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NCIC File No.: NEV-24-3

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Records Search Results for
Nevada County APNs 035-600-007 & 035-600-004

Matt McWhirter:

Per your request received by our office on 1/9/2024, a complete records search was conducted by searching California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) maps for cultural resource site records and survey reports in Nevada County within a 1/4-mile radius of the proposed project area.

Review of this information indicates that the proposed project area contains 0 recorded indigenous-period/ethnographic-period cultural resource(s) and 0 recorded historic-period cultural resource(s). Additionally, 1 cultural resources study report(s) on file at this office covers the proposed project area.

Outside the proposed project area, but within the 1/4-mile radius, the broader search area contains 0 recorded indigenous-period/ethnographic-period cultural resource(s) and 8 recorded historic-period cultural resource(s): Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad, D-S Canal, Nevada City Highway, Durbrow Road, Hubbard Road, West Olympia Drive, historic building at 4651 West Olympia Drive, and a historic concrete retaining wall. Additionally, 15 cultural resources study report(s) on file at this office cover(s) a portion of the broader search area.

In this part of Nevada County, archaeologists locate indigenous-period/ethnographic-period habitation sites “along streams or on ridges or knolls, especially those with southern exposure” (Moratto 1984: 290). This region is known as the ethnographic-period territory of the Nisenan, also called the Southern Maidu. The Nisenan maintained permanent settlements along major rivers in the Sacramento Valley and foothills; they also periodically traveled to higher elevations (Wilson and Towne 1978: 387-389). The proposed project search area is situated in the Sierra Nevada foothills about one mile north of Wolf Creek. The subject parcels were surveyed in 1998 with negative results for indigenous-period/ethnographic-period cultural resources.

The 1867 GLO plat of T16N, R8E shows evidence of nineteenth-century roads near the subject parcels. The 1949 Grass Valley 7.5’ USGS topographical map shows a building associated with lumber operations at APN 035-600-004. Aerial imagery shows the building no longer standing by 1984. A field survey of the subject parcels in 1998 did not identify any significant historic-period cultural resources.

LITERATURE REFERENCED DURING SEARCH:

In addition to the official records and maps for sites and studies in Nevada County, the following inventories and references were also reviewed: National Register of Historic Places and California Register of Historical Resources - Listed properties; California Inventory of Historic Resources (1976); California State Historical Landmarks; California Points of Historical Interest; Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resources Directory; Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Resources Directory; Caltrans State and Local Bridge Surveys; Gold Districts of California (Clark 1970); California Gold Camps (Gudde 1975); California Place Names (Gudde 1969); Historic Spots in California (Hoover et al. 1966 [1990]); Trail of the First Wagons Over the Sierra Nevada (Graydon 1986); California Archaeology (Moratto 1984); Smithsonian Institution's Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 8, California (Wilson and Towne 1978); United States Geological Survey Topographical Maps; Bureau of Land Management Plat Maps; and Nationwide Environmental Title Research Historic Aerial Imagery.

SENSITIVITY STATEMENT:

- 1) With respect to cultural resources, it appears that the proposed project area **is not sensitive**.
- 2) Should the lead agency/authority require a cultural resources survey, a list of qualified local cultural resources consultants can be found at <http://chrisinfo.org>. Please forward copies of any resulting reports and resource records from this project to the North Central Information Center (NCIC) as soon as possible. The lead agency/authority and cultural resources consultant should coordinate sending documentation to NCIC. Digital materials are preferred and can be sent to our office via our file transfer system. Please contact NCIC for instructions.
- 3) If cultural resources are encountered during the project, avoid altering the materials and their context until a qualified cultural resources professional has evaluated the project area. Project personnel should not collect cultural resources. Indigenous-period/ethnographic-period resources include: chert or obsidian flakes, projectile points, and other flaked-stone artifacts; mortars, grinding slicks, pestles, and other groundstone tools; and dark friable soil containing shell and bone dietary debris, heat-affected rock, or human burials. Historic-period resources include: stone or adobe foundations or walls; structures and remains with square nails; mine shafts, tailings, or ditches/flumes; and refuse deposits or bottle dumps, often located in old wells or privies.
- 4) Identified cultural resources should be recorded on DPR 523 (A-L) historic resource recordation forms, available at https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28351.
- 5) Review for possible historic-period cultural resources has included only those sources listed in the referenced literature and should not be considered comprehensive. The Office of Historic Preservation has determined that buildings, structures, and objects 45 years or older may be of historical value. If the area of potential effect contains such properties not noted in our research, they should be assessed by an architectural historian before commencement of project activities.

Due to processing delays and other factors, it is possible that 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 California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to maintain information in the CHRIS inventory and make it available to local, state, and federal agencies, cultural resource professionals, Native American tribes, researchers, and the public. Recommendations made by IC coordinators or their staff regarding the interpretation and application of this information are advisory only. Such recommendations do not necessarily represent the evaluation or opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer in carrying out the OHP's regulatory authority under federal and state law.

Thank you for using our services. Please contact North Central Information Center at ncic@csus.edu or (916) 278-6217 if you have any questions about this records search.

Sincerely,

Paul Rendes, Coordinator
North Central Information Center