

Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment

Runway 6 Safety Improvement Project

City of Hollister, Hollister Municipal Airport
San Benito County, California

June 2, 2023

Prepared for:

City of Hollister, Hollister Municipal Airport
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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) is under contract to complete a Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Runway 6 Safety Improvement Project (Project) in the City of Hollister (City), San Benito County (County), California. The Project involves demolition of taxiway proceeding runway and construction of new taxiway at the Hollister Municipal Airport. A cultural resources records search through the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), a Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) Search, and an intensive-level pedestrian field survey were conducted for the project area. This report presents the result of those efforts and is being completed pursuant to requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The records search conducted through the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) concluded that one (1) cultural resources survey that overlaps 10% of the Project area was previously conducted and yielded negative results for cultural resources. However, one historic structure, identified as Hollister Airport Hangar #6, was previously recorded adjacent to the Project area. This resource was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and remains unevaluated for potential listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). The results of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search through the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) yielded a positive result for the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, though details regarding the location and nature of the resource(s) remains confidential. The CEQA Lead Agency will initiate Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) Native American Consultation for the Project and, as such, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. For the current study, a cultural resources pedestrian survey was conducted across 100% of the Project area and yielded negative results for surface cultural resources. Though the footprint of the runway within the Project area remains the same as when the Hollister Municipal Airport was built in 1912, the runway itself has been regularly maintained, including reconstruction/repavement, and does not retain individually meet age criteria to be considered historic. Further, the Project area has been subjected to extensive ground disturbance due to prior development, including development related to its current use as a taxiway within the Hollister Municipal Airport. As such, the Project area has low probability for *in situ* buried archaeological resources.

No cultural resources, cemeteries, or individual human remains were identified within the Project area during background research or the field survey. Further, the research and field survey provided evidence of extensive disturbance across the Project area, indicating it is unlikely to contain intact buried resources. As such, it is unlikely that cultural resources will be impacted as a result of the proposed Project. Specifically, the Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Historical Resource or Archaeological Resource, as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. Further, there is no evidence to indicate the Project would disturb human remains, including individual human remains interred outside of a formal cemetery. However, mitigation outlining process for inadvertent discoveries following required protocols California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.94-98 should be included to ensure impacts to inadvertently discovered human remains will be less than significant.

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INTRODUCTION

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) is under contract to complete a Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Runway 6 Safety Improvement Project (Project) in the City of Hollister (City), San Benito County (County), California. The Project involves demolition of taxiway preceding runway and construction of new taxiway at the Hollister Municipal Airport. A cultural resources records search through the Northwest Information Center (NWIC), a Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) Search, and an intensive-level pedestrian field survey were conducted for the project area. This report presents the result of those efforts and is being completed pursuant to requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The proposed Project is located at the Hollister Municipal Airport within the City of Hollister in the County of San Benito, California (Figure 1). It is located within Accessor's Parcel Number 050-010-001-00 and within Section 17, Township 12S, Range 5E of the USGS San Felipe 7.5 minute quadrangle (Figure 2). The Project area is bound by the existing Hollister Municipal Airport to the east and south, and vacant undeveloped land to the north and west. The City of Hollister Zoning Map depicts the City's zoning and indicates that the Project area is within the Airport (A) zone. The City's General Plan Land Use Map depicts the City's land use designations and indicates the project site has an Airport land use designation, which allows for airport operations and support facilities.

For the purposes of the cultural study, the Project area is defined as proposed work areas with a buffer to account for any changes to the Project, and therefore expansions to the work areas, that could have reasonably been made after survey was conducted. As such, the Project area is defined in this report as 11 acres, to include approximately 5.3 acres of work area, located within the western portion of Runway 6 of the Hollister Municipal Airport (Figure 3). Project activities consist of the demolition and removal of 4.8 acres of paved taxiway preceding Runway 6 and the construction of approximately 0.5 acres of taxiway to connect Runway 6 to the southern taxiway. Pavement replacement of approximately 0.15 acres would occur within the construction limits, along with the installation of electrical improvements including 36 taxiway edge lights. The Project would also include the installation of 28 runway edge lights placed in existing conduits, 16 runway end lights, 1 pair of runway end identifier lights, 4 runway identification signs, and approximately 1.86 acres of reseeded in areas adjacent to ground disturbance.

REGULATORY SETTING

California Environmental Quality Act

Cultural Resources

CEQA applies to all discretionary projects undertaken or subject to approval by the state's public agencies (California Code of Regulations 14(3), § 15002(i)). Under CEQA, "A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(b)). State CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(a) defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register)
- Listed in a local register of historical resources (as defined at Cal. Public Res. Code § 5020.1(k))

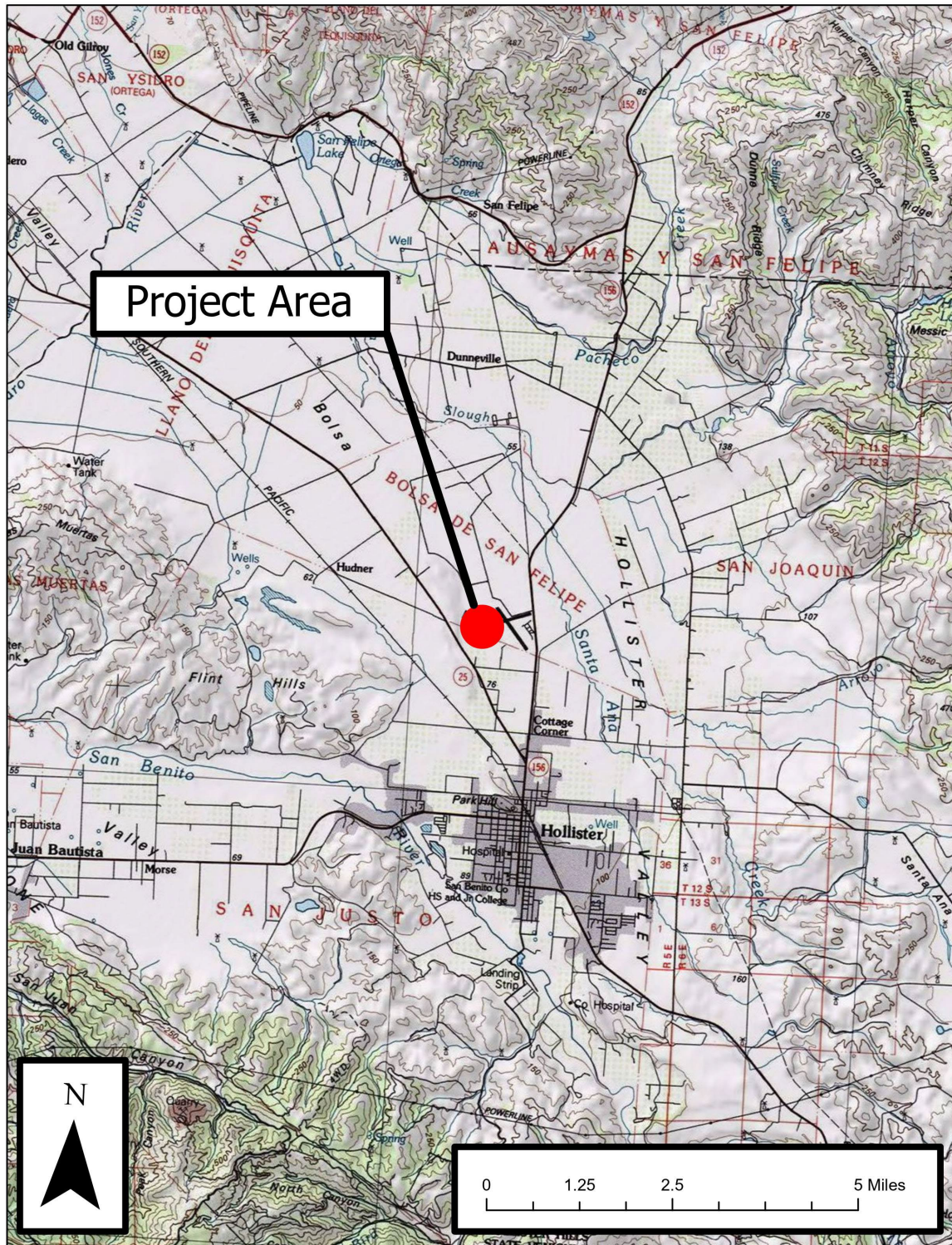


Figure 1: Vicinity Map



Figure 2: Project Map

- Identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of § 5024.1(g) of the Cal. Public Res. Code
- Determined to be a historical resource by a project's lead agency (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a))

A historical resource consists of "Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California... Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources" (Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)).

The significance of a historical resource is impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for the California Register. If an impact on a historical or archaeological resource is significant, CEQA requires feasible measures to minimize the impact (State CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4 (a)(1)). Mitigation of significant impacts must lessen or eliminate the physical impact that the project will have on the resource.

Section 5024.1 of the Cal. Public Res. Code established the California Register. Generally, a resource is considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)). The eligibility criteria for the California Register are similar to those of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), and a resource that meets one or more of the eligibility criteria of the National Register will be eligible for the California Register.

The California Register program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural significance, identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes, determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding and affords certain protections under CEQA. Criteria for Designation:

1. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). Fifty years is normally considered sufficient time for a potential historical resource, and in order that the evaluation remain valid for a minimum of five years after the date of this report, all resources older than 45 years (i.e., resources from the "historic-period") will be evaluated for California Register listing eligibility, or CEQA significance. The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as

the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Finally, CEQA requires that significant effects on unique archaeological resources be considered and addressed. CEQA defines a unique archaeological resource as any archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 Appendix G includes significance criteria relative to archaeological and historical resources. These have been utilized as thresholds of significance here, and a project would have a significant environmental impact if it would:

- a) cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in section 10564.5;
- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 10564.5;
- c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Tribal Cultural Resources

The Legislature added requirements regarding tribal cultural resources for CEQA in Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) that took effect July 1, 2015. AB52 requires consultation with California Native American tribes and consideration of tribal cultural resources in the CEQA process. Tribal cultural resources are defined in Public Resources Code Section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, or cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- a) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB52 requires a lead agency to consult with any California Native American tribe that requests consultation on projects within the agency's jurisdiction. AB52 was intended to ensure that local and Tribal governments, public agencies, and project proponents would have information available early in the project planning process to identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural

resources. It is important to note that a cultural resources assessment does not take place of consultation required to identify tribal cultural resources, though it can be utilized to support these efforts.

NATURAL SETTING

The City of Hollister is located in the inland Central Coast of California within the Hollister Valley, a broad lowland basin at the southern end of the greater Santa Clara Valley that extends northward to southern San Francisco Bay. The City was built directly on the highly geologically active Calaveras Fault, a strand of the greater San Andreas Fault system, and is surrounded by coastal mountains including the Gavilan Range to the southwest, the Quien Sabe Range (part of the greater Diablo Range) to the east, and the Lomerias Muertas (or Flint Hills) and the more distant Santa Cruz Mountains to the northwest. The Project area contains Pleistocene (Qpa; 12,000-2.5 million years ago) sediments that include silty clay and clayey alluvium derived from sedimentary rocks (Web Soil Survey). The nearest current water source is the Santa Ana Creek, which is located approximately .75 miles east of the Project area and flows south to north. The current weather in the area can be characterized by a Mediterranean climate with warm, dry summers and mild winters. Rainfall ranges from 10 to 15 inches annually (Hollister Climate). While the general area is known for an abundant variety of native plants, the small portion of the Project area the remains undeveloped consists primarily of non-native grasses and weeds often found in highly disturbed soils.

HISTORICAL SETTING

The Project area lies within the ancestral territory of the Mutsun branch of Ohlone, which expands from south San Francisco to north Monterey Bay (Amah Mutsun). The ancestral territory of the broader Ohlone group expanded beyond this area along the coast and into low Salinas Valley. However, while the various communities of Ohlone were connected through language, trade, ceremony, and other kinship ties, each community held its own territory, governance, and leadership. Information provided on the Tribal Government website of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band notes:

Some Tribal ways of life for the Mutsun were that Chiefs were responsible for feeding visitors; providing for the impoverished; directing ceremonial activities, and directing hunting, fishing, gathering and warfare expeditions. Warfare was not uncommon for the Mutsun. Infringement of territorial rights was the most frequent cause of war. Because the territory of the Mutsun was so valuable in terms of food supply, many other tribes coveted it. The Mutsun insured a sustained yield of plant and animal foods by careful management of the lands. Controlled burning of extensive areas of land was carried out each fall to promote the growth of seed bearing annuals. The Mutsun diet consisted of acorns, hazelnuts, blackberries, elderberries, strawberries, gooseberries, madrone berries, wild grapes, wild onions, cattail roots chuchupate (herb), wild carrots, deer, elk, antelope, bear, rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, rat, mouse, sea lion, whale, duck, geese and a variety of birds. Also eaten were salmon, steelhead, sardine, shark, swordfish, trout, lampreys, mussels, abalone, octopus, grasshoppers, caterpillars and most varieties of reptiles. The Mutsun never ate eagles, owls, raven, buzzards, frogs or toads.

Family dwellings were domed structure thatched with tule, grass, ferns, etc. A small sweathouse was constructed by digging a pit in the bank of a stream and building the remainder of the structure against the bank. Dance enclosures were constructed in the middle of the village and were circular or oval in shape and consisted of a woven fence of

brush or laurel branches about four and one-half feet high. There was a single doorway and a small opening opposite it. Tule boats (balsas) were used by the Mutsun for transportation, fishing and hunting. Bow and arrows, spears, nets and basket traps were used for hunting and fishing. Fish poisoning and fishhooks were also used. Tools were made of bone, wood, rocks and minerals. Baskets were used in the collection, preparation, and storage of food.

Documentation and oral histories note that, before the time of Spanish contact around 1769, the area of Hollister and surrounding counties were occupied by more than 20 separate communities and included over 10,000 people (Amah Mutsun; Lighfoot and Parrish 2009).

Soon after the Spanish made their way into the region, the Mission San Juan Bautista was founded in 1799 in modern-day San Juan Bautista, California by a Franciscan missionary named Fermin Lasuén. Upon its establishment, the Spanish immediately sought out labor from the nearby indigenous communities, which led to forced removal of these people from their ancestral lands. They nearby Mutsun became aware of the loss of their brethren and abandoned their villages and ceremonial spaces in an attempt to avoid a similar fate. However, the Spanish soon turned their efforts to the acquisition of the remaining Mutsun who were then placed into the Mission system and forced to assimilate to the Christian and European practices of the Mission. Further, during its operations, almost 20,000 indigenous people, primarily those of Ohlone heritage, were killed at the Mission San Juan Bautista (Amah Mutsun; Beck and Haase 1974; Kroeber 1925; Lighfoot and Parrish 2009).

In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the Missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act and the Missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released the indigenous people that remained. However, the Mutsun continued to face issues under Mexican rule and were eventually forced to provide labor for various industries, such as animal farming, plant harvesting, lumber, building, etc. During this time, the region saw an increase in trapping, hunting, plant consumption, and logging that saw a decline in significant plant and animal populations. Disease was also widespread, greatly impacting the already-declining indigenous population (Amah Mutsun; Beck and Haase 1974; Kroeber 1925; Lighfoot and Parrish 2009).

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was introduced, triggering the start of the American Period. In 1849, the Anglo population greatly increased in California as a result of the Gold Rush and, as a result, California was accepted into the Union of the United States in 1850. As a result of land grants previously established under Mexican leadership that created large pastoral estates in California, as well as a high demand for beef during the Gold Rush, the state saw a cattle boom from 1849–1855. The increased Anglo population and pursuit of land and gold led to drastic conditions for the remaining indigenous communities, who were once again forced to provide labor or simply killed to make way for new residents. Eventually the beef market collapsed as a result of imported sheep and cattle from New Mexico and the mid-west, and many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure, once again releasing the Mutsun from servitude (Amah Mutsun; Beck and Haase 1974; Kroeber 1925).

At the same time, both the Federal and State governments promoted military campaigns to eliminate indigenous populations or remove them to Reservations. The Federal government began negotiations with the remaining Mutsun in the region, identified as San Juan Indians, to establish what would have become reservation land, though the final treaties were never ratified. As a result, the San Juan Indians, and many other Tribes across the State, became landless. At the same time, the California

government issues an Executive Order to exterminate the remaining indigenous people across the state, which continued in the region until 1859. Today, though the population of the broader Ohlone and the Mutsun branch was greatly diminished in the historic era and many important resources and significant places were destroyed or impacted, the remaining communities have successfully retained their cultural identity and have worked diligently to revitalize cultural practices and remain stewards of their ancestral lands (Amah Mutsun; Beck and Haase 1974; Kroeber 1925; Lighfoot and Parrish 2009).

City of Hollister

The City of Hollister was founded in 1872 and named after Colonel W.W. Hollister, who owned Spanish Land Grants in San Benito and San Barbara Counties, including one that included to modern-day City of Hollister. The town was primarily established and occupied by ranchers and farmers and remained relatively remote until the establishment of the Hollister Municipal Airport in 1912, which started as a private grass airstrip that hosted air shows. In the 1920s, the Airport was acquired and turned into a crop-dusting service until its purchase by the United States Navy and conversion to a Navy Air Auxiliary Station in 1941. The Airport was then turned over to the City of Hollister in 1947 who, with cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), has continued to utilize and make improvements to the airport (City of Hollister).

METHODS

All efforts made for the completion of this report were completed pursuant to requirements set forth in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This study is intended to determine whether cultural resources are located within the Project area, whether any cultural resources are potentially significant pursuant to the above-referenced regulations and standards, and to develop specific recommendations that will address potential impacts to existing or potential resources. Tasks completed include:

- A cultural resources records search through the Northwest Information Center (NWIC) to identify any studies conducted and/or cultural resources recorded within or adjacent to the Project area,
- A Sacred Lands File (SLF) search through the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to identify any resources of Tribal value on file within or adjacent to the project area
- A pedestrian survey of the Project area,
- An evaluation for potential California Register eligibility for any cultural resources identified within the Project area,
- Development of recommendations for any cultural resources identified within the Project area

RESULTS

Records Search

On May 1, 2023, results of a records search for the Project were provided by the Northwest Information Center (NWIC). The records search concluded that one (1) cultural resource survey that overlaps 10% of the Project area was previously conducted and yielded negative results for cultural resources. However, one historic structure, identified as Hollister Airport Hangar #6, was previously recorded adjacent to the Project area. This resource was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and remains unevaluated for potential listing in the

California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). As this resource is both ineligible and outside of the Project area, no further consideration of this resource for the proposed Project is required.

Sacred Lands File (SLF) Search

On May 18, 2023, results were received for the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search through the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The results were positive for an SLF on file for the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, though details regarding the location and nature of the resource(s) remains confidential. The CEQA Lead Agency will initiate Assembly Bill 52 (AB52) Native American Consultation for the Project and, as such, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report.

Field Survey

An intensive-level cultural resources field survey of the Project area was conducted on May 17, 2023. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 10 meters apart, carefully examining all surface exposures for evidence of cultural resources. The majority of the Project area is paved with asphalt and serves as an active taxiway. As such, ground visibility averaged approximately 10 percent within the Project area (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Project Area Overview

The survey yielded negative results for surface cultural resources. Though the footprint of the runway within the Project area remains the same as when the Hollister Municipal Airport was built in 1912, the runway itself has been regularly maintained, including reconstruction/repavement, and does not retain individually meet age criteria to be considered historic. Further, the Project area has been subjected to extensive ground disturbance due to prior development, including development related to its current use as a taxiway within the Hollister Municipal Airport. As such, the Project area has low probability for *in situ* buried archaeological resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

No cultural resources, cemeteries, or individual human remains were identified within the Project area during background research or the field survey. Further, the research and field survey provided evidence of extensive disturbance across the Project area, indicating it is unlikely to contain intact buried resources. As such, it is unlikely that cultural resources will be impacted as a result of the proposed Project. Specifically, the Project will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Historical Resource or Archaeological Resource, as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. Further, there is no evidence to indicate the Project would disturb human remains, including individual human remains interred outside of a formal cemetery. However, mitigation outlining process for inadvertent discoveries following required protocols California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.94-98 should be included to ensure impacts to inadvertently discovered human remains will be less than significant.

REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

RECORD SEARCH RESULTS FROM THE NORTHWEST INFORMATION CENTER



May 1, 2023

NWIC File No.: 22-1610

Casey Schooner
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
401 B Street, Suite 600
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Record search results for the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety Project

Dear Casey Schooner:

Per your request received by our office on the 18th of April, 2023, a rapid response records search was conducted for the above referenced project by reviewing pertinent Northwest Information Center (NWIC) base maps that reference cultural resources records and reports, historic-period maps, and literature for San Benito County. Please note that use of the term cultural resources includes both archaeological resources and historical buildings and/or structures.

The proposed project includes two elements: 1) the demolition and removal of the approximately 3.91 acres of paved taxiway preceding (west of) Runway 6, and 2) construction of an approximately 0.23-acre perpendicular taxiway connecting Runway 6 and the southern taxiway. Work areas consist of paved runways and taxiways, adjacent hardscape shoulder, and non-native upland grassland. This project is located on Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 050-010-001-000 at the Hollister Municipal Airport, located at 60 Airport Drive within the City of Hollister (City), in San Benito County, approximately 2.5 miles north of the city center. The Project Applicant anticipates that building construction would be completed in one phase. Project construction will include ground disturbing activities throughout the site, including demolition of a portion of an existing taxiway and construction of additional taxiway.

Review of the information at our office indicates that there has been one cultural resource study that covers approximately 10% of the Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area (Compas 2000: S-22728). This Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area contains no recorded archaeological resources. The State Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resources Directory (OHP BERD), which includes listings of the California Register of Historical Resources, California State Historical Landmarks, California State Points of Historical Interest, and the National Register of Historic Places, lists one recorded structure in the area, Hollister Airport Hangar #6 (OTIS # 489467), although it is unclear whether this structure is in or adjacent to the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area. This resource is listed with a 6Y, meaning that this resource has been determined ineligible for the National Register [NR] by consensus through Section 106 process – Not evaluated for the California Register [CR] or local listing. In addition to these inventories, the NWIC base maps show no recorded buildings or structures within the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area.

At the time of Euroamerican contact, the Native Americans that lived in the area were speakers of the Mutsun language, which is part of the Costanoan language family (Levy 1978:485). There are Native American resources within or adjacent to the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area that are referenced in the ethnographic literature (Levy 1976).

Based on an evaluation of the environmental setting and features associated with known sites, Native American resources in this part of San Benito County have been found in areas marginal to intermittent and perennial watercourses, near upland areas, and near areas populated by oak, buckeye, manzanita, and pine, as well as near a variety of plant and animal resources. The Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area is located in San Benito County in the Hollister area in valley lands near the base of hills and approximately one mile West of Santa Ana Creek. Given the similarity of these environmental factors and the archaeological and ethnographic sensitivity of the surrounding area, there is a moderately high potential for unrecorded Native American resources to be within the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area.

Review of historical literature and maps gave no indication of historic-period activity within the Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area. With this information in mind, there is a low potential for unrecorded historic-period archaeological resources to be within the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area.

The 1955 photo revised 1971 San Felipe USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle depicts a portion of the Hollister Municipal Airport Runway within and adjacent to the Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area. If present, this unrecorded structure meets the Office of Historic Preservation's minimum age standard that buildings, structures, and objects 45 years or older may be of historical value.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) There is a moderately high potential for Native American archaeological resources and a low potential for historic-period archaeological resources to be within the project area. The proposed project area, however, is partially covered with asphalt, buildings, or fill that obscures the visibility of original surface soils, which negates the feasibility of an adequate surface inspection.

Therefore, prior to demolition or other ground disturbance, we recommend a qualified archaeologist conduct further archival and field study to identify archaeological resources or deposits that may show no indications on the surface. Field study may include, but is not limited to, hand auger sampling, shovel test units, or geoarchaeological analyses as well as other common methods used to identify the presence of buried archaeological resources. Please refer to the list of consultants who meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards at <http://www.chrisinfo.org>.

2) We recommend the lead agency contact the local Native American tribe(s) regarding traditional, cultural, and religious heritage values. For a complete listing of tribes in the vicinity of the project, please contact the Native American Heritage Commission at 916/373-3710.

3) The OHP BERD lists one recorded structure in the area, Hollister Airport Hangar #6 (OTIS # 489467), although it is unclear whether this structure is in or adjacent to the proposed Hollister Municipal Airport Runway 6 Safety project area. Therefore, prior to commencement of project activities, it is recommended that if this resource is within or adjacent to the project area, it be assessed by a professional familiar with the architecture and history of San Benito County to provide project specific recommendations. In addition, if the proposed project area contains other buildings or structures that meet the minimum age requirement, prior to commencement of project activities, it is recommended that these resources be assessed by a professional familiar with the architecture and history of San Benito County. Please refer to the list of consultants who meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards at <http://www.chrisinfo.org>.

4) Review for possible historic-period buildings or structures has included only those sources listed in the attached bibliography and should not be considered comprehensive.

5) If archaeological resources are encountered during construction, work should be temporarily halted in the vicinity of the discovered materials and workers should avoid altering the materials and their context until a qualified professional archaeologist has evaluated the situation and provided appropriate recommendations. Project personnel should not collect cultural resources. Native American resources include chert or obsidian flakes, projectile points, mortars, and pestles; and dark friable soil containing shell and bone dietary debris, heat-affected rock, or human burials. Historic-period resources include stone or adobe foundations or walls; structures and remains with square nails; and refuse deposits or bottle dumps, often located in old wells or privies.

6) It is recommended that any identified cultural resources be recorded on DPR 523 historic resource recordation forms, available online from the Office of Historic Preservation's website: https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28351

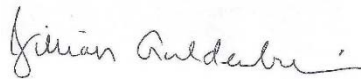
Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts.

The California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) contracts with the California Historical Resources Information System's (CHRIS) regional Information Centers (ICs) to

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

Thank you for using our services. Please contact this office if you have any questions, (707) 588-8455.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jillian Guldenbrein".

Jillian Guldenbrein
Researcher

LITERATURE REVIEWED

In addition to archaeological maps and site records on file at the Northwest Information Center of the Historical Resources Information System, the following literature was reviewed:

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Kroeber, A.L.

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Williams, James C.

1997 *Energy and the Making of Modern California*. The University of Akron Press, Akron, OH.

Woodbridge, Sally B.

1988 *California Architecture: Historic American Buildings Survey*. Chronicle Books, San Francisco, .

Works Progress Administration

1984 *The WPA Guide to California*. Reprint by Pantheon Books, New York. (Originally published as *California: A Guide to the Golden State* in 1939 by Books, Inc., distributed by Hastings House Publishers, New York).

**Note that the Office of Historic Preservation's *Historic Properties Directory* includes National Register, State Registered Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and the California Register of Historical Resources as well as Certified Local Government surveys that have undergone Section 106 review.

APPENDIX B

SACRED LANDS FILE (SLF) SEARCH RESULTS



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 18, 2023

Jessica Mauck
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.Via Email to: jessica.mauck@kimley-horn.comCHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
ChumashSECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
MiwokCOMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-CostanoanCOMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
NomlakiCOMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
LuiseñoCOMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
KumeyaayCOMMISSIONER
[Vacant]COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C. Hitchcock
Miwok/Nisenan**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
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Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Runway 6 Safety Improvement Project, San Benito County

Dear Ms. Mauck:

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

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

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

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

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

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

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:

- Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

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

3. The result of any Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was positive. Please contact the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band on the attached list for more information.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

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

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

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Cody.Campagne@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cody Campagne

Cody Campagne
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment