

**HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE
REPORT FOR THE STATE ROUTE 68/
CORRAL DE TIERRA ROAD INTERSECTION
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, NEAR SALINAS,
MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION 05-0H8230
05-MON-68, P.M. 12.8-13.2
CALTRANS DISTRICT 5**



June 2013

Cover photo:
Intersection of State Route 68 and Corral de Tierra Road; view to north-northwest.

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CALTRANS DISTRICT 5**

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LSA Project #WRS0605A

June 2013

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HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE REPORT

State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency
Department of Transportation

1. PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION						
District	County	Route	Kilo Posts	Post Miles	Charge Unit	Expenditure Authorization
05	Mon	SR 68	20.6 to 21.3	12.8 to 13.2	N/A	05-0H8230

(Both kilometer posts and post miles must be completed above.)

Project Description: *(Insert project description below; refer reader to location and vicinity maps in HRCR)*

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the County of Monterey Public Works Department (County) propose to widen the intersection at the State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County, California (Attachment 1: Figures 1 and 2). The 9.5-acre Project Area Limits (PAL) is approximately 2,500 feet long, east-to-west along State Route 68 (SR-68) and approximately 200 feet at its widest, and 1,000 feet long north-to-south along Corral de Tierra Road and approximately 150 feet at its widest.

The proposed project would widen the SR-68/Corral de Tierra intersection to the north of the existing alignment to accommodate the construction of a second (additional) left turn lane from westbound SR-68 onto southbound Corral de Tierra Road. Both of the left turn lanes (in the median of SR-68) would have sufficient length to accommodate deceleration from 53 miles per hour. An additional receiving lane would also be constructed on southbound Corral de Tierra Road. The paved shoulders of Corral de Tierra Road within the project area would be widened to 8 feet to better accommodate pedestrians and facilitate the future addition of Class II bicycle lanes to Corral de Tierra Road.

About 520 feet of Steel Crib retaining wall (or equivalent) would be constructed west of Corral de Tierra Road along the north embankment of SR-68. The retaining wall would lie below the existing road grade and therefore would not be visible from SR-68. The retaining wall would minimize the footprint of the embankment needed to accommodate the widened road section.

A left turn lane would also be constructed from westbound SR-68 into the Corral de Tierra Country Club driveway. The Corral de Tierra Country Club driveway is located east of Corral de Tierra Road on the south side of SR-68.

No provisions for left turns to or from the residential driveway on the north side of SR-68 would be made. As part of the proposed project, a painted median island would be created in front of the residential driveway restricting drivers to right-in, right-out access. Drivers needing to make left-in, left-out movements would need to make a U-turn at the traffic signal at either San Benancio Road or at Corral de Tierra Road. U-turn movements at these signalized intersections are both legal and safe.

The proposed project would require an excavation depth of 3 feet for the widening of the roadway approaches. Shallow trenching, less than 3 feet deep, will be required to install conduits for the traffic signals. Retaining wall construction would excavate into the mechanically-stabilized embankment on the north side of SR-68 west of Corral de Tierra Road, but that embankment was constructed in 1993, so excavation for the retaining wall would not remove previously-undisturbed soils. The maximum vertical extent of the PAL is 10 feet deep, but only at the locations of the major traffic signal poles, which will be on cast-in-drilled-hole piles. No driven piles are required for this project.

All of the work would be constructed within existing State and County rights-of-way, except for a small area of new State right-of-way that would be acquired on the north side of SR-68 just east of the intersection to accommodate relocation of a bus stop, widening and grading. Also, a temporary construction easements would be acquired along the east side of Corral de Tierra Road to accommodate grading near the edge of the County right-of-way. Temporary staging areas for construction equipment and materials would be located in those areas of the existing State and County rights-of-way that are not

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designated as environmentally sensitive areas. Construction is expected to be completed in a single season.

2. PROJECT AREA LIMITS

The PAL limits for the project were established in consultation with Valerie Levulett, Caltrans District 5 Environmental Branch Chief, and Caltrans Project Manager Dave Rasmussen, on June 12, 2013. The PAL map is located in Attachment 1 of this Historical Resources Compliance Report (HRCR).

The 9.5-acre PAL is approximately 2,500 feet long, east-to-west along SR-68 and approximately 200 feet at its widest, and 1,000 feet long north-to-south along Corral de Tierra Road and approximately 150 feet at its widest.

3. CONSULTING PARTIES / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(For the following, check the appropriate line, list names, dates, and locations and results of contacts, as appropriate. List organizations/persons contacted and attach correspondence and summarize verbal comments received as appropriate. Consulting parties that are not applicable may be deleted)

✓ Native American Tribes, Groups and Individuals

On March 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and a map depicting the APE to the Native American contacts on the list provided by the NAHC, asking for any information or concerns they might have about the APE (Attachment 4). On April 9, 2007, LSA placed follow-up phone calls. A record of this correspondence is presented below:

- Ramona Garibay, Representative, Trina Marine Ruano Family. Ms. Garibay stated she did not know the area and knows of no sacred sites.
- Louise Miranda-Ramirez, Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. Ms. Miranda-Ramirez stated she “did not know of any sites, but if we find any, please call her.”
- Al Rodriguez, Vice Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. LSA received the following message when a phone call was made: “The number you dialed is not a working number. Please check the number and dial again.” Subsequent calls resulted in the same message.
- Rudy Rosales, Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. LSA made a follow-up phone call, but the number was a fax number.

✓ Native American Heritage Commission

On February 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and maps the depicting the APE to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento asking the commission to review their sacred lands file for any Native American cultural resources that might be affected by the proposed project. Also requested were the names of Native Americans who might have information or concerns about the APE. Ms. Debbie Pilas-Treadway, NAHC Environmental Specialist III, replied in a fax dated February 22, 2007 that a review of the sacred lands file does not indicate “any Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area.” Ms. Pilas-Treadway also provided a list of Native American contacts (Attachment 3).

✓ Local Historical Society / Historic Preservation Group *(also if applicable, city archives, etc.)*

On February 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and a map depicting the APE to the Monterey County Historical Society, Salinas, asking for any concerns they might have regarding the APE (Attachment 5). On April 9, 2007, LSA made a follow-up phone call reiterating our request for information and concerns in a voice message. No response has been received to date.

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(For the following, check the appropriate line, list names, dates, and locations and results of contacts, as appropriate. List organizations/persons contacted and attach correspondence and summarize verbal comments received as appropriate. Consulting parties that are not applicable may be deleted)

Public Information Meetings (list locations, dates below and attach copies of notices)

A public information meeting was held on April 17, 2007, at San Benancio Middle School, Salinas, California (see Attachment 6: Public Meeting Notice).

4. SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Register of Historic Places | Month & Year: 1979-2002 & supplements |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Register of Historical Resources | Year: 1992 & supplemental information to date |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Inventory of Historic Resources | Year: 1976 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Historical Landmarks | Year: 1995 & supplemental information to date |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California Points of Historical Interest | Year: 1992 & supplemental information to date |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Resources Commission | Year: 1980-present, minutes from quarterly meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Historic Highway Bridge Inventory | Year: 2003 & supplemental information to date |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Site Records [<i>List names of Institutions & date below</i>] | |
| • Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California. February 8, 2007. | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other sources consulted [<i>e.g., historical societies, city archives, etc. List names and dates below</i>] | |
| • Monterey County Historical Society | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results: (<i>provide a brief summary of records search and research results, as well as inventory findings</i>) | |
| No recorded cultural resources were identified within the APE. Adjacent to the PAL at the intersection of SR 68 and Corral de Tierra Road, Lee (1995) evaluated several architectural properties that included the "Food Center," a combination gas station-mini-mart-flower stand complex. These buildings do not appear to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources. In addition, a 1953 California Ranch style residence and associated garage and shed adjacent to the APE were evaluated and do not appear to meet any of the National Register criteria of significance and thus the resource is not eligible for listing on the National Register (Marvin 2007:1). | |

This study identified the PAL along Corral de Tierra Road and much of the eastern portion of SR 68 as possibly sensitive for buried archaeological resources.

5. EXEMPT / NO CEQA RESOURCES IDENTIFIED

- There are **no cultural resources** in the Project Area limits.

6. HISTORICAL RESOURCES IDENTIFIED

- Not applicable.

7. CEQA IMPACT FINDINGS

- Caltrans has determined a **finding of no impact** is appropriate because there are no historical resources within the Project Area limits, or there are no impacts to historical resource(s), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(b)(3).

8. MITIGATION PLAN

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(List the impacted historical resource and describe its mitigation plan below or indicate below the title of the HRCR attachment that contains the description. Archaeological sites: summarize proposed data recovery. For mitigation plans that are not complete, describe the range of suitable mitigation options.)

None.

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9. FINDINGS FOR STATE-OWNED HISTORICAL RESOURCES

- ✓ Caltrans has determined that there are **no State-owned historical resources** within the Project Area Limits.

10. LIST OF ATTACHED DOCUMENTATION

(Provide the author/date and peer reviewer/date of the technical report. Documentation that is not applicable may be deleted)

- ✓ Figure 1: Project Location Map (Attachment 1)
Figure 2: Area of Potential Effects

- ✓ Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) (Attachment 2)
Goetter, Karin
2012 *Archaeological Survey Report for the State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvement Project*. LSA Associates, Inc., Point Richmond.

- ✓ Other *(Specify below)*
 - Native American Heritage Commission (Attachment 3)
 - Native American Contacts Consultation Letters (Attachment 4)
 - Historical Society Consultation Letter (Attachment 5)
 - Public Meeting Notice (Attachment 6)

11. HRCR PREPARATION AND DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

Prepared by <i>(sign on line)</i> :	N/A	
District Caltrans PQS/Generalist:	[PQS level and discipline]	Date
Prepared by: <i>(sign on line)</i>		12/3/12
Consultant / discipline:	Karin Goetter Co-Principal Investigator - Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology	Date
Affiliation	LSA Associates, Inc.	
Reviewed for approval by: <i>(sign on line)</i>		
District 5 Caltrans PQS discipline/level:	Terry L. Joslin	Date
Approved by: <i>(sign on line)</i>		
District 5 EBC:	Valerie Levulett	Date

ATTACHMENT 1

Figure 1: Project Location Map
Figure 2: Project Area Limits

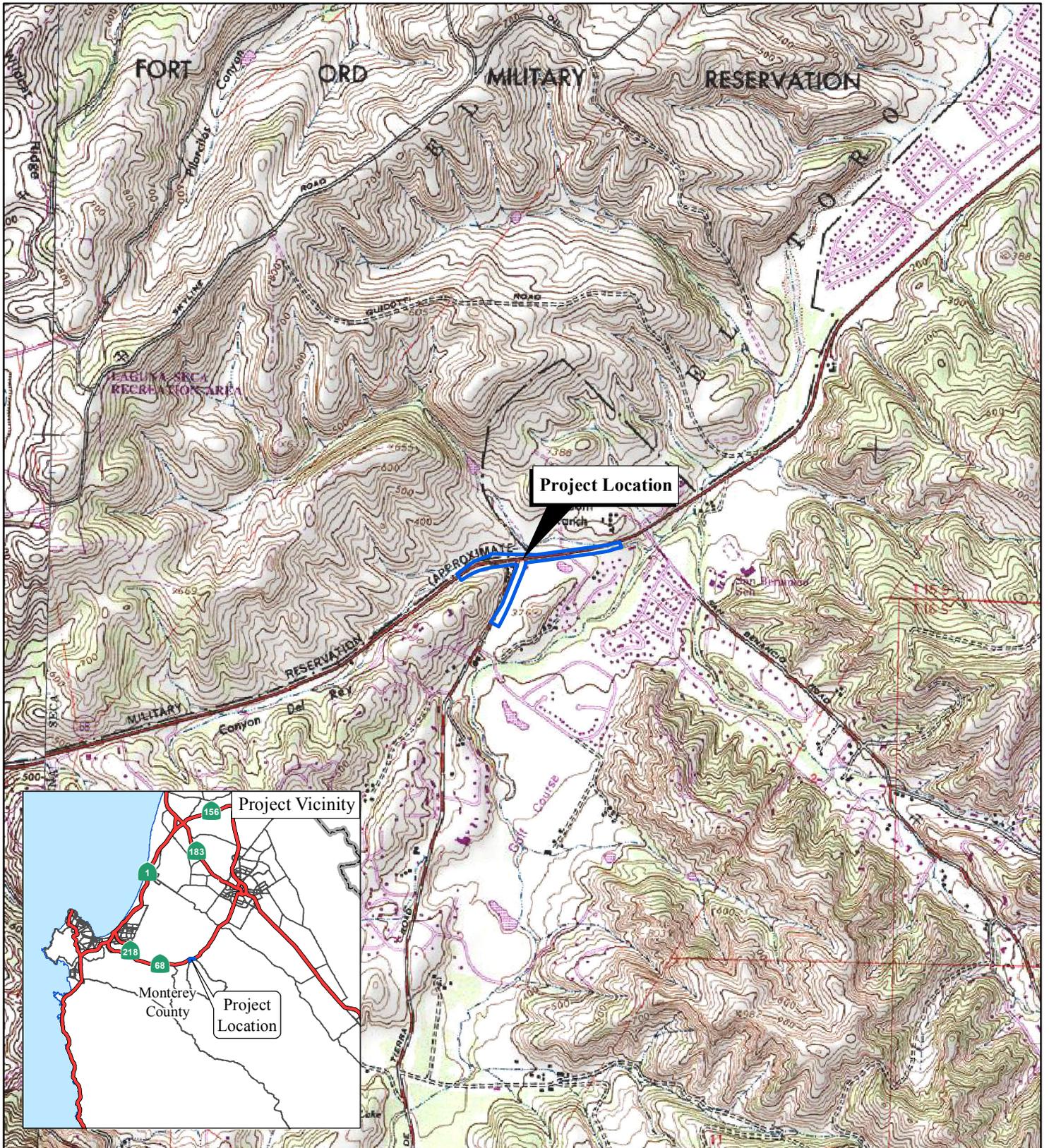


FIGURE 1

SR 68 / Corral de Tierra Road
Intersection Improvement Project

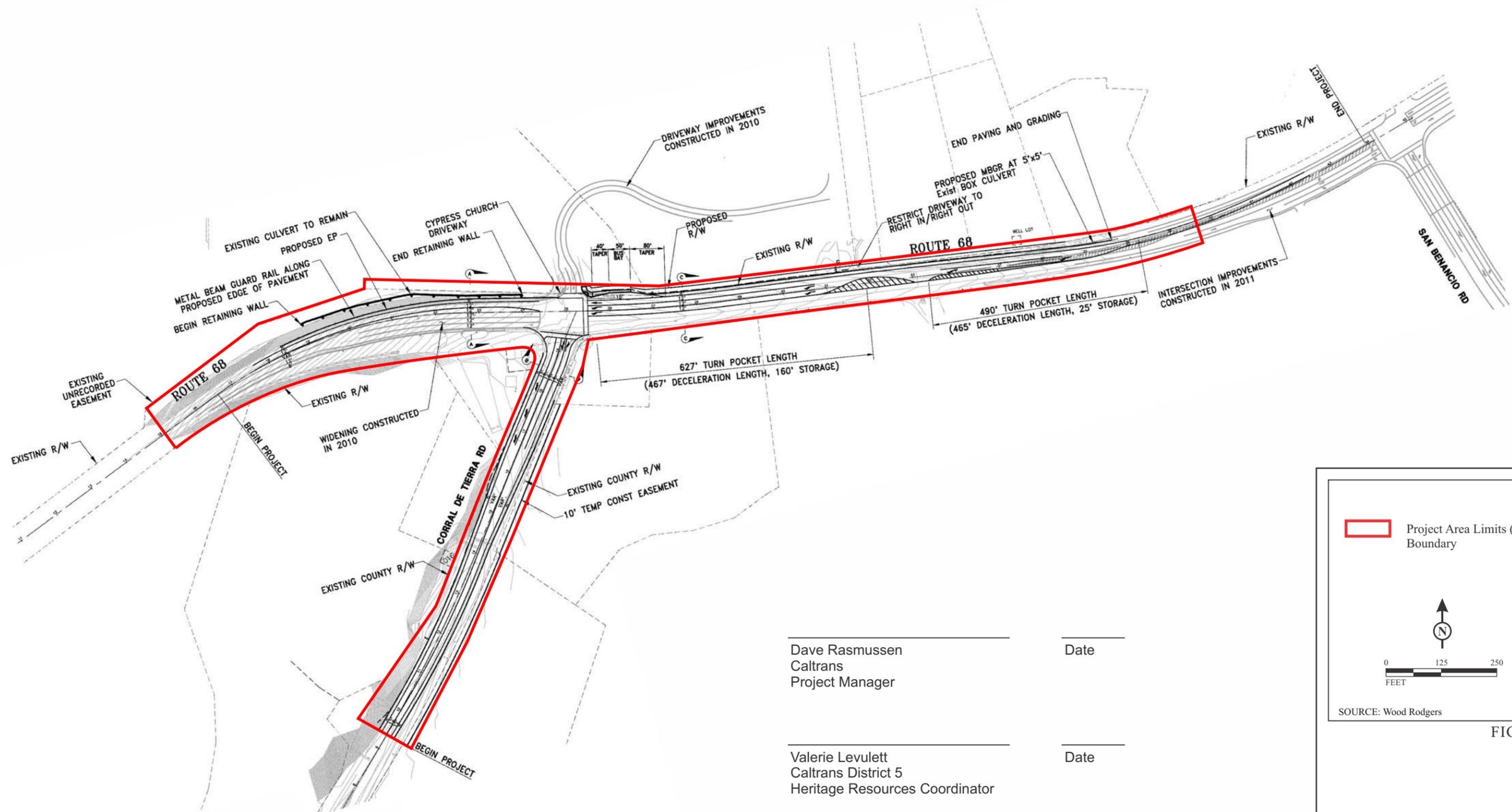
Project Location Map

MON-68, P.M. 12.8/13.2

05-OH8230

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' QUAD, SPRECKELS, CA (1984); Wood Rodgers (2006)

I:\WRS0605\GIS\Fig1.mxd (4/18/2007)



 Dave Rasmussen
 Caltrans
 Project Manager

 Date

 Valerie Levulett
 Caltrans District 5
 Heritage Resources Coordinator

 Date

 Project Area Limits (PAL) Boundary





SOURCE: Wood Rodgers

FIGURE 2

*SR-68/Corral de Tierra Road
 Intersection Improvement Project*
 Project Area Limits
 MON-68, P.M. 12.8/13.2
 05-OH8230

ATTACHMENT 2

Archaeological Survey Report

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT FOR THE
STATE ROUTE 68/CORRAL DE TIERRA ROAD
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, NEAR
SALINAS, MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION 05-0H8230
05-MON-68, P. M. 12.8-13.2
CALTRANS DISTRICT 5**

Neal Kaptain for

6/17/13

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Approved by _____

Valerie Levulett
Senior Environmental Planner (Cultural Resources)
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Date

USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles: *Spreckels, Calif.*
Acreage: Approximately 9.5 acres
Township and range: Unsectioned lands of Rancho El Toro;
Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian
Keyword: Corral de Tierra

June 2013

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the County of Monterey Public Works Department (County) propose to improve the intersection of State Route 68 (SR 68) and Corral de Tierra Road, SR 68 between post mile 12.8 and 13.2 (HRCR Attachment 1: Figure 1). The project objective is to improve the operation and safety of the signalized SR 68 intersection with Corral de Tierra Road. The 9.5-acre Project Area Limits (PAL) is approximately 2,500 feet long, east-to-west along SR 68 and approximately 200 feet at its widest, and 1,000 feet long north-to-south along Corral de Tierra Road and approximately 150 feet at its widest (HRCR Attachment 1: Figure 2).

The proposed roadway improvements would widen the approaches to the SR 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection to accommodate the construction of a second left turn lane from westbound SR 68 to southbound Corral de Tierra Road by shifting the through lane to the north. In addition, a second southbound receiving lane would also be constructed on Corral de Tierra Road departing the intersection to receive traffic from the second left-turn lane. The proposed project would not change the existing eastbound SR 68 approach, northbound Corral de Tierra Road approach, or southbound Cypress Community Church driveway approach. The paved shoulders of Corral de Tierra Road within the PAL would be widened to 8 feet to better accommodate pedestrians and facilitate the future addition of Class II bicycle lanes to Corral de Tierra Road. The intersection traffic signal system would be modified to accommodate the widening on the north side of SR 68 to relocate the westbound through lane and the second west-to-southbound left-turn lane.

The proposed project would require an excavation depth of 3 feet for the widening of the roadway approaches. Shallow trenching, less than 3 feet deep, will be required to install conduits for the traffic signals. Retaining wall construction would excavate into the mechanically-stabilized embankment on the north side of SR 68 west of Corral de Tierra Road, but that embankment was constructed in 1993, so excavation for the retaining wall would not remove previously-undisturbed soils. The maximum vertical extent of the PAL is 10 feet deep, but only at the locations of the major traffic signal poles, which would be on cast-in-drilled-hole piles. No driven piles are required for this project.

LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) prepared this Archaeological Survey Report (ASR) to address requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project will require a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit from the Sacramento District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

This study consisted of archival and background research which included a records search; consultation with potentially interested parties; and a field survey. LSA archaeologist Karin Goetter conducted a field survey of the PAL on April 4, 2007.

No recorded cultural resources were identified within the PAL.

This study identified the floodplain terrace along Corral de Tierra Road and much of the eastern portion of SR 68 in the PAL as being sensitive for buried archaeological resources.

It is Caltrans' policy to avoid cultural resources whenever possible. Further investigations may be needed if the site(s) cannot be avoided by the project. If buried cultural materials are encountered during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can

evaluate the nature and significance of the find. Additional survey will be required if the project changes to include areas not previously surveyed.

INTRODUCTION

The State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvement Project PAL is 8.4 miles southwest of the City of Salinas, in northeastern Monterey County, California (HRCR Attachment 1: Figure 1). LSA archaeologist Karin Goetter surveyed the PAL on April 4, 2007. Ms. Goetter has a Master of Arts degree in Cultural Resources Management, is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (#15758) and a Registered Professional Historian (#597), and has 11 years of experience in California archaeology. Ms. Goetter meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for prehistoric and historical archaeology.

HIGHWAY PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Caltrans and the County propose to improve the intersection of State Route 68 (SR 68) and Corral de Tierra Road, between SR 68 post mile 12.8 and 13.2. The project objective is to improve the operation and safety of the signalized SR 68 intersection with Corral de Tierra Road (HRCR Attachment 1: Figure 2).

The proposed project would widen the SR 68/Corral de Tierra intersection to the north of the existing alignment to accommodate the construction of a second (additional) left turn lane from westbound SR 68 onto southbound Corral de Tierra Road. Both of the left turn lanes (in the median of SR 68) would have sufficient length to accommodate deceleration from 53 miles per hour. An additional receiving lane would also be constructed on southbound Corral de Tierra Road. The paved shoulders of Corral de Tierra Road within the project area would be widened to 8 feet to better accommodate pedestrians and facilitate the future addition of Class II bicycle lanes to Corral de Tierra Road.

About 520 feet of Steel Crib retaining wall (or equivalent) would be constructed west of Corral de Tierra Road along the north embankment of SR 68. The retaining wall would lie below the existing road grade and therefore would not be visible from SR 68. The retaining wall would minimize the footprint of the embankment needed to accommodate the widened road section.

A left turn lane would also be constructed from westbound SR 68 into the Corral de Tierra Country Club driveway. The Corral de Tierra Country Club driveway is located east of Corral de Tierra Road on the south side of SR 68.

No provisions for left turns to or from the residential driveway on the north side of SR 68 would be made. As part of the proposed project, a painted median island would be created in front of the residential driveway restricting drivers to right-in, right-out access. Drivers needing to make left-in, left-out movements would need to make a U-turn at the traffic signal at either San Benancio Road or at Corral de Tierra Road. U-turn movements at these signalized intersections are both legal and safe.

The proposed project would require an excavation depth of 3 feet for the widening of the roadway approaches. Shallow trenching, less than 3 feet deep, will be required to install conduits for the traffic signals. Retaining wall construction would excavate into the mechanically-stabilized embankment on the north side of SR 68 west of Corral de Tierra Road, but that embankment was constructed in 1993, so excavation for the retaining wall would not remove previously-undisturbed soils. The maximum

vertical extent of the PAL is 10 feet deep, but only at the locations of the major traffic signal poles, which will be on cast-in-drilled-hole piles. No driven piles are required for this project.

All of the work would be constructed within existing State and County rights-of-way, except for a small area of new State right-of-way that would be acquired on the north side of SR 68 just east of the intersection to accommodate relocation of a bus stop, widening and grading. Also, a temporary construction easements would be acquired along the east side of Corral de Tierra Road to accommodate grading near the edge of the County right-of-way. Temporary staging areas for construction equipment and materials would be located in those areas of the existing State and County rights-of-way that are not designated as environmentally sensitive areas. Construction is expected to be completed in a single season.

SOURCES CONSULTED

Background research was done to identify cultural resources within, and cultural resource studies of, the PAL. The background research consisted of a records search and literature and map review.

Records Search

LSA archaeologist Joy Longfellow conducted a records search (NWIC File No. 06-1210) of the PAL and a 1-mile radius on February 8, 2007, at the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), of the California Historical Resources Information System, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California. As part of the records search, LSA reviewed the following State of California inventories:

- *California Inventory of Historic Resources* (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1976).
- *Five Views: An Ethnic Sites Survey for California* (California Office of Historic Preservation 1988).
- *California Points of Historical Interest* (California Office of Historic Preservation 1992 and updates).
- *California Historical Landmarks* (California Office of Historic Preservation 1995 and updates).
- *Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File* (California Office of Historic Preservation, September 18, 2006). The directory includes the listings of the National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks, the California Register of Historical Resources, California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest.
- *California Historic Bridge Inventory* (Caltrans 1986).

The results of this record search indicated no cultural resources were identified within the PAL.

The following cultural resources were identified within a 1/4-mile radius of the PAL:

- CA-MNT-3 / P-27-000139 was originally recorded by A.R. Pilling (1948a) as a large occupation site that extended east and south from El Toro Creek, crossing Monterey Road (SR 68), and included ground stone implements, an abalone pry, and at least one burial. The

boundaries of the site were later refined by Berg (1999a), Breschini (1975), Breschini, Haversat, and Ryan (1980), Dietz (1985), Jones (1990), and Waite (1995).

- CA-MNT-4 / CA-MNT-267 was originally recorded by A.R. Pilling (1948b) as a small occupation site 1/8-mile southeast of the current PAL, adjacent to San Benancio Road south of El Toro Creek. Breschini (1975) determined through auger testing that CA-MNT-4 and CA-MNT-267 (originally recorded by C. Meighan, A. Pilling, and M. Meighan [1950]), were actually one continuous site, containing archaeological deposits resulting from relatively long-term occupation. Pulcheon's (2007a) excavation within the Caltrans right-of-way on the east side of San Benancio Road identified an "undisturbed, discrete Early Period component" within the primary deposit of the site. A Late Period component was also identified overlying the Early Period component. CA-MNT-4/267 appears eligible for listing on the National and California registers under "Criterion D for its ability to contribute to a greater understanding of the poorly understood end of the Early Period and/or Early to Middle Period transition in Monterey Peninsula locality" (Pulcheon 2007a:5).
- CA-MNT-10 / P-27-000146 was originally recorded by A.R. Pilling (1948c) as a small occupation site at the edge of the creek (possibly El Toro Creek). The site consisted of shell, milling equipment, and ceramic fragments. The area was surveyed by Holson (1994) and again by Berg (1999b) but neither identified any cultural material at the site's location. CA-MNT-10 may have been either destroyed or covered as a result of road work and bridge construction since it was originally identified.

The following cultural resource studies were conducted within or adjacent to the PAL:

Breschini, Gary S.

1986 *Preliminary Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of 56 Corral de Tierra Road, South of Salinas, Monterey, California*. Archaeological Consulting, Salinas, California.

This study documents the results of a cultural resources study of approximately six acres at 56 Corral de Tierra Road, on the west side of Corral de Tierra Road, south of the intersection with SR 68. No cultural resources were identified.

Dietz, Stephan A.

1985 *Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for Pacific Bell Projects NE1841T and NE1843T, Located from Olmstead Road to Torero Drive on Highway 68, and from Jackson Street to Del Monte Avenue and Castroville to Boronda Road on Highway 183, Monterey County, California*. Archaeological Consulting and Research Services, Inc., Santa Cruz, California.

This study documents the results of a cultural resources study and auger testing along a 10-mile stretch of SR 68 where installation of conduit was proposed along the north side of SR 68. The cultural resources reconnaissance of the area identified no archaeological resources. CA-MNT-3, previously identified through a records and literature search, was reported by Dietz to be on the north and south sides of SR 68, east of San Benancio Road.

Doane, Mary, and Trudy Haversat

2001 *Preliminary Archaeological Reconnaissance for Assessor's Parcels 161-571-003, 161-571-002 & 161-581-001, Near Salinas, Monterey County, California*. Archaeological Consulting, Salinas, California.

This study documents the results of a cultural resources study of approximately 11.5 acres comprised of three parcels at the southeast corner of the intersection of Corral de Tierra Road and SR 68. The cultural resources reconnaissance of the area identified an Exxon service station on the corner parcel, with the remaining parcels undeveloped. The study identified no cultural resources in that project's project area, including the current PAL.

Flynn, Katherine

1978 *Archaeological Reconnaissance of a 33+ Acre Parcel Located North of Highway 68, a Portion of the Guidotti Ranch*. Archaeological Resource Service, Novato, California.

This study documents the results of a cultural resource study of approximately 33+ acres of Guidotti Ranch situated north of SR 68, directly east and north of Corral de Tierra Road. The cultural resources reconnaissance of the area identified no evidence of prehistoric cultural resources. Two historic-period resources were identified during the survey: a wooden water tank placed on a recently constructed concrete foundation is "readily seen from Highway 68," and a small board and batten "cabin" is situated in a swale near the upper hilltop, out of view from the road (Flynn 1978:3).

Haney, Jeff

1995 *Historic Property Survey Report, Route 68 Corridor Study, 05-MON-68 4.0/15.0, EA 344100*. Prepared for Caltrans District 5 by Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc., San Francisco, California, and Biosystems Analysis, Inc., Tiburon, California.

This study documents the results of a cultural resources inventory for the proposed SR 68 Freeway Corridor between the cities of Monterey and Salinas. The study investigated two routes, one of which is the existing SR 68, the other is a route through the southern portion of Fort Ord. The study identified many prehistoric and historic-period sites, none of which are within or adjacent to the current PAL. There are several post-1945 buildings at the intersection of SR 68 and Corral de Tierra Road adjacent to the current PAL that were evaluated by Lee (1995) and did not appear eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (see below).

Pulcheon, Andrew

2007 *Archaeological Evaluation Report (Phase II) for the State Route 68/San Benancio Road Intersection Improvements Project, Monterey County, California*. LSA Associates, Inc., Pt. Richmond, California.

This study documents the excavation efforts at CA-MNT-4/267, conducted within the Caltrans right-of-way on the east side of San Benancio Road south of El Toro Creek. Pulcheon identified an "undisturbed, discrete Early Period component" within the primary deposit of CA-MNT-4/267, with a Late Period component overlying the earlier component near the surface. CA-MNT-4/267 appears

eligible for listing on the National and California registers under “Criterion D for its ability to contribute to a greater understanding of the poorly understood end of the Early Period and/or Early to Middle Period transition in Monterey Peninsula locality” (Pulcheon 2007a:5).

Waite, Philip R.

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This study documents the results of a cultural resources study of 783 hectares (approx. 1935 acres) at Fort Ord, which is to the north of SR 68. The cultural resources reconnaissance of the area was undertaken as part of the Fort Ord Base Realignment and Closure. CA-MNT-1731H, an adobe manufacturing, staging, or waste area that dates to the Army Period (1940-present), was identified outside the current PAL, as were four isolates (a ceramic “ironstone” fragment and three unidentified flakes). The segment of CA-MNT-3 reported as extending onto the southern boundary of Fort Ord was inspected and “no cultural material related to [the site] was found within the Fort Ord perimeter” (Waite 1995:48). CA-MNT-416, a bedrock milling station with two mortars and associated low-density midden and lithic scatter, was rerecorded during the survey. CA-MNT-416 is approximately 3280 feet (1 km) east of the current PAL.

Literature and Map Review

LSA reviewed publications and maps for archaeological, ethnographic, historical, and environmental information about the PAL and its vicinity. See the References Consulted section for the literature reviewed. The publications and maps reviewed do not mention or depict any cultural resources within or adjacent to the PAL.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

Introduction

LSA reviewed the PAL’s archaeological sensitivity based on the following sources of information: the records search, geological and soils research, and the field survey.

Records Search

There are no cultural resources within or adjacent to the PAL. However, four prehistoric archaeological sites are recorded between 1/8- and 1/4-mile east of the PAL.

Geological and Soils Research

Geologically, the PAL is situated on three Quaternary deposits: Continental deposits; older Holocene floodplain deposits; and recent Holocene floodplain deposits (Clark et al. 2000a). The Continental deposits consist of undivided Pleistocene to Pliocene non-marine poorly sorted sand, gravels, and cobbles. The older Holocene floodplain deposits are typically approximately 60 feet (18 m) or more thick and are composed of heterogeneous layers of gravel, sand, silt, and clay. The younger floodplain deposits are typically less than approximately 20 feet (6 m) thick and are composed of similar material as the older floodplain deposits. Stratigraphically, the younger deposits are typically incised into the older deposits, however in some areas they occur as a thin veneer over the older deposits (Clark et al. 2000b:6).

Soils in the PAL west of the intersection are Santa Ynez fine sandy loam, which are deep (>5 feet), well-drained, well-developed (A-Bt-C profile), and formed in alluvium on terraces and foot slopes (Cook 1978:72). Soils in the eastern portion are Gorgonio sandy loam, which are deep (>5 feet), well-drained, weak to moderately developed (A-C profile), and are typically stratified from several periods of deposition (Cook 1978:34).

Field Survey

No archaeological materials were identified on the ground's surface in the PAL during the field survey.

Conclusion

Each geologic unit in the PAL has a different sensitivity for buried archaeological resources:

- The Continental deposits, situated on the southern edge of the western portion of SR 68 in the PAL, were deposited prior to human occupation in the region and have no sensitivity for buried archaeological resources. Additionally, this geologic unit corresponds with the well-developed Santa Ynez soil, indicating that any archaeological materials will likely be located at or near the surface.
- The older Holocene floodplain deposits occur as a terrace along Corral de Tierra Road and much of the eastern portion of SR 68 in the PAL. This unit was deposited during known human occupation of the region. This unit corresponds with the weakly developed and stratified Gorgonio soil, potentially indicating several depositional episodes that may have buried surfaces available for prehistoric human occupation. Therefore, this portion of the PAL has a high sensitivity for buried archaeological resources. A similar situation is present at nearby CA-MNT-4/267, which lies on older Holocene floodplain deposits, south of El Toro Creek on the east side of San Benancio Road, outside the current PAL.

The younger Holocene floodplain deposits, which occur as a narrow strip flanking El Toro Creek on the northern edge of the western portion of SR 68 in the PAL and on the eastern edge of the PAL, are likely very recent deposits incised into the older Holocene deposits and have a low sensitivity for buried archaeological resources.

Ground disturbance will take place within portions of the PAL that are highly sensitive for buried archaeological resources. These portions include both sides of Corral de Tierra Road including the intersection and the northern side of SR 68 east of the intersection. Retaining wall construction would excavate into the mechanically-stabilized embankment on the north side of SR 68 west of Corral de Tierra Road, but that embankment was constructed in 1993, so excavation for the retaining wall would not remove previously-undisturbed soils. The depth of excavation for the roadbed and utility trenches is not expected to exceed three feet, with the maximum vertical extent of the PAL being 10 feet deep at the intersection for major traffic signal poles. Although the maximum vertical PAL is three feet in much of the PAL, three factors indicate that the project could affect buried archaeological resources, if present, within the PAL:

- prehistoric archaeological site CA-MNT-4/267 is situated within approximately 1/8-mile of the current PAL;

- the deposit at CA-MNT-4/267 is shallow, occurring within one foot of the ground surface; and
- the current PAL is situated within the same general environmental setting as CA-MNT-4/267.

It is LSA's opinion, therefore, that portions of the PAL are sensitive for buried cultural resources and that the project has the potential to adversely affect such resources, if present.

CONSULTATION

On February 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and maps depicting the PAL to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento asking the commission to review their sacred lands file for any Native American cultural resources that might be affected by the proposed project (HRCR Attachment 3). Also requested were the names of Native Americans who might have information or concerns about the PAL. Ms. Debbie Pilas-Treadway, NAHC Environmental Specialist III, replied in a fax dated February 22, 2007, that a review of the sacred lands file does not indicate any "Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area." Ms. Pilas-Treadway also provided a list of Native American contacts (HRCR Attachment 4).

Native American Consultation

On March 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and a map depicting the PAL to the Native American contacts on the list provided by the NAHC, asking for any information or concerns they might have about the PAL (HRCR Attachment 4). On April 9, 2007, LSA placed follow-up phone calls. A record of this correspondence is presented below:

- Ramona Garibay, Representative, Trina Marine Ruano Family. Ms. Garibay stated she did not know the area and knows of no sacred sites.
- Louise Miranda-Ramirez, Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. Ms. Miranda-Ramirez stated she "did not know of any sites in the project area, but if LSA finds any, please call her."
- Al Rodriguez, Vice Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. No working number.
- Rudy Rosales, Chairperson, Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. No working number.

Historical Society Consultation

On February 13, 2007, LSA sent a letter describing the project and a map depicting the PAL to the Monterey County Historical Society, asking for any information or concerns they might have regarding the PAL (HRCR Attachment 5). On April 9, 2007, LSA made a follow-up phone call reiterating our request for information and concerns in a voice message. No response has been received to date.

BACKGROUND

Environment

The PAL, approximately 9 miles (15 km) from the coast, is within an area Jones (1998) labeled as the Monterey Peninsula locality. This region can be roughly defined as consisting of the coastline between the mouth of the Salinas River and the mouth of the Carmel River and the adjacent inland regions. The mountains and rolling hills of the Sierra de Salinas Range surround the project area, although the eastern portion of the PAL lies largely on a flat alluvial terrace adjacent to El Toro Creek. Within and surrounding the PAL, a number of key resources are available that would have been attractive to prehistoric populations. Water, a potentially limiting resource for human occupation, could be obtained locally during wet periods. Summers in the region are often completely dry, and long dry spells persist through the early fall. El Toro Creek is adjacent to the north and passes through the project area at the east end of the PAL, but flows only seasonally. This creek drains into the Salinas River, which is the only river or stream in the general vicinity that flows throughout the year. Grasslands, chaparral, woodlands, and riparian biotic communities occupy the area, and grassland and chaparral are both widely distributed along the low hills of the coast and adjacent inland regions. Woodlands tend to be restricted to inland areas. Evergreen oak communities dominate the woodlands in this area and generally occur on north- and east-facing slopes as well as in valleys. Riparian vegetation grows adjacent to the Salinas River and El Toro Creek. Geologically, the PAL is situated on three separate Quaternary deposits. These include younger Holocene floodplain deposits, older Holocene floodplain deposits, and Continental deposits (Clark et al. 2000a). Soils in the PAL are the Santa Ynez fine sandy loam and the Gorgonio sandy loam (see the Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment section).

Archaeology

The first settlement in California occurred during the Terminal Pleistocene. Early sites from the Channel Islands, for example, date to well before 10,000 years ago (Erlandson et al. 1996; Rockwell and Stafford 2003). Evidence at sites dating to the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene increasingly suggests that the early inhabitants of coastal California relied on marine resources and seeds, possessing an adaptation quite distinct from the big-game hunters of the Great Plains (Jones et al. 2002; Rick, Erlandson, and Vellanoweth 2001).

Coastal environments were probably quite productive during the Early Holocene. The first well-documented settlement along the central coast took place during this period (e.g., Jones et al. 2002), and early sites clustered around the newly formed estuaries (Erlandson 1994). The finds obtained from early sites attest to an economy focused on the procurement of shellfish and seeds. Milling equipment, such as manos and metates, are abundant, as are shellfish remains. These Early Holocene settlers are variously thought to be quite mobile (e.g., Dietz and Jackson 1981; Glassow 1991), or predisposed toward year-round occupation (Jones et al. 2002).

Along the central coast, resource procurement intensified during the Middle Holocene. The use of mortars and pestles became common (Glassow, Wilcoxon, and Erlandson 1988; Glassow 1991; Jones 1996; Jones and Waugh 1995), and new types of fishing gear, such as shell fishhooks, probably appeared. The scale of exchange also increased; obsidian artifacts became much more common during the Middle Holocene (Jones 1996; Jones and Waugh 1995). Such exchange may have maintained relationships among neighboring groups. The groups that used these sites were still

apparently quite mobile (Breschini and Haversat 1997; Dietz and Jackson 1981) but returned to the same general areas repeatedly over time.

The intensification that began during the Middle Holocene increased during the Late Holocene, influencing both settlement and subsistence patterns. Near Monterey Bay, sites dating to the first half of the Late Holocene period are typically large and contain deep, dense midden deposits (Breschini and Haversat 1997). Variability during the second half of the Late Holocene period, however, disrupted this intensive adaptation. Drought (and perhaps other) environmental changes afflicted groups living throughout western North America (Jones et al. 1999). Many settlements were abandoned during this period (Jones and Kennett 1999), and exchange declined precipitously (Jones et al. 1999). A variety of site types appeared in disparate locations during this period (Breschini and Haversat 1997).

CA-MNT-4/267, approximately 1/8-mile east of the current PAL—south of SR 68 and El Toro Creek and east of San Benancio Road—was occupied primarily during the Early Period (3500-600 B.C.), with a Late Period (A.D. 1200-1769) component present above 100 centimeters below surface (Pulcheon 2007a). CA-MNT-4/267 was one of the settlements apparently abandoned for a period of time due to prolonged and severe droughts (Jones 1999; Jones and Kennett 1999).

Ethnography

During the Late Holocene, a group known as the Rumsen probably occupied the region surrounding the PAL (Milliken 1981). The Rumsen spoke a Costanoan language. This ethnographic group occupied the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas, between Carquinez Strait and Point Sur, and their descendants prefer to be called Ohlone (Margolin 1978), although they are often referred to by the name of their linguistic group, Costanoan. The inland boundary of Ohlone territory has not been precisely determined, but was approximately 50 miles from the coast (Kroeber 1925:462).

The family household was the basic social unit and numbered between five and 15 individuals (Broadbent 1972), with households grouping together to form villages. Villages were aggregated into tribelets, “a politically independent land-holding group...with less than a hundred to perhaps four hundred and occasionally five hundred people” (Kroeber 1962:30). Tribelets exchanged trade goods such as obsidian, shell beads, and baskets; participated in ceremonial and religious activities together; intermarried; and could have extensive reciprocal obligations to one another involving resource collection.

Ethnohistoric accounts attest to the wide variety of resources exploited by groups of this region, including both coastal and inland resources (Broadbent 1972; Fages 1911; Menzies 1924). For the Ohlone, as with other California Native American groups, the acorn was an important food resource. The Ohlone used a range of other plant resources including hazelnuts, buckeye, tarweed, chia, manzanita berries, goose berries, toyon berries, and thistle. Animals consumed by various Ohlone groups included black-tailed deer, antelope, mountain lion, raccoon, rabbit, squirrel, wood rat, mouse, geese, ducks, doves, quail, steelhead, salmon, reptiles, and grasshoppers. Frogs, toads, owls, eagles, and ravens were not eaten (Levy 1978:491-2).

Intensive Hispanic exploration of the Monterey Bay Area began in the late eighteenth century. Ohlone culture was radically transformed when European settlers moved into northern California. These settlers set up the mission system and exposed the Ohlone to diseases from which they had no

immunity. After the secularization of the missions in 1834, many native people moved to ranchos, where they worked as manual laborers (Levy 1978).

History

Monterey County, one of California's original 27 counties, was named in honor of Gaspar de Zuniga, count of Monterey and viceroy of Mexico. The word "monterey" is Spanish for "hill or wood of the king." Monterey was the original county seat, but it was moved to Salinas in 1873 (Hoover et al. 1990:213).

The PAL is located on a portion of the 5,688-acre Rancho El Toro, granted to Jose Ramon Estrada in 1835 by Governor Castro. Estrada had attended school in Monterey and was administrator of Santa Clara for two years. In 1852 Charles Walters filed claim to the grant, but did not receive title to the land until 1862. The grant, located on the south side of the Salinas River, along Toro Creek, was one of 32 private land grants in the Salinas Valley, 26 of which lay adjacent to the Salinas River, which attracted Spanish, Mexican, and American settlers (Hoover, et al. 1990:222, California State Archives 2005).

SR 68 was once a stagecoach route between Monterey and Salinas (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1976:116). Situated midway between the two towns, the lands surrounding the PAL were used for agricultural purposes for many years. The Peter Guidotti Ranch, north of the PAL, and the Ferrini Ranch, to the east, were settled by early-day Monterey ranching families who were related. The lands are no longer under family ownership and have been subdivided over the ensuing years (Haney 1995:17, 19).

The land north of SR 68 was once part of Fort Ord, a cavalry post founded in 1917 that became a U.S. Army training post during World War II. Fort Ord was deactivated as a military installation in 1994 (Global Security 2007; Waite 1995:24), and today is the home of California State University, Monterey Bay.

Today SR 68 is a very active arterial highway serving Monterey and Salinas. The land in the immediate vicinity contains a small shopping center and deserted motel. Though the area is being increasingly developed, it continues to possess a rural environment.

FIELD METHODS

On April 4, 2007, LSA archaeologist Karin Goetter conducted a pedestrian survey of the PAL (HRCR Attachment 1: Figure 2). The PAL of approximately 9.5 acres was intensively surveyed in 5- to 10-meter wide zigzag transects depending on vegetation. Ground surface visibility varied from moderate to dense with vegetation cover of native and non-native grasses and wildflowers, including California poppy, purple thistle, fiddle-neck, an understory of chaparral, and an overstory of mature eucalyptus, oak, and pine trees. Small areas of soil surface were scraped clear of obstructions to expose archaeological deposits that might be present. Rodent backdirt was examined for indications of subsurface archaeological deposits. Vegetation was nearly impenetrable north of the toe of the fill on the north side of SR 68 west of the confluence of an unnamed creek and El Toro Creek, west of Corral de Tierra Road.

No archaeological resources were identified during the field survey.

STUDY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The background research, consultation, and field survey identified no archaeological resources within or adjacent to the PAL. However, the floodplain terrace along Corral de Tierra Road and much of the eastern portion of SR 68 in the PAL was identified as being sensitive for buried archaeological resources. If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits.

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ATTACHMENT 3

Native American Heritage Commission Consultation

February 13, 2007

Larry Myers
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Corral de Tierra Road Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County
LSA Project #WRS0605

Dear Mr. Myers:

The County of Monterey is proposing intersection improvements for State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. Please review the sacred lands files for any Native American cultural resources that may be within or adjacent to the study area. The study area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif. 7.5'* topographic map. There is no section number on the map.

We also request a list of Native American individuals and organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. Please notify us if you have any information or concerns. Please contact me at the address and phone number above or via e-mail (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter
Cultural Resources Analyst

STATE OF CALIFORNIAArnold Schwarzenegger, Governor**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
Fax (916) 657-5390
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov



February 22, 2007

Karen Goetter
Cultural Resources Analyst
LSA

Sent by Fax: 510-236-3480
Number of Pages: 3

Re: Proposed Corral de Tierra road Improvements project, Salinas, Monterey County

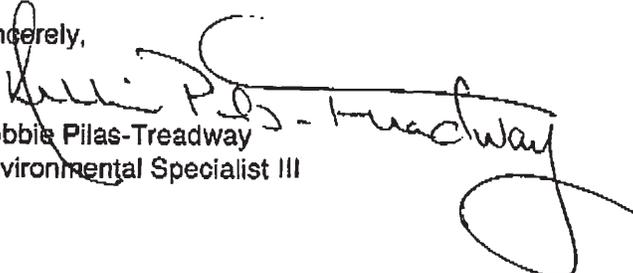
Dear Ms. Goetter:

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file 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.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. 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 or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these Individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-4038.

Sincerely,


Debbie Pilas-Treadway
Environmental Specialist III

Native American Contacts
 Monterey County
 February 21, 2007

Linda G. Yamane
 1585 Mira Mar Ave.
 Seaside, CA 93955-3326
 (831) 394-5915

Ohlone/Costanoan

Amah/Mutsun Tribal Band
 Michelle Zimmer, Cultural Resource Coordinator
 PO Box 62-558
 Woodside, CA 94062
 408-375-4281

Ohlone/Costanoan

Jakki Kehl
 720 North 2nd Street
 Patterson, CA 95363
 jakki@bigvalley.net
 (209) 892-2436
 (209) 892-2435 - Fax

Ohlone/Costanoan

Amah/Mutsun Tribal Band
 Irene Zwierfein, Chairperson
 789 Canada Road
 Woodside, CA 94062
 amah_mutsun@yahoo.com
 (650) 851-7747 - Home
 (650) 851-7489 - Fax

Ohlone/Costanoan

Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
 Valentin Lopez, Chairperson
 3015 Eastern Ave, #40
 Sacramento, CA 95821
 vlopez@amahmutsun.org
 (916) 481-5785

Ohlone/Costanoan

Coastanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe
 Tony Cerda, Chairperson
 3929 Riverside Drive
 Chino, CA 91710
 (909) 622-1564
 (909) 464-2074

Ohlone/Costanoan

Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
 Edward Ketchum
 35867 Yosemite Ave
 Davis, CA 95616
 aerieways@aol.com

Ohlone/Costanoan
Northern Valley Yokuts

Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan
 Ann Marie Sayers, Chairperson
 P.O. Box 28
 Hollister, CA 95024

Ohlone/Costanoan

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 contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Corral de Tierra Road Improvements project, Salinas, Monterey County.

Native American Contacts
Monterey County
February 21, 2007

Ohlone/Coastanoan-Esselen Nation
 Louise Miranda-Ramirez, Chairperson
 PO Box 1301 Esselen
 Monterey, CA 93942 Ohlone/Coastanoan
 lramirez132@sbcglobal.net
 408-629-5189
 408-205-7579 - cell

Ohlone/Coastanoan-Esselen Nation
 Al Rodriguez, Vice Chairperson
 PO Box 1301 Esselen
 Monterey, CA 93942 Ohlone/Coastanoan
 805-720-1264 -cell
 805-614-4171 - work

Ohlone/Coastanoan-Esselen Nation
 Rudy Rosales, Cultural Resources Committee Chair
 PO Box 1301 Esselen
 Monterey, CA 93942 Ohlone/Coastanoan
 esselelnation46@aol.com
 (831) 659-5831
 (831) 917-1866 - cell

Trina Marine Ruano Family
 Ramona Garibay, Representative
 16010 Halmar Lane Ohlone/Coastanoan
 Lathrop, CA 95330 Bay Miwok
 510-300-5971 - cell Plains Miwok
 Patwin

As per NAHC
 3/29/07:
 Cell # is:
 510-300-5371

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 contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Corral de Tierra Road Improvements project, Salinas, Monterey County.

ATTACHMENT 4

Native American Representative Consultation

March 13, 2007

Trina Marine Ruano Family
Ramona Garibay, Representative
16010 Halmar Lane
Lathrop, California 95330

Subject: State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Project #WRS0605.

Dear Ms. Garibay:

The County of Monterey is proposing improvements to the State Highway 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. The project area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif.*, 7.5' topographic map.

Please notify us if you or your organization has any information or concerns about the study area. To reach us, please contact me at the address and phone number above or via email (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter, M.A., RPA, RPH
Archaeologist

March 13, 2007

Louise Miranda-Ramirez, Chairperson
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
P.O. Box 1301
Monterey, California 93942

Subject: State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Project #WRS0605.

Dear Ms. Miranda-Ramirez:

The County of Monterey is proposing improvements to the State Highway 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. The project area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif., 7.5'* topographic map.

Please notify us if you or your organization has any information or concerns about the project area. To reach us, please contact me at the address and phone number above or via email (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter, M.A., RPA, RPH
Archaeologist

March 13, 2007

Al Rodriguez, Vice Chairperson
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
P.O. Box 1301
Monterey, California 93942

Subject: State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Project #WRS0605.

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

The County of Monterey is proposing improvements to the State Highway 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. The project area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif.*, 7.5' topographic map.

Please notify us if you or your organization has any information or concerns about the project area. To reach us, please contact me at the address and phone number above or via email (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter, M.A., RPA, RPH
Archaeologist

March 13, 2007

Rudy Rosales, Chairperson
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
P.O. Box 1301
Monterey, California 93942

Subject: State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Project #WRS0605.

Dear Mr. Rosales:

The County of Monterey is proposing improvements to the State Highway 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. The project area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif.*, 7.5' topographic map.

Please notify us if you or your organization has any information or concerns about the project area. To reach us, please contact me at the address and phone number above or via email (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter, M.A., RPA, RPH
Archaeologist

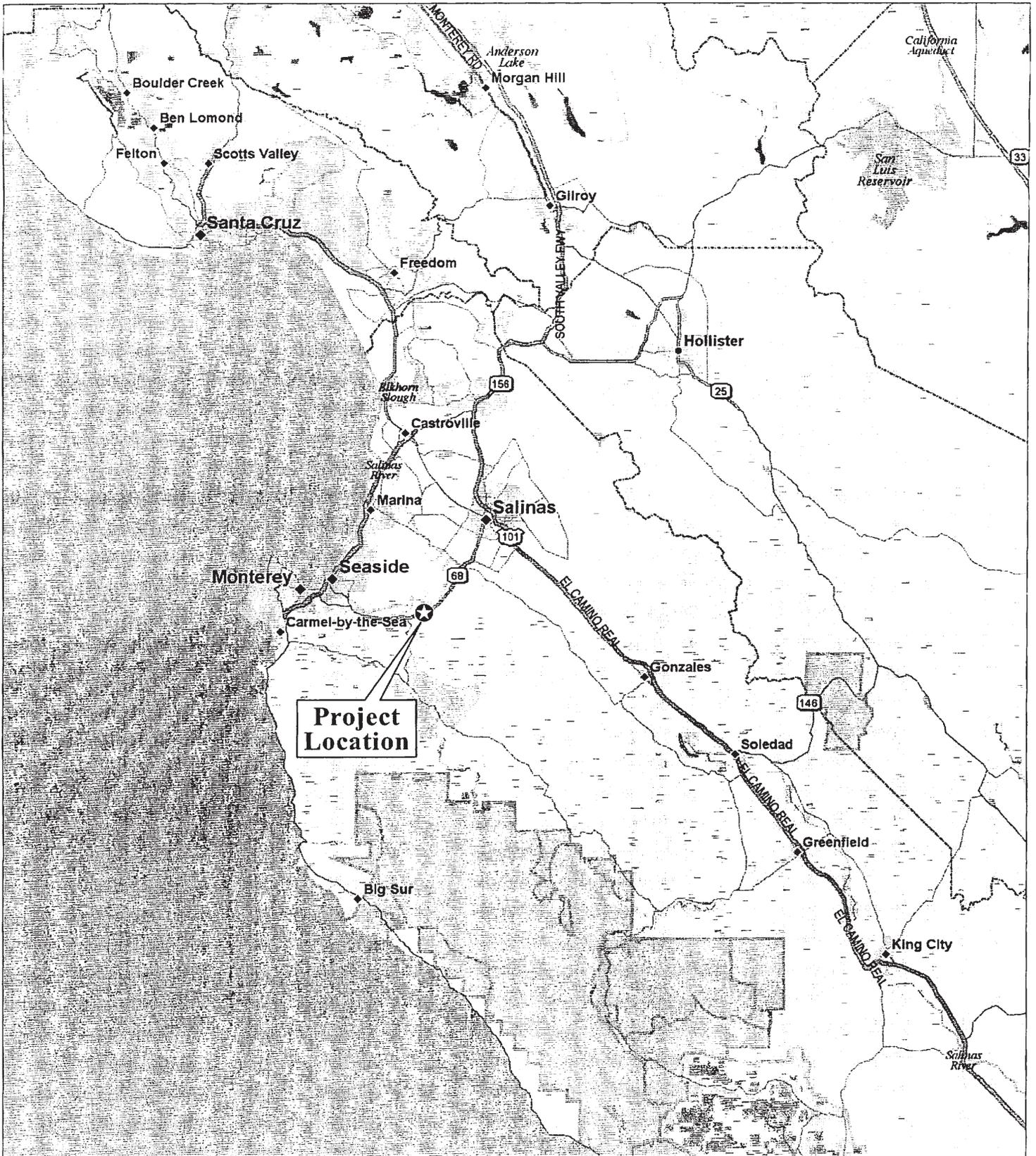
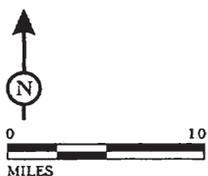


FIGURE 1

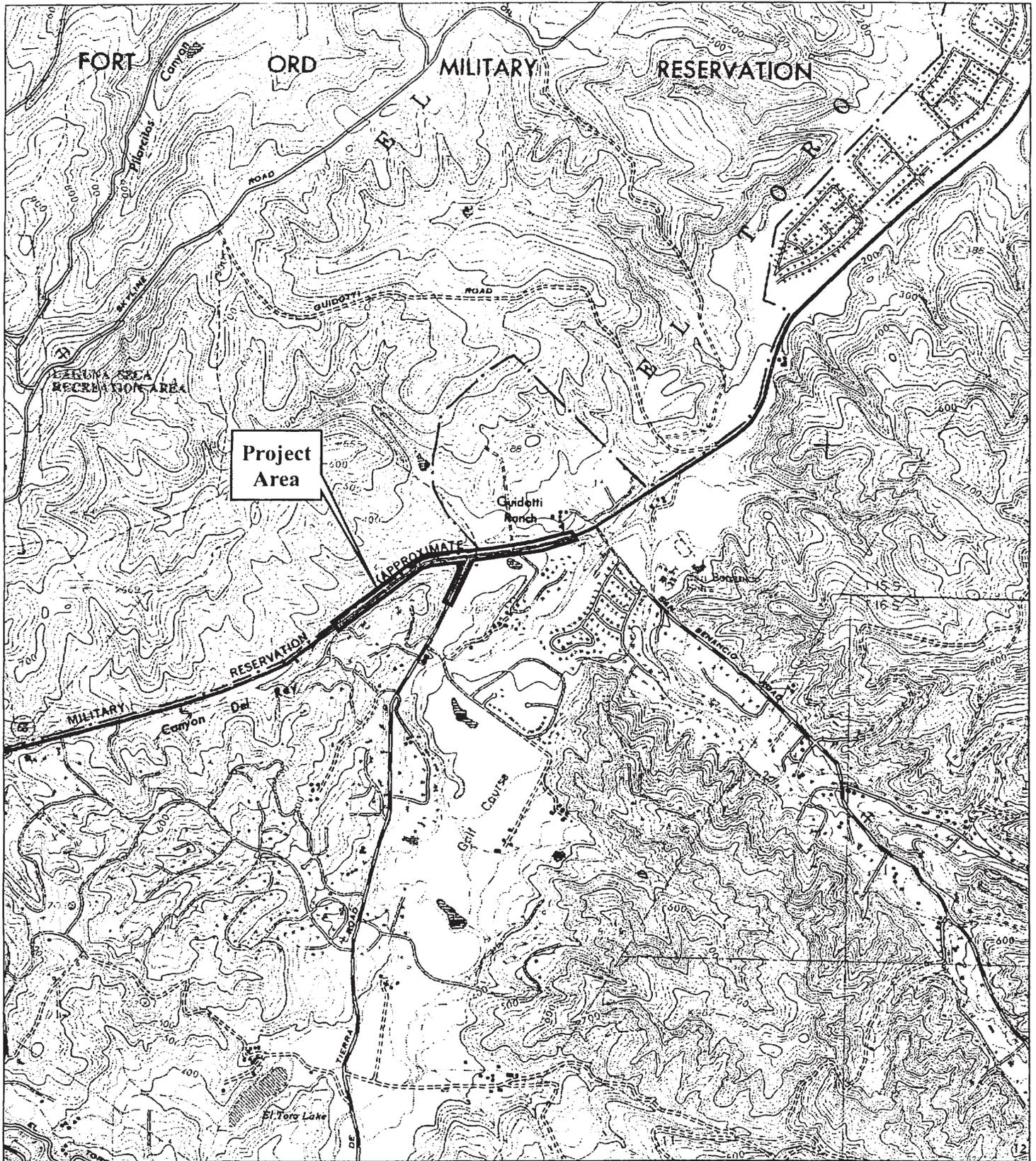
State Route 68/Corral de Tierra
 Intersection Improvements Project
 Monterey County, California

Project Location and Vicinity

LSA



SOURCE: ©2006 DeLORME. STREET ATLAS USA©2006.



LSA



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FIGURE 2

State Route 68/Corral De Tierra Intersection Improvements Project
Monterey County, California

Project Area

ATTACHMENT 5

Historical Society Consultation

February 13, 2007

Monterey County Historical Society
P.O. Box 3576
Salinas, California 93912

Subject: State Route 68/Corral de Tierra Road Intersection Improvements Project, Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Project #WRS0605.

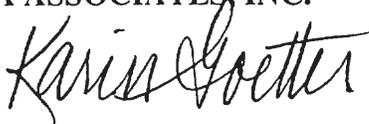
Dear Historical Society:

The County of Monterey is proposing improvements to the State Highway 68/Corral de Tierra Road intersection, near Salinas, Monterey County. LSA Associates, Inc. is conducting a study to determine if the project might affect cultural resources. The study area is on State Highway 68 at Corral de Tierra Road, Township 15 South/Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the accompanying portion of the USGS *Spreckels, Calif., 7.5'* topographic map.

Please notify us if your organization has any concerns about historical sites in the study area. This is not a request for research; it is solely a request for public input for any concerns that the historical society may have. Please contact me at the address and phone number above or via e-mail (karin.goetter@lsa-assoc.com). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Karin Goetter
Cultural Resources Analyst

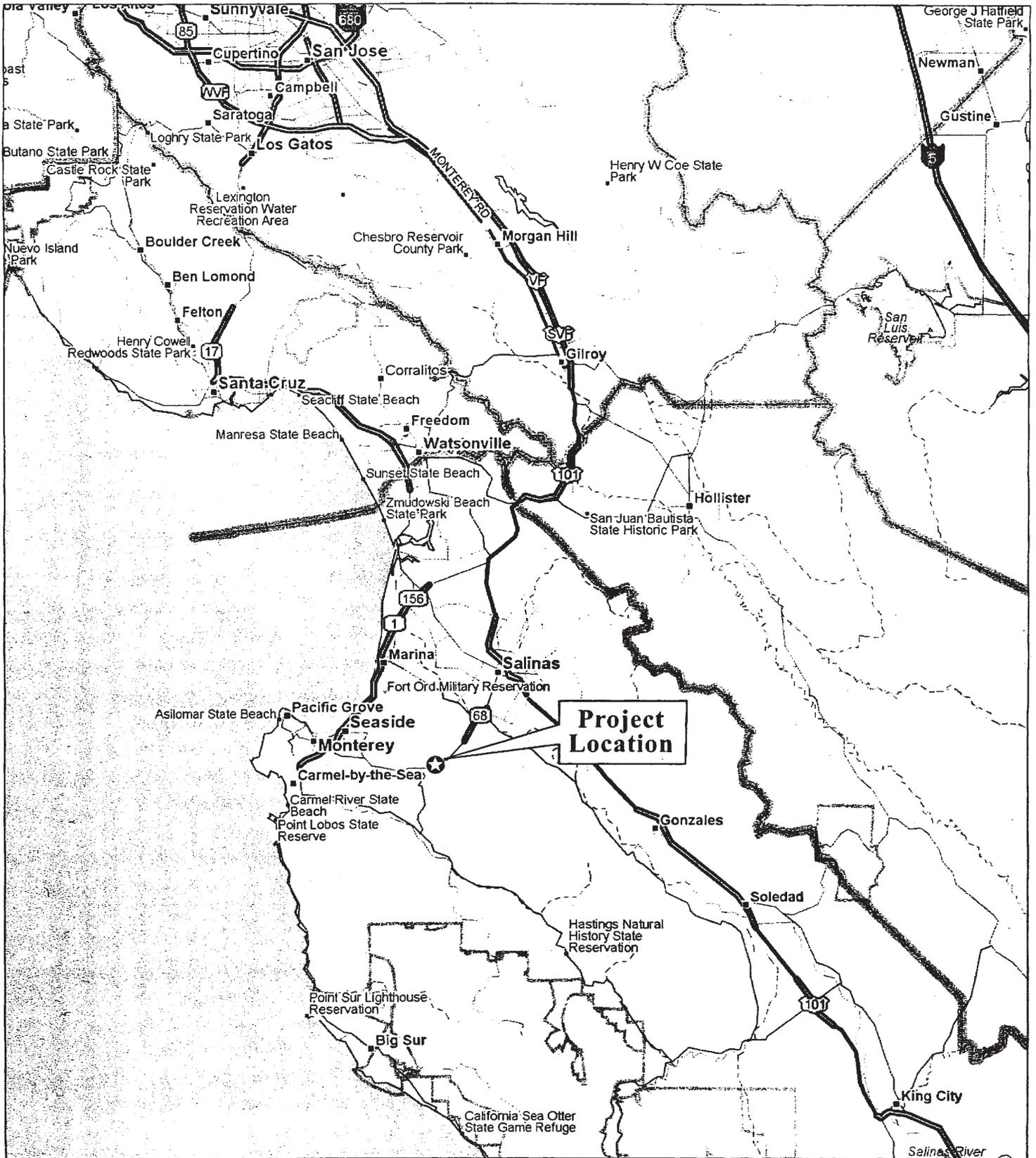
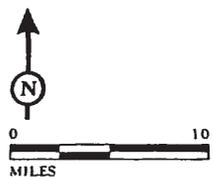


FIGURE 1

State Route 68/Corral De Tierra Intersection Improvements Project
Monterey County, California

Project Location and Vicinity

LSA



SOURCE: ©2002 DeLORME. STREET ATLAS USA®2003.

P:\WRS0605\Cultural\g\RegLoc.cdr (2/2/07)

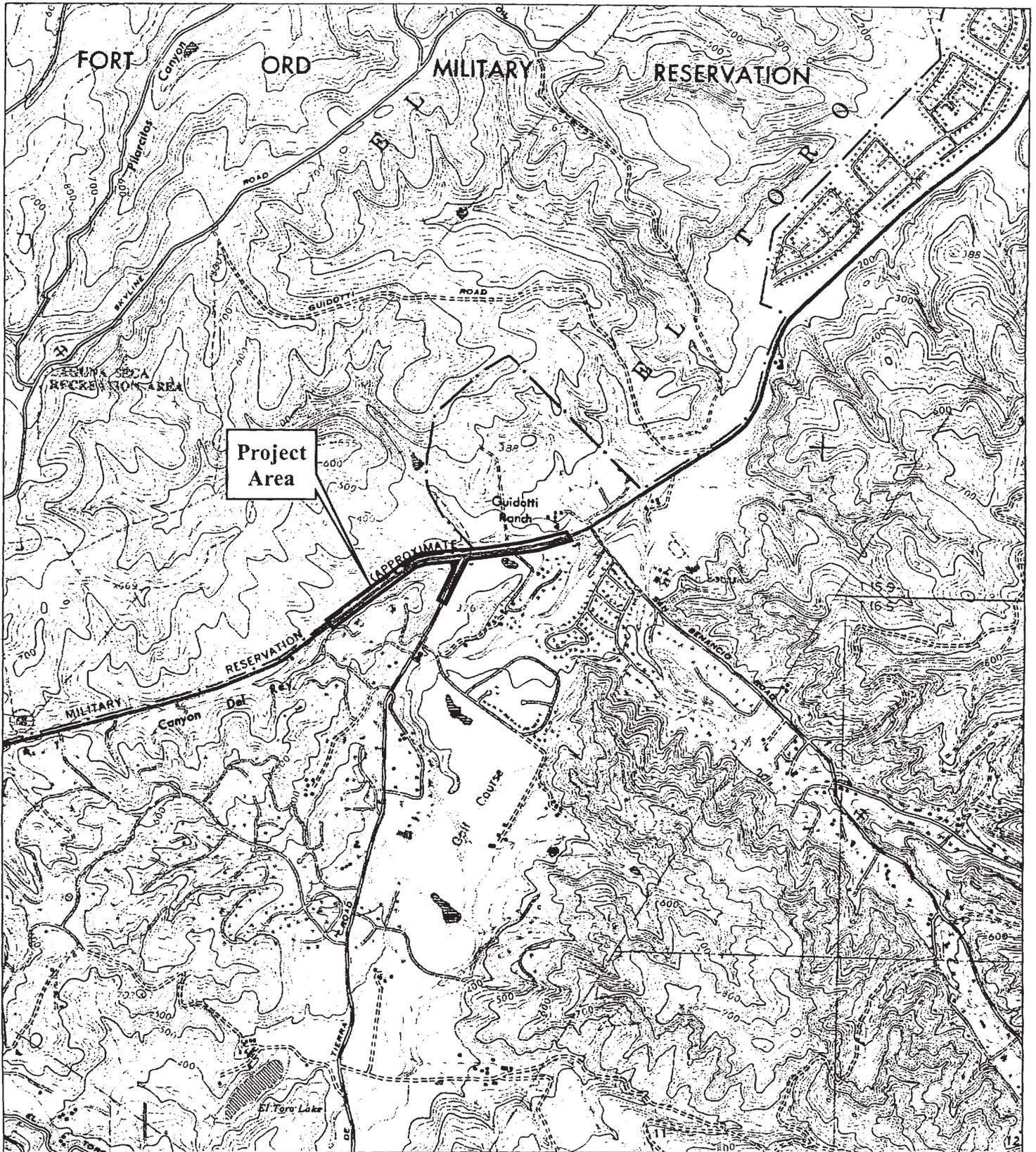


FIGURE 2

State Route 68/Corral De Tierra Intersection Improvements Project
 Monterey County, California

Project Area

LSA



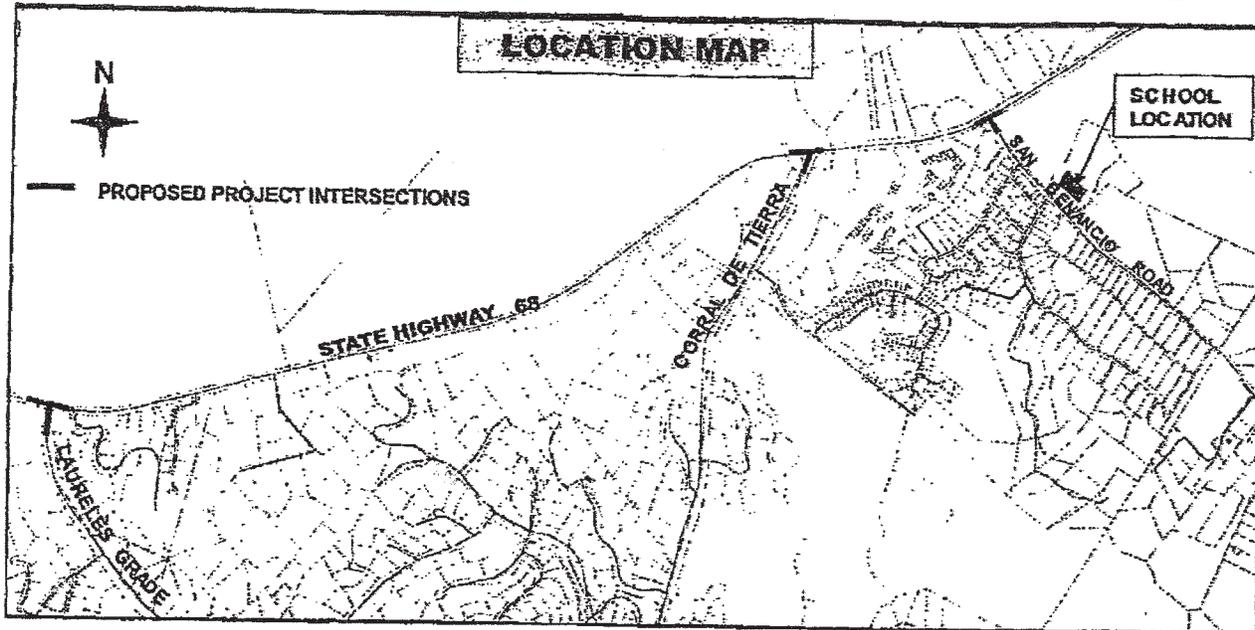
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ATTACHMENT 6

Public Meeting Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

PROPOSED INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
SAN BENANCIO, CORRAL DE TIERRA, AND LAURELES GRADE
INTERSECTIONS WITH STATE HIGHWAY 68



WHEN & WHERE **TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007 5 - 8 p.m.**
 San Benancio Middle School - Room 10
 San Benancio Road Salinas CA

WHAT IS PLANNED? Monterey County Resource Management Agency – Public Works Department is proposing to construct safety and operational improvements at the San Benancio, Corral De Tierra, and Laureles Grade intersections with State Highway 68.

WHY THIS MEETING? The Public Works Department wishes to present various project alternatives and welcomes input from the community relating to environmental, design, and right-of-way aspects of the proposed project. A preferred alternative has been selected for public consideration. An "Open House/Graphic Display" format will be used to provide information to the public. Project Engineers will be available to respond to questions and/or receive written comments.

CONTACT: For additional information, please contact:

Enrique Saavedra, P.E.
 Senior Transportation Engineer
 Monterey County Public Works Department
 168 W Alisal St FL2
 Salinas CA 93901-2438
 (831)755-8970

OR

Arturo Adlawan, P.E.
 Senior Design Engineer
 Monterey County Public Works Department
 168 W Alisal St FL2
 Salinas CA 93901-2438
 (831)755-4823

ACTION ALERT

April 7, 2007

Dear Highway 68 Coalition,

We need your help. There are threats to our scenic highway. Your Highway 68 Coalition co-Chairs and Secretary Treasurer have requested that the County of Monterey review their plans for the highway with the local residents, at a "local" location, PRIOR to carving up the highway and mowing down some Oak Trees.

Where: San Benancio School

When: April 17th from 5 PM until 8 PM, Room number 10

The attached letter received by some local residents will briefly explain a bit about it.

Here is a brief history and some of our concerns:

- * State Highway 68 was declared a State Scenic Highway in 1968 by Ladybird Johnson and former California State Senator Fred Farr. The roadway from the Salinas River Bridge west to Highway 1 is officially a State Scenic Highway. For some reason, the roadway from the Salinas River Bridge to Highway 101 has been eligible for Scenic Highway Status since that time, but despite our requests, has been ignored by our County Government when asked for its inclusion into official Scenic Highway Status.
- * State Highway 68 reached its design capacity of 16,000 vehicles per day in 1984.
- * For years our County Government allowed this highway to become increasingly congested without any real plans in place. Current traffic is approximately 25,000 vehicle trips per day. This number can be upwards of 30,000 per day on a big event weekend.
- * With the approval of the 1,031 houses at Las Palmas, the County agreed a traffic mitigation measure was to be the "Corral de Tierra Bypass". This was a proposal for a bypass from approximately the Toro Café to past Corral de Tierra, leaving the existing road as a "frontage" road. The County adopted "plan lines" for this, the developer was to contribute "traffic impact fees" that were to fund 10% of the estimated total cost of this. The County spent taxpayer dollars acquiring "right of way". The project was never done. The County never put aside moneys for the other 90% of the mitigation measure they deemed as a necessary mitigation for the increased traffic.
- * An early study proposed a possible four-lane "Scenicway" between the Cities of Monterey and Salinas. It was called a Scenicway as it proposed preserving the views along this corridor. Later an alternative was proposed that came to be known as the South-West Alternative. This was to be a bypass that went through former Fort Ord. Building this bypass was declared a necessary mitigation for the build out of the Fort Ord Reuse Plan of 1997. Since that time the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FOR A) has basically erased this South-West Alternative from their plans. Deciding it was too expensive, this bypass, previously determined to be crucial, has been scrapped, at least for the next twenty years or so. Indeed, FOR A scrapped much of the offsite traffic mitigation measures that were determined to be necessary, but have not scrapped any of the traffic impact building plans. There is now talk of an Eastside bypass through former Fort Ord.

* With the additions of Pasadera, Monterra Ranch, and the San Benancio Oaks Subdivision developments, the County has collected Traffic Impact Fees they are waiting to use. They believe that putting big wide intersections in, similar to what they did in front of Ryan Ranch near Highway 218 (Del Rey Oaks), is the answer. The plan is to install double left turn lanes (heading westbound) at the San Benancio, Corral de Tierra, and Laureles Grade intersections. Is it for safety? Well, no, not really. It is for capacity. Double stacking those wanting to turn left, then giving them the green, they figure these cars can sort of drag race their way through the intersections faster. This will leave more "green light" time available for the through traffic going from Salinas to Monterey, or vice versa. These plans will necessitate removing dozens of Oak Trees near Laureles Grade. It will necessitate widening the San Benancio Bridge, (recently rebuilt), and it will create a confusing gateway to the proposed shopping center at Corral de Tierra that is planned for being three times larger than the Stone Creek Shopping Center near Del Rey Oaks (at 218 X 68).

The question is, what is this going to do for the Scenic Highway? We will grant you that it is crowded, but hasn't the failure of our County Government contributed to this? The "crisis" has been created, now they want to come in with some band-aids that threaten the appearance of our rural area. With all that is being proposed around us, and nearby, if the County's General Plan passes (GPU4), we won't even be any better off if we give up rural character for Santa Monica type intersections! You can count on looking back ten years from now and remembering the "good old days", when traffic on Highway 68 was only Level of Service F during peak hours.

So, the Highway 68 Coalition needs you to attend this meeting to view the sketches and express your concerns to the Public Works officials who are nice enough to come out here after hours, on a business day. PLEASE express your concerns. What are the long-term benefits? (If any). What are we giving up for them? When does a Scenic Highway stop being scenic? Will carving up some hills, straightening curves, widening intersections, painting numerous arrows and putting up more signs endanger the State of California's designation of this highway being scenic?

Oh, and by the way, The State of California, CalTrans, District 5, has backed off of input on this at the County's urging. The County has asked for and has LEAD AGENCY STATUS. The State will eventually have to sign off on anything the County proposes as IT IS THEIR HIGHWAY! However, CalTrans sees a storm brewing. CalTrans has, over the years, repeatedly advised our Monterey County Government to be careful of development plans. Mostly, CalTrans advice has been ignored by our Monterey County Government over the years.

Now we come to this. Please attend this informal meeting and have a look at the displays that will be there. This will probably be your ONLY opportunity to see just what it is that is being proposed.

Thank you very much!

Mike Weaver and Marit Evans, Co-Chairs, The Highway 68 Coalition