

7.0 CULTURAL RESOURCES

7.1 INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The methodology used to analyze cultural resources included research of literature, record searches of previously recorded cultural sites and surveys in the area, outreach to Native Americans, as well as field surveys in the project area. More detail about the methodology is provided in section 7.3.1.

7.1.1 Prehistoric Background

This section describes the context of human occupation within the project area. The project area lies within the central portion of the northern Coast Ranges of California and the pre-historic context is defined by the unique geography. Anthropologists place human occupation into a chronological or taxonomic order that is generally based on technology, though other aspects of culture may help define chronology.

7.1.1.1 Paleo-Indian Period (10000 B.C. to 6000 B.C.)

This period saw the first demonstrated entry and spread of humans into California with most known sites being situated along lakeshores. The Post Pattern represents the earliest known occupation of the North Coast Ranges. This pattern defined by Fredrickson is documented at the Borax Lake site and potentially at the Mostin site (Moratto 1984:497). Hunting was likely a dominant activity but milling technology is not evident. The social structure was likely loosely based and resources were likely acquired by migratory activities. Characteristic artifacts of the lithic assemblage include fluted projectile points and flaked crescents.

7.1.1.2 Lower Archaic Period (6000 B.C. to 3000 B.C.)

The beginning of this period coincides with the middle Holocene climatic shift to more arid conditions that resulted in the drying of the pluvial lakes. Subsistence appears to have been focused more on plant foods, although hunting clearly provided important food and raw material sources. Settlement appeared to be semi-sedentary with little emphasis on material wealth. Distinctive artifact types include large projectile points, milling slabs, and handstones.

The Lower Archaic Borax Lake Pattern has been identified in the North Coast Ranges during this period. The southernmost of three identified cultural divisions to this pattern is the Borax Lake Aspect identified in the Clear Lake Basin. The most distinctive lithic tool feature associated with the Borax Lake Aspect is the use of wide-stemmed projectile points.

7.1.1.3 Middle Archaic Period (3000 B.C. to 1000 B.C.)

This period starts at the end of mid-Holocene when climatic conditions became similar to present-day weather. The shift resulted in a discernable cultural change as a response to the variation of available floral and faunal resources. Economic systems were more diversified and likely included the introduction of acorn processing technology, while hunting remained an important source of food and raw materials. Characteristic artifacts of this period include the introduction of the bowl mortar and pestle and the continued use of large projectile points.

For the Napa Valley, the earliest identified archaeological assemblages are within this period. There is some disagreement to which pattern the first Napa Valley archaeological evidence belongs, however, there appears to be a cultural affiliation between the North Coast Ranges patterns and the Mendocino Pattern which persisted. The tool artifacts of the late Borax Lake Pattern are distinguished by stylistically unique obsidian drills, keeled obsidian tools, concave based projectile points, and thick lanceolate projectile points.

7.1.1.4 Upper Archaic Period (1000 B.C. to A.D. 500)

Expansion of sociopolitical complexity defines this period as indicated by material wealth which points to cultural status distinctions. Artifacts of this period demonstrate that there was a greater complexity of trade between different groups. Shell beads became more common, which were possible indicators of important trade items and personal status. Tool technology retained the large projectile points in different forms, but the milling stone and handstone were replaced throughout most of California by the bowl mortar and pestle.

7.1.1.5 Emergent Period (A.D. 500 to A.D. 1800)

This period is distinguished by several technological and social changes, such as the introduction of the bow and arrow and the increase in trade goods. Territorial boundaries between groups became well established and were well documented in early historic accounts. Individual's social status increased and was distinguished by acquired material wealth. In the latter portion of this period (A.D. 1500 to A.D. 1800), trade relations became highly regularized and sophisticated. The clam disk bead became a monetary unit of exchange and increasing quantities of goods were transported over greater distances. Specialists arose to govern various aspects of production and exchange (Moratto 1984).

During this period, the Augustine Pattern becomes the predominant economic/cultural manifestation in the Central Valley, Bay, and southern North Coast Ranges with numerous regional aspects having been identified in the archaeological record. Cultural traits that distinguish this pattern include pre-interment grave-pit burning, tightly flexed burials, and cremation. Artifact assemblages include clam and *Olivella* shell disk beads, magnesite cylinders, banjo type *Haliotis* (abalone) ornaments, as well as

birdbone whistles and tubes, and flanged steatite pipes. The mortar and pestle are the predominant milling implements and small arrow points replaced the larger projectile points commonly associated with atlatls. Implements such as harpoons, bone fish hooks, and gorge hooks (Moratto 1984) were also used during this pattern.

7.1.2 Ethnographic Background

The project straddles the boundary of three ethnographic groups: the Wappo, Coast Miwok, and Patwin. The following briefly discusses these ethnographic groups.

7.1.2.1 Wappo

The Wappo language included five dialects (Sawyer 1978), distributed across two major territorial divisions comprising lands from the southern edge of Clear Lake to just north of Napa and Sonoma up to Cloverdale and Middletown. The Wappo were generally considered to be a relatively peaceful group, culturally influenced by the groups surrounding them. However, the Wappo boldly resisted the Spanish who were recruiting them for labor although some Wappo went to the Sonoma Mission between 1823 and 1834. By 1850, it was estimated that no more than 500 were left in the Napa Valley as a result of smallpox epidemic in the late 1830's (Yount 1966). In the 1910 census of the area, 73 individuals claimed Wappo membership (Kroeber 1925).

The Wappo lived in villages usually located on a creek or other water source. Villages included one or two sweathouses as well as houses of varying size. Village chiefs might be elected or appointed based on the organization of the individual village. Some villages even had multiple chiefs, each with different spheres of influence (Sawyer 1978). Seasonal travel to Clear Lake, the Russian River, the coast, and Glass Mountain was common. Meat sources included abalone, clams, mussels, crabs, eels, turtles, chub, salmon, aquatic birds, deer, and rabbit. Acorns, buckeye, roots, grasses, and seaweed were also harvested (Sawyer 1978). Kroeber (1925) noted a village called *Tcimanukma* or *Tcimenukme* just north of the City of Napa, and another, *Tulukai*, to the southeast of Napa.

7.1.2.2 Coast Miwok

The Coast Miwok spoke a language in the penutina linguistic group. The Miwok language was broken into dialects respective of the three geographic groups of Miwok, the Coast, Lake, and Plains and Sierra. The Coast Miwok occupied the area south of the Wappo, west to the coastline, and south to the Marin County peninsula. Sixteenth century voyages led by Drake (1579) and Cermeño (1595) encountered and documented Coast Miwok peoples. The Coastal Miwok territory alternated between low-lying water courses, open valleys, and rolling hills. As a result, a wide range of natural resources were available for their use. The ethnographic village of *huchi* lies near the current project area (Kelly 1978).

A strong sense of territorial and property rights may have led to some hostility between villages (Kelly 1978), though this did not discourage seasonal foraging trips. Villages might include ceremonial structures for both men and women, as well as grass or tule huts big enough to accommodate 6-10 people and a sweathouse. There were two primary female leaders in addition to the headman or chief. One led several of the ceremonial dances. The other apparently had wider-ranging duties including heading the women's ceremonial house, oversaw construction of a new dance house, helped organize and select performers for festivals.

The wide variety of resources were harvested by inventive tools. Coast Miwok used nets, hooks or traps for freshwater and marine fish and mussels and clams were collected or dug along the rocks and shores. Deer, goose, duck, rabbit, bear, elk, wood rats, gophers, squirrels, and land birds were also hunted. Acorns, buckeye, fruits, roots, greens, and kelp were harvested. Tule rushes were widely used to build huts and boats. The Coast Miwok also gathered tobacco along Healdsburg and Santa Rosa creeks for smoking by adult males and occasionally elderly females (Kelly 1978).

7.1.2.3 Patwin

The eastern portion of the project area was occupied by Patwin who are also known as Southern Wintuan speakers. The Wintuan linguistic family comprised three divisions: Northern Wintun, Central Wintun, and Southern Wintun (Goldschmidt 1978). The Patwin, who lived in smaller groups, or tribelets, were divided among speakers of different dialects including: Kabalmem, Cache Creek, Cortina, Tebti, Colusa and Grimes, Knight's Landing, and Suisun (Whistler 1976).

The Patwin occupied the southern portion of the Sacramento River Valley west of the Sacramento River almost to the Napa River. Their territory extended from the town of Princeton in the north to Suisun Bay and Benicia on the south. Subsistence was based on hunting and fishing, as well as the gathering of acorns, buckeye, pine nuts, sunflower seeds, clover, wild oats juniper berries, manzanita berries, blackberries, wild grapes, *Brodiaea* bulbs, and tule roots (Johnson 1978).

The Patwin participated in the Kuksu cult, though they may have come into it later than many groups in California, as evidenced by variations that had been created elsewhere (Bennyhoff 1961). The cult included membership in secret societies, primarily for men, though higher status women were sometimes allowed to join. The ritualistic practices varied from village to village, but all included dances with spiritual beings. The Kuksu beliefs were supplanted or modified by the introduction of the Ghost Dance in the 1870s (Johnson 1978).

While California was still under Mexican dominance, Mariano G. Vallejo assumed authority over the Wintuan Indians and the land surrounding them, but maintained a friendly relationship. The Indians provided a labor force for the early development of the region. During the 1830s and 1840s, the

Patwin territory was overtaken by settlers both Mexican and Euro-American, as Spanish rule dwindled when California formally became a Mexican territory, then when the United States won control of California in the Mexican American war. By the 1850s and 1860s, due to further invasion of Euro-Americans and the onslaught of disease, surviving Patwins were either assimilated into the European culture or placed on small reservations organized by the federal government (Johnson 1978).

7.1.3 Historic Background

7.1.3.1 Napa Valley History

The Napa Valley region is an area rich in history, as it played a significant role in California's development. The first land grant awarded to a European in the Napa Valley, Rancho Caymus (11,887 acres), was given to George C. Yount in 1836. Yount was Napa County's first non-native settler. Yount came from Missouri to Sonoma where he worked for General Vallejo and the Spanish priests repairing the mission roofs. After receiving his land grant, he built a blockhouse and ancillary buildings, which included a saw mill. Yount also planted mission grapes, barley, wheat, and raised cattle and horses. Other Europeans and Americans eventually arrived in the area to farm. The Town of Napa was founded in 1847 by Nathan Coombs. Soon after, Napa County was formed as one of California's original counties. The Town of Napa was incorporated in 1872, and reincorporated as the City of Napa in 1874 (Elliott and Smith 1878).

During the early settlement, the Mexican government slowly granted property to other settlers. Other Napa County ranchos included: Carne Humana (17,962 acres), Catacula (8,546 acres), Chimiles (17,762 acres), Entre Napa (5,711 acres), Carneros, Rincon de Los (2,558 acres), Huichicha (18,704 acres), La Jota (4,454 acres), Las Putas (35,516 acres), Locoallomi (8,873 acres), Malacomes y Plan de Agua Calientes (17,743 acres), and Napa (21,917 acres) (Beck and Haase 1974).

Although the discovery of gold in 1848 by James Marshall drew many settlers away from the Napa area, within a decade, a silver rush would bring settlers back to the area. By 1850 California had become a state which was rapidly becoming a place where wealthy men made their fortune. The discovery of silver revealed the presence of a more marketable mineral – mercury, which miners used to remove pure gold from ore. By 1864, Napa County became one of the leading producers of mercury. Because silver mining was not very lucrative here, many disillusioned miners discovered greater profit potential in owning land and growing produce. Many of the early settlers grew fruit trees, wheat and barley, as well as raised cattle and horses. By the late 19th and early 20th century, 500,000 fruit and nut trees were found in the region (www.napavalley.net/history/history3.html).

Although some of the first settlers, such as Yount, grew grapes, John Patchett is commonly credited with establishing the first vineyard grown specifically for commercial winemaking in 1859. By the 1870s the number of wineries grew, making the Napa Valley one of the largest viticulture areas in the country.

Community services, such as a telegraph line, a water company, and the Napa Valley Railroad were established to serve the growing number of residents. Construction of the first road, today's Highway 29, began in 1852 and was completed in 1861. The Napa Sonoma Stage line provided transportation to settlers throughout the valley until the late 19th century, until trains became the primary mode of transportation (www.napaValley.net/history/history3.html).

The efforts of Napa Valley's early settlers are still visible throughout the landscape today, as evidenced by the number of wineries and agricultural land, many of which are located on the historic land grants including those in the project area, such as Caymus, Carne Humana, and Napa.

7.1.3.2 Sonoma History

The early Spanish expeditions along the West Coast led the way to European settlement in California. Spanish settlers and soldiers who came from Mexico were the first non-natives to explore Sonoma County. Spanish priests would eventually build missions to teach the Native Americans about European religion and way of life. One of the first priests in California, Father Jose Altimira, founded Mission San Francisco de Solano, known today as Sonoma Mission, the last and northernmost mission in California. Missions represent some of the oldest buildings found in California today (Office of Historic Preservation 1996).

Both the Russian settlers near Fort Ross and Father Jose Altimira are credited with planting and cultivating the first grapes within the Sonoma area. Agoston Haraszthy, a Hungarian transplant, is one of the most well-known early wine growers. Haraszthy purchased a vineyard in what is now Sonoma County and became a promoter of Sonoma as a fine wine region. Today he is considered the "Father of the California Wine Industry" (www.scgga.com/pages/vineyardviews/vvhistory.html).

The Mexican government sent Mariano Vallejo to Sonoma County in 1834 to further explore the land and protect it from the Russians who had established a colony. Given a large rancho near Petaluma (66,622 acres), Vallejo built a home which, after restoration, is still standing today. Other nearby ranchos included: Agua Caliente (3,219 acres), Blucher (26,759 acres), Bodega (35,488 acres), Caslamayomi (26,788 acres), Cotate (17,239 acres), Estero Americano (8,849 acres), German (17,580 acres), Los Guilicos (18,834 acres), Canada de Jonive (10,787 acres), Molinos (17,892 acres), Muniz (17,761 acres), Rincon de Musalacon (8,867 acres), Canada de Pogolimi (8,781 acres), San Miguel (6,663 acres), Cabeza de Santa Rosa (8,885 acres), Llano de Santa Rosa (13,316

acres), Sotoyome (48,837 acres), Tzabaco (15,439 acres), Roblar de Miseria (16,887 acres), Mission Sonoma (14.20 acres), Sonoma Pueblo Lands (6,094 acres), and Lac (177 acres) (Beck and Haase 1974).

Although no longer fearing the Russians, the Mexican government did not like the growing number of Americans who were settling in Sonoma, often as squatters. In June of 1846 the tension between the Americans and the Mexicans escalated in what would become known as the Bear Flag Revolt. A band of Americans took Vallejo prisoner, and raised a makeshift flag signifying the independent nation they wanted to be. Shortly after the revolt however, the settlers in Sonoma learned of the war between the United States and Mexico. The American flag had been raised at Monterey and was later brought to Sonoma in July of 1846. Sonoma had become part of the United States territory (Office of Historic Preservation 1996).

The Sonoma area quickly grew with ranchers, craftsmen, and farmers. Today, Sonoma County is an area widely known for its accomplishments in agriculture and viticulture, attributable to its mild climate and terrain, as well as to those early settlers.

7.2 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

7.2.1 CEQA Guidelines

CEQA offers guidelines regarding impacts on historic and prehistoric cultural resources. CEQA states that if implementation of a project would result in significant impacts on important cultural resources, then alternative plans or mitigation measures must be considered. However, only significant cultural resources need to be addressed. State CEQA Guidelines define a significant historical resource as “a resource listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources” (CRHR) (Public Resources Code §5024.1). A historical resource may be eligible for inclusion on the CRHR if it:

- is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage; or
- is associated with the lives of persons important in our past; or
- 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
- has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, the State CEQA Guidelines require consideration of unique archaeological sites (§15064.5). If an archaeological site does not meet the criteria for inclusion on the CRHR but does

meet the definition of a unique archeological resource as outlined in the Public Resource Code (§21083.2), it may be treated as a significant historical resource. Treatment options under §21083.2 of CEQA include preservation in place. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under §21083.2 include excavation and curation, or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a “unique archaeological resource”).

7.3 EXISTING CONDITIONS

7.3.1 Affected Environment

Prior to fieldwork, a record search for the project was conducted at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System. The purpose of the NWIC search was to determine whether there were previously recorded historic resources or archaeological surveys in the vicinity of the project area.

The NWIC search included examination of background historic resources such as:

- Office of Historic Preservation Historic Property Directory,
- California Historic Landmarks (1996),
- National Register of Historic Places (1996 and 2000),
- California Points of Historical Interest (1992 and updates),
- California Register of Historical Resources, and
- GLO Plat maps.

Several surveys have been conducted in the general region of the project area, but none have included more than minor coverage of any project segment. Therefore, where feasible, the project route was examined by archaeologists. Limitations included terrain too steep to safely examine and areas where landowner permission could not be obtained for access. It is presumed that the steepest areas are unlikely to contain cultural resources and that transmission line installation in these areas will involve overhead line work that would not impact any sites, features, or artifacts that might be present.

Project archaeologists attended a series of field inspections of the proposed project and alternative routes on various dates in the summer and fall of 2003. These sessions were attended by PG&E personnel, as well as other environmental specialists. In order to minimize potential impacts to cultural resources, input from PG&E was solicited regarding the placement of various installations. In addition, letters requesting information regarding the project area were sent to the Native American Heritage Commission and 15 Native American individuals or organizations which might have knowledge of the area (see Appendix G).

Two cultural resources have been identified near the proposed project route and within the access roads/other construction areas. The first is inside the Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park, located near the Lakeville Substation northeast of the City of Petaluma. This park includes the restored Petaluma Adobe (State Historic Landmark No. 18), built by General Mariano G. Vallejo. The adobe has been restored to its appearance during its prime period of significance, 1834-1845.

The second resource consisted of a portion of a stone wall found along Segment 1, at pole 61. Current project planning calls for the elimination of this pole, however a planned access road would require a breach in the wall.



Historic Stone Wall in Project Area (behind the foreground fence)



Historic Stone Wall in Project Area (behind foreground fence)

7.4 POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

7.4.1 Known Cultural Resources

Petaluma Adobe (State Historic Landmark No. 18)

The Lakeville-Sonoma transmission line is within the distant background of the viewshed of the Petaluma Adobe building (State Historic Landmark No. 18), described previously in section 7.3. However, raising the existing transmission line poles in this area by about 29 feet on average and adding another circuit is not expected to create a significant visual impact from the building, as they are largely screened by vegetation and are located a good distance away, over ¼-mile (approximately 1,675 feet) northeast of the park. In addition, there are other lattice tower transmission lines closer to the park that are far more prominent visually than the Lakeville-Sonoma transmission line in the distance (see Chapter 15 – Photos 3 and 4). The project would not substantially degrade the existing viewshed and thus would not have a significant visual impact to the Petaluma Adobe building (see Appendix C – Visual Simulation KOP 3). No mitigation is required.

Historic Stone Wall**Impact 7.1 Historic Stone Wall**

In order to create a permanent access road, a physical breach will be made to a portion of an historic stone wall that runs southeast from pole 61. The stone wall does not appear on historic maps of the Napa area, does not line up with known Mexican Land Grant boundaries and is of a type, style and method of construction ubiquitous in the region. As this is a non-significant historic resource, impacts to the wall are considered less-than-significant.

Mitigation Measure 7.1. Although the stone wall near pole 61 is not historically significant, the breach created for the access road should be kept to the minimum required to preserve as much scenic value of the wall as possible.

7.4.2 Unknown Cultural Resources**Impact 7.2 Unknown Cultural Resources**

Project construction will create subsurface disturbances that could impact as-yet undiscovered cultural resources. The locations of access roads, staging areas, pull sites, and the transmission line route itself have been revised or added as the planning stages of the project have progressed. In order to develop a detailed assessment of cultural resources that may be present within or in the immediate vicinity of such project elements, additional archaeological surveys of the transmission line route and associated areas may be necessary prior to the commencement of project-related ground disturbing activities. If previously unidentified cultural resources or human remains are encountered during construction, Mitigation Measure 7.2 shall be implemented.

Mitigation Measure 7.2. An archaeological monitor shall be present during construction within 200 feet of a perennial or seasonal watercourse (i.e., streams depicted by blue dotted lines on Figures 2-4(a) through (d)). Should previously unknown cultural resources be encountered during project-related subsurface disturbances, work shall be stopped in the area of the find pending consultation with the archaeological monitor. The monitor will determine the potential significance of the find and in consultation with PG&E will develop measures designed to eliminate or at least minimize adverse impacts. Such measures can include, but not necessarily be limited to, no action, photo and documentary recording, subsurface testing, and excavation. The duration of work stoppages will vary depending on the extent, integrity, and potential significance of the encountered resource.

CEQA provides a measure of protection for human remains (Guidelines section 15064.5[d]) and for the accidental discovery of cultural resources (Guidelines section 15064.5[e]). These are particularly important provisions in that they take into account the possibility that significant resources not noted as a result of previous research efforts may be present within a project area and need to be treated

in a way commensurate with CEQA standards. If human remains are discovered within the project area during any phase of construction, work within 50 feet of the remains shall be suspended immediately and PG&E and/or their representative shall immediately notify the respective county coroner. If the remains are determined by the coroner to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) shall be notified within 24 hours, and the guidelines of the NAHC shall be adhered to in the treatment and disposition of the remains. PG&E shall also retain a professional archaeological consultant with Native American burial experience who shall conduct a field investigation of the specific site and consult with the Most Likely Descendant (MLD) identified by the NAHC. As necessary, the archaeological consultant may provide professional assistance to the MLD including the excavation and removal of the human remains. PG&E or their appointed representative shall implement any mitigation before to the resumption of activities at the site where the remains were discovered.

7.5 REFERENCES

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