High School already established, and several industrial buildings located within the currently vacant land proposed for the athletic fields. Subsequently, aerial imagery dating to 1946 also illustrates Chowchilla High School, with industrial buildings in the southern portion of the project site. From 1948–1998, the northern portion of the project site remains the same, while the southern portion of the project site (the proposed location of the athletic fields) appears to have been utilized as an industrial facility. The 1948 and 1960 Chowchilla, California USGS topographic maps both depict industrial buildings in the southern portion of the project site, as well as spur tracks connecting these industrial buildings to the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad. However, in the 1983 Merced, California, USGS topographic map, the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad is no longer depicted, and the railroad was no longer active by the 1950s (City of Chowchilla 2022). Aerial imagery in 1998 shows an industrial yard still present in the southern portion of the project site, as well as further development of Chowchilla High School with a baseball field in the eastern portion of the project site along Mariposa Avenue. By 2005, aerial imagery depicts the industrial yard in the southern portion of the project site in a likely state of disrepair, with rusted roofing on the remaining structures. Aerial imagery from 2009 depicts this southern portion of the project site as almost entirely vacant, with only a single concrete pad remaining.

#### **Archival Review**

Rincon's review of archival materials did not conclusively identify the industrial buildings that once existed within the proposed athletic field portion of the project site. However, archival research did



identify a possible historic use of the industrial buildings: the Chowchilla Cotton Oil Company cotton mill and gin appears to match the general description of the project site. An article posted in the *Madera Mercury* on January 31, 1925, announced a \$100,000-cost plan to build a new cotton mill and gin on "seven acres on the Chowchilla-Pacific railroad, near the fair grounds." (*Madera Mercury* 1925). This cotton mill would be operated by the Chowchilla Cotton Oil company, affiliated with the San Joaquin Valley Cotton Oil company. Additional coverage of this announcement detailed that the mill was slated for construction on seven acres "located on Dixieland Road and the railroad", with plans for "approximately 600 feet of spur track" to be laid and utilized immediately upon opening of the facility (*Fresno Bee* 1925).

Topographic imagery of the project site from 1948 and 1960 includes a spur track connecting to the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad, however Dixieland Road is not present in the vicinity of the project site nor in the city of Chowchilla. It is possible that Dixieland Road was re-named at some point, but no archival sources were found to confirm this. The *Madera Mercury* ran a follow-up article on September 24, 1925, describing the dedication of a new cotton gin and mill built "a short distance from the fair grounds," which included a new cotton seed storage building as well as other structures devoted to expanding the cotton industry in Chowchilla and the greater San Joaquin Valley area. A later article reported that the cotton oil plant would add a new seed storage building "erected parallel with the Chowchilla Pacific Railroad", further illustrating the similarity between the location of this cotton mill and the currently vacant portion of the project site (*Fresno Bee* 1936).

Later articles of a mill operated in Chowchilla by the San Joaquin Cotton Oil Company include 1957 coverage in the *Oakland Tribune* of a mill fire costing heavy damages, as well as another mill fire in 1960, covered by the *Porterville Evening Recorder*. While the articles reviewed from these newspaper publications are indicative of industrial growth within Chowchilla and the project site vicinity, no conclusive indications of historical land use within the project site were located.

## Survey Results

The cultural resources survey that was completed on October 20, 2022. The results of the built environment portion and the archaeological portion of the survey are discussed in further detail below.

#### **Built Environment Resources**

The following section summarizes the results of all background research and fieldwork as they pertain to built environment resources that may qualify as historical resources. The field work and background research resulted identified one historic period building within the project site, the Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation building (also referred to as the bus garage). The remaining built environment features within the project site are limited to two greenhouses. A review of historical aerial photographs confirms these two greenhouses are less than 45 years of age, the age threshold generally triggering the need for historical resources eligibility consideration per OHP guidance. The greenhouses therefore do not necessitate formal recordation and do not qualify as a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5(a) of the CEQA Guidelines. Although the Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation building is located on a parcel which contains other buildings that are part of the adjacent Chowchilla High School campus, the building may be considered ancillary and largely independent of the larger campus in its function. As such the historical resources evaluation of the Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance



Operations Transportation building was limited to the building itself. The building was recorded and evaluated on DPR 523 series forms, which are included in Attachment 3 and summarized below.

Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation Building

## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

The Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation building (subject building) is located northeast of the main Chowchilla High School campus, at the northwestern edge of a larger parcel bound by South 8th Street to the southwest, Humboldt Avenue to the northwest, South 7th Street to the northeast, and Alameda Avenue to the southeast. The subject building is one-story and features a rectangular footprint; it is sheathed in corrugated sheet metal and capped by a side-gable roof also clad in corrugated sheet metal (Figure 9). Its fenestration is limited to aluminum framed windows, one set on the primary (southwest) elevation and three sets on the rear. Aside from a sliding metal door on the east elevation, the building's east and west elevations feature limited fenestration or other architectural detailing. The building appears relatively unaltered and in good condition. Large parking stalls for school busses line its eastern elevation. The larger parcel on which the subject building is located contains two additional school-related buildings (greenhouses). However, as these greenhouses post-date the historic period and are independent in their developmental history from the subject building, they were not formally recorded or evaluated as part of this assessment.

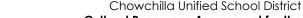
#### **DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY**

Chowchilla Union High School was originally established in 1916, on the corner of Humboldt Avenue and South 8<sup>th</sup> Street, initially serving 14 students in first- and second-year classes (HMdb.org 2022). Early Sanborn Fire Insurance Company (Sanborn) maps depict the high school as a single building sited adjacent to (west of) the Chowchilla Fairgrounds (Sanborn 1923). A Sanborn map dated 1934 indicates that by that time, the school had expanded and a gymnasium had been constructed south of the main campus along Humboldt Avenue (Sanborn 1934). In 1940, a bond measure was passed to increase the size of the school to meet demands resulting from an increased student population (Fresno Bee 1940). In 1947, 27 acres of land was donated to the Chowchilla Fairgrounds to be used by the Future Farmers of America (FFA), an organization aimed at helping students chart career paths in agriculture (Chowchilla 2022). The school expanded after the land was donated and developed more buildings in the following decades.

A review of historical aerial photographs indicates that many of the schools original and/or older buildings were demolished circa 1976 and throughout the mid and latter 20<sup>th</sup> century. The school campus consistently expanded out of necessity to support the growing population in Chowchilla. The subject building was constructed during this period of expansion, between 1958 to 1972 as indicated by historic aerials (NETRONline 2022). Archival research could not determine the original use of the building, however, historic aerials suggest the purpose of the subject building has changed over time, as the parcel it is located on was not a parking lot until sometime between 1972 to 1987 (NETROnline 2022). By 1998, the campus had been developed consistent with its current conditions (NETROnline 2022).

### HISTORICAL RESOURCES EVALUATION

The subject building is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR, and local listing under criteria adopted from the NRHP guidelines under any significance criteria. The subject building is located outside of the campus core and historically served an ancillary function as a maintenance facility.





Constructed between 1958 and 1972, the research conducted for this assessment did not indicate that the subject building is associated with the early development of Chowchilla or the initial development of the Chowchilla high school campus. Much like the other buildings developed on campus after the 1950s, the subject building was constructed out of necessity as the school expanded and served an ancillary function to support maintenance operations. The research conducted for this assessment did not identify any evidence to suggest that it served a purpose significant to the overall development of the high school. Additionally, the research conducted for this assessment did not identify any other context within which the building may possess a significant association. A as result of the information summarized above, the subject building is not associated with events important to the history of the city, region, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria A/1/a. Additionally, the research conducted for this assessment did not indicate that the subject building possesses an association with any individual significant to the community, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria B/2/b. The subject building is a utilitarian building that does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, of method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria C/3/c. A review of available evidence and records search results did not indicate that the building may yield important information pertaining to the prehistory or history of the region, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and local landmark under Criteria D/4/d.

## **Archaeological Resources**

The following section summarizes the results of all background research and fieldwork as they pertain to archaeological resources that may qualify as historical resources and/or unique archaeological resources.

Review of aerial imagery indicates that an industrial facility consisting of multiple structures once operated in the currently vacant lot of the proposed athletic field site. Review of historical newspaper articles indicate that this industrial facility may have been the Chowchilla Cotton Oil Company cotton mill and gin, however this could not be confirmed. Refuse, including asphalt, concrete, and gravel, was observed scattered throughout the proposed athletic field site (Attachment 1, Figure 6 and Figure 7), and this debris may represent minor remnants of previous the industrial structures and installations. However, none of the refuse noted within the project site was diagnostic nor could be reliably attributed to these former historic-period structures. Also noted, within the project site was an active water pipe/pump mounted on a concrete pad (Attachment 1, Figure 4). While the pipe and concrete pad observed in this portion of the project site may be a component of the industrial facility that previously existed within this portion of the project site, the water pipe/pump is a ubiquitous feature of the general infrastructure throughout the area, and does not provide valuable information on historical land use. As such, the water pipe/pump was not recorded as an archaeological resource. The survey of the project site was negative for archaeological resources.



## Conclusions and Recommendations

The impact analysis included here is organized based on the cultural resources thresholds included in *CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G: Environmental Checklist Form:

- a. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?
- b. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?
- c. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

Threshold A broadly refers to historical resources. To more clearly differentiate between archaeological and built environment resources, we have chosen to limit analysis under Threshold A to built environment resources. Archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources pursuant to Section 15064.5 and those that may be considered unique archaeological resources pursuant to Section 21083.2, are considered under Threshold B.

## Historical Built Environment Resources

The field survey and background research identified one historical age building in the project site, the Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation Building. As detailed above, the resource was recommended ineligible for federal, state, or local designation and does not meet the definition of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5(a) of the CEQA Guidelines. The project site also contains two greenhouses. However, as stated above, they are not over 45 years of age and therefore do not require historical resources eligibility consideration per the guidance of OHP. The demolition of these buildings therefore would not constitute a significant impact to historical resources. Additionally, the construction proposed by the project does not have the potential to impact the setting of any known adjacent historical resources. As such, the project would have no impact to historical resources.

## Historical and Unique Archaeological Resources

This assessment did not identify any archaeological resources within the project site. As of the date of this report, Rincon has not received the results of the SLF search but anticipates a negative response based on previous SLF searches in the vicinity. Once received, the SLF search results will be forwarded to the Chowchilla Union High School District and this report will be updated to include the results. The lack of surface evidence of archaeological materials does not preclude their subsurface existence. However, the results of the background research and pedestrian survey indicates there is a low potential for encountering intact subsurface archaeological deposits. As such, Rincon recommends the standard unanticipated discovery mitigation measure for during construction. With adherence to this measure, Rincon recommends a finding of *less than significant impact with mitigation for archaeological resources* under CEQA. The project is also subject to the California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 which is outlined below.



## **Recommended Mitigation**

## **Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources**

In the unlikely event that archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area should be halted and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's *Professional Qualifications Standards* for archeology (National Park Service 1983) should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the find is prehistoric, then a Native American representative should also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the find. If necessary, the evaluation may require preparation of a treatment plan and archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility. If the discovery proves to be eligible for the CRHR and cannot be avoided by the proposed project, additional work, such as data recovery excavation, may be warranted to mitigate any significant impacts to historical resources.

## **Human Remains**

No human remains are known to be present within the project site. However, the discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbing activities. If human remains are found, the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD has 48 hours from being granted site access to make recommendations for the disposition of the remains. If the MLD does not make recommendations within 48 hours, the landowner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from subsequent disturbance. With adherence to existing regulations, Rincon recommends a finding of less-than-significant impact to human remains under CEQA.

Should you have any questions concerning this study, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (760) 517-9141 or cfelt@rinconconsultants.com.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Cameron Felt

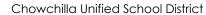
Senior Archaeologist

Andrew Rodriguez
Architectural Historian

Debbie Balam Archaeologist

Christopher A. Duran, MA, RPA Principal/Senior Archaeologist

the Dam





## **Attachments**

Attachment 1 Figures

Attachment 2 Record Search Results

Attachment 3 Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Forms



## References

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"Who is Chowchilla FFA?". Online at https://sites.google.com/chowchillahigh.org/chowchillaffa/home (Accessed November 2022).

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2022 Chowchilla Union High School 1916-2016. Online at https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=148196 (Accessed November 2022)

### Madera County Assessor

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"Cotton Gin and Mill Dedicated Yesterday Great New Industry." hhttps://cdnc.ucr.edu/?a=d&d=MM19250924.1.1 (Accessed November 2022.)

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#### **NETR Online**

"Historic Aerials." Various historic aerials and topographic maps of the project area. Accessed November 2022, https://www.historicaerials.com/.

#### Oakland Tribune

1957 "\$250,000 Fire Hits Cotton Oil Plant."
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%20company%20chowchilla&match=1 (Accessed November 2022.)

#### Office of Historic Preservation

1995 Instructions for Recording Historical Resources.
https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1054/files/manual95.pdf (Accessed November 2022.)

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Var. Chowchilla, California. 1923-1934, Sheet 1. Accessed November 2022 through ProQuest, https://digitalsanbornmaps-proquest-com.ezproxy.lapl.org/browse\_maps/5/461/2046/2088/21200?accountid=6749

## United States Geological Survey (USGS) Topographic Maps

- 1918 Chowchilla, Calif. 7.5-minute topographical map. Topo View [HTMC, 1918 ed.].

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# Attachment 1

Figures





Figure 1 **Regional Location Map** 

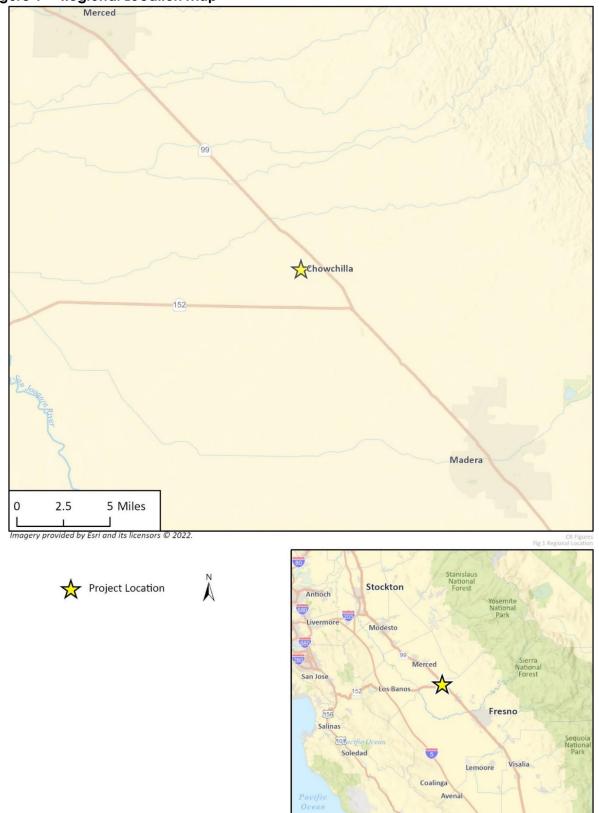
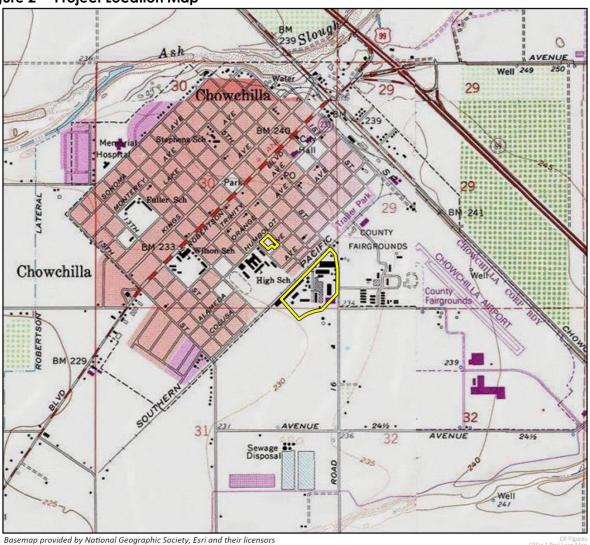




Figure 2 Project Location Map



© 2022. Chowchilla Quadrangle. T095 R16E S29-31. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

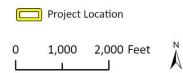






Figure 3 On-Campus Buildings with Paved Parking Lot Adjacent to Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing North



Figure 4 Pipe, Concrete Pad, and Palm Tree on Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing Southwest





Figure 5 Tan Silty Clay Soil within Project Site at Location of Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing North



Figure 6 Concrete and Wooden Debris in Project Site, Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing West





Figure 7 Concrete and Metal Debris in Project Site, Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing Northeast



Figure 8 Pipe, Concrete Pad, and Metal Debris in Project Site, Proposed Athletic Fields, Facing Southwest





Figure 9 Subject Building; Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Building, Facing East



Figure 10 Subject Building; Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Building, Facing Northwest





Records Search and Sacred Lands File Results

## **Report List**

## SSJVIC Record Search 22-385

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
MA-00083	NADB-R - 1140863	1995	Hatoff, Brian, Voss, Barb, Waechter, Sharon, Wee, Stephen, and Benté, Vance	Cultural Resources Inventory Report for the Proposed Mojave Northward Expansion Project	Woodward-Clyde Consultants	20-002122
MA-00306		1991	Napton, L. Kyle	Cultural Resources Investigation of the CCSI- Madera, Inc. Materials Recovery Facility Project Sites A and B, Approximately 60 Acres in Chowchilla and Fairmead, Madera County, California	California State University, Stanislaus	
MA-00941		2005	Jones, Kari	Archaeological Survey of the Proposed DT Chowchilla Cingular Wireless Cell Site (FS- 540-01), Madera County, California	Pacific Legacy, Inc.	
MA-00986		2004	Jones, Kari	Cultural Resources Assessment for Cingular Wireless Services Facility, Chowchilla, Madera County, California	Pacific Legacy, Inc.	
MA-00992	IC Record Search Nbr - 00-116; OHP PRN - USPS000417A	2000	Treber, Brian	Lease of Several Vacant Parcels for a New Main Post Office in the City of Chowchill, Madera County	United States Postal Service	
MA-01026	Submitter - SWCA Cultural Resources Report Database No. 06-507; Submitter - SWCA Project No. 10715- 180	2006	Arrington, Cindy, Bass, Bryon, Brown, Joan, Corey, Chris, and Hunt, Kevin	Cultural Resources Final Report of Monitoring and Findings for the Qwest Network Construction Project, State of California	SWCA Environmental Consultants	
MA-01026A		2000	SWCA Environmental Consultants	Qwest Fiber Optic Project Cultural Resources Protocols	SWCA Environmental Consultants	
MA-01031	IC Record Search Nbr - 05-559; Submitter - URS Project No. 36301462.01462	2006	Hatoff, Brian W.	Phase I Environmenal Site Assessment: Chowchilla DT, 122 Trinity Avenue, Chowchilla, California	URS Corportation	
MA-01317	Other - Record Search 20-142	2020	Kile, Mark	Historic Property Identification Report for the Fairmead to Chowchilla Sewer Line Project, Madera County, California	Culturescape	20-003193
MA-01317A		2020	McComas, Katie M. and Demere, Thomas A.	Paleontological Resources Technical Report Fairmead to Chowchilla Sewer Line, Madera County, California	PaleoServices San Diego Natural History Museum	

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## **Resource List**

## SSJVIC Record Search 22-385

Primary No. Trinomial	Other IDs	Туре	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-20-002519	Resource Name - Robertson Boulevard; PHI - MAD-005; OHP Property Number - 072961; OTIS Resource Number - 473846; Resource Name - JMA-008	Site	Historic	HP30	1989; 2009 (Joseph Freeman, Rebecca Flores, JRP Historical Consulting)	MA-01094

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## Native American Heritage Commission Tribal Consultation List Madera County 11/28/2022

Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians

Elizabeth Kipp, Chairperson

P.O. Box 337

Auberry, CA, 93602 Phone: (559) 374 - 0066 Fax: (559) 374-0055 Ikipp@bsrnation.com Western Mono

Dumna Wo-Wah Tribal Government

Robert Ledger, Chairperson 2191 West Pico Ave.

Fresno, CA, 93705 Phone: (559) 540 - 6346 ledgerrobert@ymail.com Foothill Yokut Mono

North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians

Elaine Fink, Chairperson P.O .Box 929

North Fork, CA, 93643 Phone: (559) 877 - 2461 Fax: (559) 877-2467 efink@nfr-nsn.gov Mono

North Valley Yokuts Tribe

Timothy Perez, P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA, 95236

Phone: (209) 662 - 2788 huskanam@gmail.com Costanoan Northern Valley

Yokut

North Valley Yokuts Tribe

Katherine Perez, Chairperson

P.O. Box 717 Linden, CA, 95236 Phone: (209) 887 - 3415

canutes@verizon.net

Costanoan Northern Valley

Yokut

Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians

Claudia Gonzales, Chairwoman P.O. Box 2226

Oakhurst, CA, 93644 Phone: (559) 412 - 5590

cgonzales@chukchansitribe.net

Foothill Yokut

Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation

Sandra Chapman, Chairperson

P.O. Box 186 Miwok

Mariposa, CA, 95338 Northern Valley Phone: (559) 580 - 7871 Yokut sandra47roy@gmail.com Paiute

Tule River Indian Tribe

Neil Peyron, Chairperson

P.O. Box 589 Yokut

Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 781 - 4271 Fax: (559) 781-4610

neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Wuksache Indian Tribe/Eshom Valley Band

Kenneth Woodrow, Chairperson

1179 Rock Haven Ct. Foothill Yokut

Salinas, CA, 93906 Mono

Phone: (831) 443 - 9702 kwood8934@aol.com

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Chowchilla High School Sports Complex and Career Building (22-13433) Project, Madera County.



CHAIRPERSON **Laura Miranda** *Luiseño* 

VICE CHAIRPERSON Reginald Pagaling Chumash

Secretary **Sara Dutschke**Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER **Buffy McQuillen**Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER [VAVANT]

COMMISSIONER [VACANT]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C.
Hitchcock
Miwok/Nisenan

#### NAHC HEADQUARTERS 1550 Harbor Boulevard Suite 100 West Sacramento.

California 95691 (916) 373-3710 nahc@nahc.ca.gov

NAHC.ca.gov

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

November 28, 2022

Rachel Bilchak Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Via Email to: rbilchak@rinconconsultants.com

Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Chowchilla High School Sports Complex and Career Building (22-13433) Project, Madera County

Dear Ms. Bilchak:

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with California Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
- 2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:
  - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code section 6254.10.

- 3. The result of any Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.
- 4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and
- 5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Pricilla.Torres-Fuentes@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Pricilla Torres-Fuentes

Pricilla Torres-Fuentes
Cultural Resources Analyst

**Attachment** 

# Attachment 3

Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Forms

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

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # HRI #

Trinomial NRHP Status Code 6Z

Other Listings Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page 1 of 3

\*Resource Name or #: 725 Humboldt Avenue

P1. Other Identifier: Chowchilla Union High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation

\*P2. Location: 725 Humboldt Avenue ☐ Not for Publication ■ Unrestricted \*a. County: Madera and

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Berenda and Chowchilla Date: 1960 T: 09S; R: 16E; ¼ of ¼ of Sec: 29-32; M.D. B.M. City: Chowchilla Zip: 93610

d. UTM: N/A Zone: N/A ; mE/mN (G.P.S.)

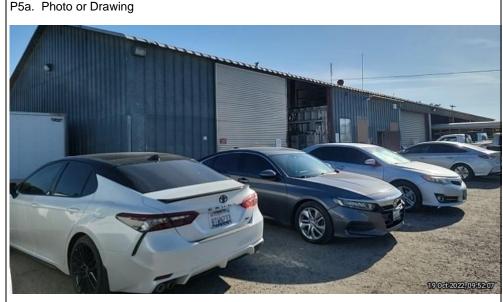
e. Other Locational Data: APN: 002-098-001 Elevation: Southwest

#### \*P3a. Description:

The Chowchilla Unified High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation building (subject building) is located northeast of the main Chowchilla High School campus, at the northwestern edge of a larger parcel bound by South 8th Street to the southwest, Humboldt Avenue to the northwest, South 7th Street to the northeast, and Alameda Avenue to the southeast. The subject building is one-story and features a rectangular footprint; it is sheathed in corrugated sheet metal and capped by a side-gable roof also clad in corrugated sheet metal. Its fenestration is limited to aluminum framed windows, one set on the primary (southwest) elevation and three sets on the rear. Aside from a sliding metal door on the east elevation, the building's east and west elevations feature limited fenestration or other architectural detailing. The building appears relatively unaltered and in good condition. Large parking stalls for school busses line its eastern elevation. The larger parcel on which the subject building is located contains two additional school-related buildings (greenhouses). However, as these greenhouses post-date the historic period and are independent in their developmental history from the subject building, they were not formally recorded or evaluated as part of this assessment.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP4 Ancillary building

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



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)
Subject building, facing southwest.

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources: ■Historic □Both 1958-1972 (NETROnline 2022).

\*P7. Owner and Address: Chowchilla Union High School District Chowchilla, California, 93610

\*P8. Recorded by: Sabdy Jimenez Rincon Consultants, Inc. 180 N. Ashwood Ventura, CA 93003

\*P9. Date Recorded:
\_October 10, 2022.
\*P10. Survey Type:
Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: Felt, C., A. Rodriguez, D. Balam, C. Duran. 2022. *Cultural Resources Assessment for the Chowchilla High School Sports Coplex and Career Building at 805 Humboldt Avenue, Chowchilla, California*. Project No. 22-13433. Report on File at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield, California.

*Attachments: □NONE	■Location Map ■S	Sketch Map	□Continuation	Sheet ■Building,	Structure,	and Object	Record		
□Archaeological Recor	d □District Record	d □Linear	Feature Record	□Milling Station	Record	□Rock Art	Record		
□Artifact Record □Photograph Record □ Other (List):									
DPR 523A (1/95)						*Required info	ormation		

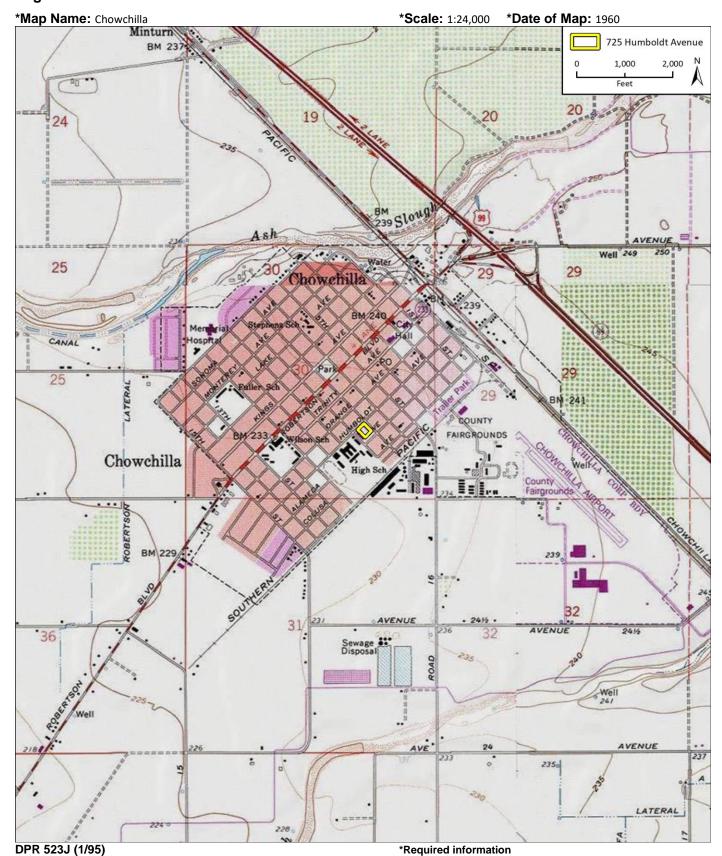
State of California — The Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

**LOCATION MAP** 

Primary # HRI# Trinomial

Page 2 of 3 \*Re

\*Resource Name: 725 Humboldt Avenue



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

Primary # HRI#

## **BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 3 of 3 \*NRHP Status Code 6Z

\*Resource Name: 725 Humboldt Avenue

B1. Historic Name: 725 Humboldt Avenue

B2. Common Name: Chowchilla Union High School District Maintenance Operations Transportation

B3. Original Use: Service and utility B4. Present Use: Service and utility

**\*B5. Architectural Style:** Non-discernable style

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

Madera County Assessor data could not confirm the year the building was built. Historic aerials indicate it was constructed between 1958 to 1972 (NETROnline 2022). Visible observation from a survey conducted suggests that the building is relatively unaltered.

\*B7. Moved? ■No □Yes □Unknown Date: N/A Original Location: N/A

\*B8. Related Features: N/A

B9a. Architect(s): N/A

\*B10. Significance: N/A Theme: N/A

Area: N/A

Period of Significance: N/A Property Type: N/A Applicable Criteria: N/A

The subject building is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR, and local listing under criteria adopted from the NRHP guidelines under any significance criteria. The subject building is located outside of the campus core and historically served an ancillary function as a maintenance facility. Constructed between 1958 and 1972, the research conducted for this assessment did not indicate that the subject building is associated with the early development of Chowchilla or the initial development of the Chowchilla high school campus. Much like the other buildings developed on campus after the 1950s, the subject building was constructed out of necessity as the school expanded and served an ancillary function to support maintenance operations. The research conducted for this assessment did not identify any evidence to suggest that it served a purpose significant to the overall development of the high school. Additionally, the research conducted for this assessment did not identify any other context within which the building may possess a significant association. A as result of the information summarized above, the subject building is not associated with events important to the history of the city, region, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria A/1/a. Additionally, the research conducted for this assessment did not indicate that the subject building possesses an association with any individual significant to the community, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria B/2/b. The subject building is a utilitarian building that does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, of method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and as a local landmark under Criteria C/3/c. A review of available evidence and records search results did not indicate that the building may yield important information pertaining to the prehistory or history of the region, state, or nation. It is therefore recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP, CRHR and local landmark under Criteria D/4/d.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

#### \*B12. References:

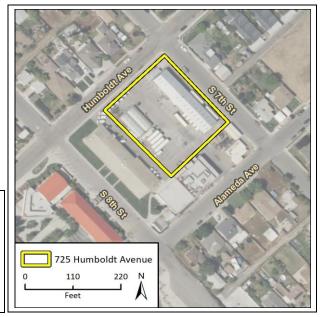
Madera County Assessor. 2022. Parcel information for 725 Humboldt Avenue. Accessed November 2022. <a href="https://pqweb.parcelquest.com/#home">https://pqweb.parcelquest.com/#home</a>
NETR Online. 2022. "Historic Aerials." Various historic aerials and topographic maps of the project area. Accessed November 2022, <a href="https://www.historicaerials.com/">https://www.historicaerials.com/</a>.

B13. Remarks: N/A

\*B14. Evaluator: Andrew Rodriguez, Rincon Consultants, Inc.

\*Date of Evaluation: November 2022.

(This space reserved for official comments.)



DPR 523B (1/95) \*Required information