

**APPENDIX C**  
**Cultural Resources Memorandum and Addendum**

June 13, 2019

Rob Ferrera  
Environmental Specialist,  
SMUD Environmental Services  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
6201 S Street, Mail Stop H201  
Sacramento, CA 95817

## **Re: 10590 Jackson Road – Cultural Resources Memorandum**

### **Introduction**

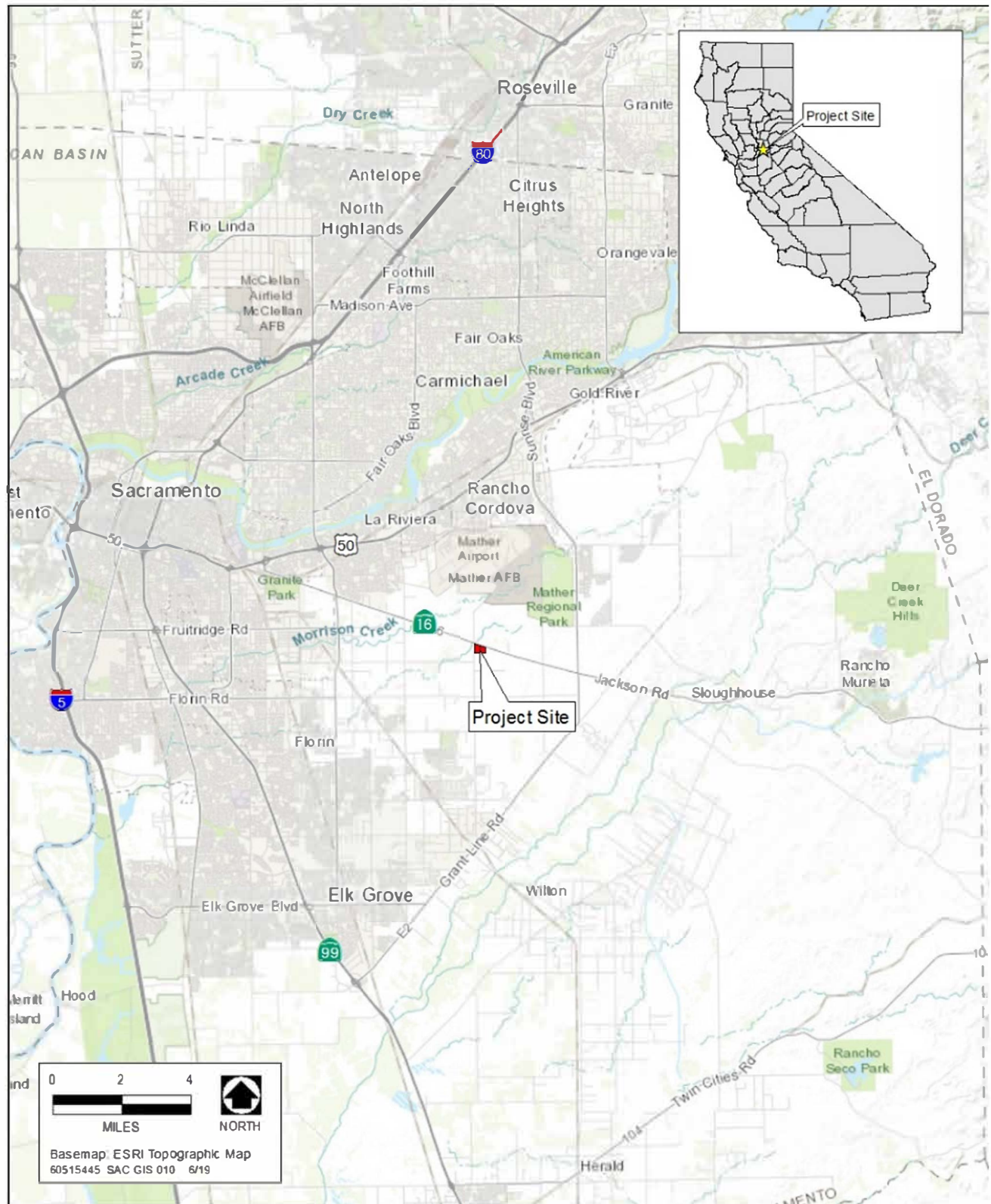
AECOM conducted cultural resource services for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) Jackson properties in Sacramento County on Jackson and Excelsior Roads (Assessor's Parcel Numbers [APNs] 067-00500-040 and 067-0050-039, 19.02 acres and 25.64 acres, respectively) for the eventual construction of a bulk substation. SMUD plans to demolish some existing structures onsite, remediate the adjacent soil that has been contaminated with oil, and remove some trees. AECOM conducted the reconnaissance-level cultural resource survey on May 23, 2019 for these two properties, conducted a North Central Information Center (NCIC) records search, and prepared this cultural resources memorandum with results of the survey, background research, and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) evaluation of the historic-age built environment resources located on APN 067-0050-040 if they meet the criteria as historical resources for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Per the scope, the buildings on 067-0050-039 (6037 Excelsior Road) are not of historic age and do not require study by an architectural historian.

### **Project Description**

SMUD plans to demolish and/or close some existing structures onsite, remediate the adjacent soil that has been contaminated with oil, and construct a fence around the site. Demolition and soil remediation will likely begin in September/October of 2019; however, construction of the bulk substation will not occur for another 8 to 10 years. The purpose of the cultural research and surveys is to provide information to support SMUD's proposed Categorical Exemption to complete the remediation, demolition, and fencing activities.

### **Project Location**

One property is located at 6037 Excelsior Road in Sacramento, Sacramento County, California. The second parcel is on the southeast corner of Excelsior Road and Jackson Road. at 10590 Jackson Road in Sacramento, Sacramento County, California, as depicted in Figure 1. Both parcels are located in Township 65 North, Range 48 East Section 26, and are depicted on the Carmichael U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute quadrangle (Figure 2).



Source: Compiled by AECOM in 2019

**Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map**

## Regulatory Context

### California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA offers directives regarding impacts on historical resources and unique archaeological resources. Generally, CEQA states that if implementation of a project would result in significant environmental impacts, then public agencies should determine whether such impacts can be substantially lessened or avoided through feasible mitigation measures or feasible alternatives. This general mandate applies equally to significant environmental effects related to certain cultural resources.

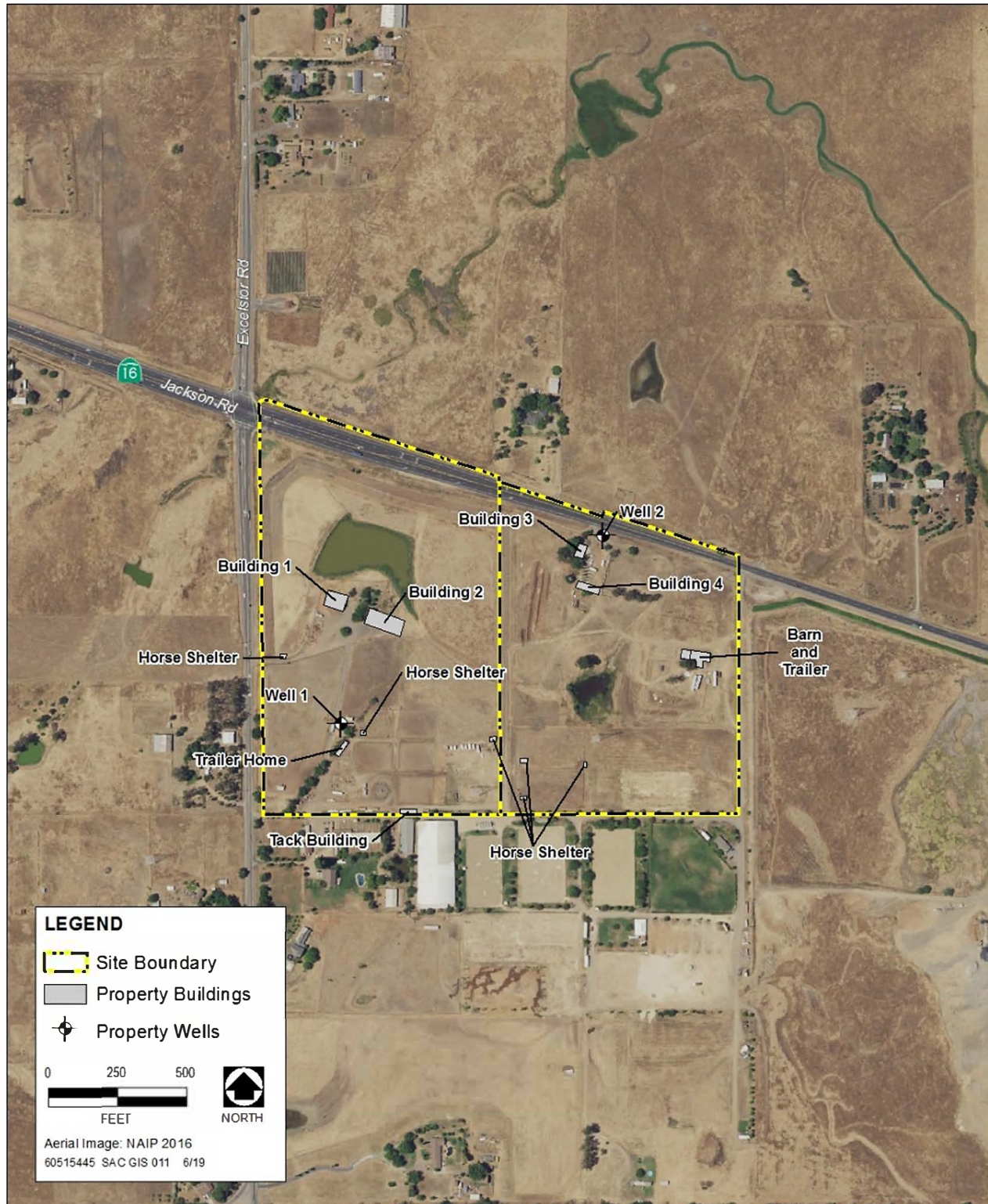
Only significant cultural resources (e.g., “historical resources” and “unique archaeological resources”) need to be addressed. The State CEQA Guidelines define a “historical resource” as “a resource listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources” (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5, subdivision [a][1]; see also Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 5024.1, 21084.1). A historical resource may be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), as determined by the State Historical Resources Commission or the lead agency, if the resource:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage; or
2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past; or
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, a resource is presumed to constitute a “historical resource” if it is included in a “local register of historical resources” unless “the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant” (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5, subdivision [a][2]). The State CEQA Guidelines require consideration of unique archaeological sites (Section 15064.5; see also PRC Section 21083.2). A “unique archaeological resource” is defined as an 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 (PRC 21083.2):

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that 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.

If a cultural resource does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR but meets the definition of a unique archaeological resource as outlined in Section 21083.2 of the PRC, it is entitled to special protection or attention under CEQA. Treatment options under Section 21083.2 of CEQA include activities that preserve such resources in place, in an undisturbed state. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under Section 21083.2 include excavation and curation or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a “unique archaeological resource”).



Source: Compiled by AECOM in 2019

**Figure 2. Project Site Location**

The State CEQA Guidelines require that excavation activities be stopped whenever human remains are uncovered, and that the county coroner be called to assess the remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are those of Native Americans, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted within 24 hours. At that time, Section 15064.5(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines directs the lead agency to consult with the appropriate Native Americans, as identified by the NAHC, and directs the lead agency (or project applicant), under certain circumstances, to develop an agreement with the Native Americans for the treatment and disposition of the remains. El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) would be responsible for compliance with CEQA.

### Environmental Setting

The project site contains several buildings, including barns, residences, and horse sheds, but is largely undeveloped. Vernal pool/annual grassland complexes occur to the east, north, and west of the project and are used for cattle grazing. Most of the site is comprised of vernal pool/seasonal wetland/grassland complexes and annual grassland. Developed and ruderal land cover types predominate in areas where horse shelters, barns, and other buildings have been established. Elder Creek flows southwest under the intersection of Jackson Road and Excelsior Road, at the northwestern boundary of the project site. An equine facility with jumping courses, pavilions, and stables are to the south of the project. The predominant land use of the project site is horse pasture.

### Prehistoric Setting

Prehistoric land-use can be summarized within broad temporal periods that correspond with increasing occupation. The Late Pleistocene Pattern and Period (>10,000 Before Present [B.P.]) in the foothill and eastern Sacramento Valley is practically non-existent. Sites CA-SAC-370 and CA-SAC-379, located near Rancho Murieta, produced numerous bifaces, cores, and raw materials from gravel strata estimated to be between 12,000 and 18,000 years in age. Early Holocene Pattern and Period (circa [ca.] 10,000–7000 B.P.) was first defined by Bedwell (1970) as a human adaptation to lake, marsh, and grassland environments that were prevalent at this time. Appearing after 11,000 years B.P., the tradition slowly disappeared ca. 8000–7000 B.P.

In general, although earlier sites likely exist in the area that have yet to be discovered, the best documented evidence for human occupation in the region is found among sites exhibiting traits characteristic of the **Windmill Pattern** or **Early Horizon**. Such sites date to as early as 4750 BP and as late as 2500 B.P. and frequently contain numerous mortar fragments, indicating that acorns and/or various seeds were relatively important food items (Moratto 1984). However, the remains of numerous faunal species are often found on Windmill sites and the presence of angling hooks and pottery artifacts possibly used as net or line sinkers indicates a varied and efficient subsistence system.

Windmill sites also show that a great deal of trade was taking place and obsidian, *Halotis* and *Olivella* shell beads and ornaments, quartz crystals and other exotic materials are frequently found on these sites (Heizer 1949, 1974, Moratto 1984). Many exotic items, such as the quartz crystals and calcite, alabaster and schist artifacts have their origins in the foothills and their presence in the Central Valley indicates consistent contact with foothill peoples and possibly seasonal movements of the Windmill groups. These seasonal migrations may have involved population shifts to higher elevations during the summer with winter occupations being in the valley (Moratto 1984).

Sites from the later **Berkeley Pattern** or **Middle Horizon** (2500 – 1450 B.P.) are often quite similar to Windmill sites with features such as the use of red ocher in burial contexts, cobble mortars, and “charmstones”, lanceolate point styles occur during both periods. However, during this time, a much heavier reliance on acorns as a staple food develops as evidenced by an increased number of mortars and pestles in the archaeological record. Distinctive artifacts and radiocarbon dates from sites associated with the Berkeley Pattern suggests that these cultural manifestations may represent a Proto-Miwok population movement from the Bay area to the Central Valley.

First appearing in the archaeological record around 1,400 BP and extending to proto-historic times, manifestations of the **Augustine Pattern or Late Horizon** indicate that intensive fishing, hunting, and acorn gathering supported large, dense populations. Highly developed exchange systems had evolved and mortuary practices with elaborate ceremonialism indicate a well-stratified society. Earlier Augustine Pattern sites, however, still bear many similarities to the Berkeley Pattern, suggesting that the Augustine Pattern represents elements of local innovation and a blending of traits with the Middle Horizon (Morratto 1984).

### **Ethnographic Setting**

Ethnographically, the project site is situated in the Nisenan (sometimes referred to as the Southern Maidu) sphere of influence. The Nisenan territory included the drainages of the Yuba, Bear, and American rivers, and the lower drainages of the Feather River, extending from the crest of the Sierra Nevada to the banks of the Sacramento River and south to the Cosumnes River. In the Nisenan territory, several political divisions, constituting tribelets, each had their own respective headmen who lived in the larger villages. However, it is not known which of these larger population centers wielded more influence than others, although they were all located in the foothill areas. In general, more substantial and permanent Nisenan villages were not established on the valley plain between the Sacramento River and the foothills, although this area was used as a rich hunting and gathering ground. (Kroeber 1925 and Wilson and Towne 1978).

### **Historic-Age Built Environment**

#### **10590 Jackson Road Description**

This 19.02-acre parcel located along the south side of Jackson Road is accessed via a driveway and comprised of a 1,987-square-foot single-story residence built circa 1947–52 with a large modern addition, a rectangular plan shed with gable roof shed built circa 1937–47, a seasonal pond located in the center of the parcel, and a series of modern sheds along the east side of the parcel. The Minimal Traditional style portion of the residence is built on a slab concrete foundation, is stucco clad, and has a steeply-pitched hipped roof with composite shingles and a brick chimney pierces through the south side of the roof. The north side of the house has a replacement sliding glass door entrance, two replacement windows, and a window opening at the northwest corner has been infilled. Fenestration throughout the original portion of the house includes replacement vinyl sliding windows with faux muntins in deep set window openings. A large L-shaped shed roof addition constructed along the south side of the house is sheathed with vertical groove wooding siding. On the east side of the addition is a gable roof porch with stuccoed square column supports located over the 9-light entry door. The west side of the addition has a large 2-part sliding vinyl window with faux muntins in a wood window surround. The southwest corner of the house has a shed roof awning constructed over a window (see Photographs 1 and 2).

The rectangular plan, single-story shed located south of the house has a dirt floor with some concrete areas, a corrugated metal roof, and is sheathed primarily with corrugated metal while the west gable end has vertical wood board (see Photograph 3).

A modern, square plan, one-story, gable roof shed constructed on a concrete slab foundation with seamed metal siding is located along the eastern edge of the parcel (see Photograph 4). The west gable end has a centrally located tall roll-up door opening and an inset personnel door. There is a shed roof wood frame carport with corrugated metal panel roofing located off the south side. A shorter, longer, rectangular plan shed is constructed along the east side of the metal seamed shed (see Photograph 5). The shed is sheathed with vertical wood boards and has a corrugated metal roof. One one-over-one light window is located on the north side. A large area south of the cluster of modern sheds is fenced and has a small corrugated metal shed roof shed building clad with plywood and vertical groove wood panels along the east side of the fenced area (see Photograph 6).



**Photograph 1: Residence northeast corner, camera facing southwest, May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**



**Photograph 2: Residence west side with rear addition, camera facing northeast, May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**



**Photograph 3: Shed near residence with openings along north side, Camera facing south, May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**



**Photograph 4: West side of modern shed along east side of parcel, camera facing southeast, May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**



**Photograph 5: Shorter gable shed near eastern edge of parcel, modern shed at far left, camera facing southwest May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**



**Photograph 6: Small shed south of eastern modern shed cluster within fenced area, camera facing northeast, May 23, 2019 (AECOM).**

## Historical Context

### Sacramento County History

Located along the south side of State Route 16 in rural Sacramento County southeast of the city of Sacramento is the location for SMUD's Proposed Jackson Bulk Substation Site #2. State Route 16, also called Jackson Road, was initially developed in the late 1840s as a route from Sacramento to the mining trading center of Jackson in Amador County and to foothill gold camps. Rural farmsteads developed along this "Sacramento and Jackson Road" within Brighton Township beginning in the 1850s. Historically land ownership in Brighton Township ranged from 160 to 500 acres with stock raising, hay, and grain as the primary focus of the agriculture in the area and into the twentieth century small acreages of vineyards and orchards were planted with limited success, when compared to other parts of Sacramento County. The Sacramento and Jackson Road was paved in 1907, which spurred additional development in the region with an improved transportation route; however, the roadway was not brought into the state highway system until the 1950s when adopted by the Department of Transportation as State Route 16. Beginning in the 1920s and continuing into the post-World War II period, smaller farms with rural residential homes sprung up along Jackson Road as the historically larger parcels were sold off and divided (Britton & Rey 1885; USGS 1911; JRP 1996:2-6; UCSB 1937).

In the post-World War II period, the character of Jackson Road corridor in the area has shifted from primarily scattered farmsteads engaged in agriculture to a mixture of light industrial, surface mining, cemeteries, large church/community centers, small acreage rural residential development, and equestrian properties. The route continues as a heavily trafficked transportation corridor connecting smaller communities in rural Sacramento and Amador counties to the city of Sacramento (Nationwide Environmental Title Search 2019; UCSB 1961; UCSB 1952; UCSB 1981).

### Records Search and Archival History:

The results are presented in Appendix A

### Results of Field Investigations

On May 23, 2019 AECOM archaeologist, Diana Ewing M.A., conducted a pedestrian survey of the property where the property was not fenced and occupied by horses. This survey consisted of 20 meter parallel transects. The property was overgrown with grasses and weeds obscuring much of the surface. No archaeological artifacts or cultural materials were observed during the survey. There was an abundance of abandoned property and trash including lumber, a boat, trailers, an ATV, several drums and a pressurized tank, horse equipment such as barrels and steeplechase jump barriers, and what appeared to be an abandoned RV. Building 3 was broken into and vandalized.

### Property Specific History - 10590 Jackson Road

Sacramento County assessor records assign a 1935 built year for 10590 Jackson Road (APN 067-0050-040); however, historical aerial imagery dates the development from the late 1940s to early 1950s. The property appears to have been initially developed with the long, single-story rectangular plan shed by 1947 and the house was constructed by 1952. A modern shop building constructed along the eastern edge of the parcel was constructed between 1984 and 1993. A discount saddlery store operated from the property in the early 1980s when Martin Shiro owned the property. The property was listed for sale in 1983 and described as a three bedroom two bath house with barns, a corral, pond and trees and was purchased by Robert Vancreveld. An addition was constructed adding two additional bedrooms to the residence in 2004 when the property was owned by Paul Tang (Sacramento County Building Inspection 2004). Jugal Thakor of Dupont, Washington purchased the property from Tang in 2012 and was the most recent owner of the property (Sacramento County Assessor 2019; AECOM 2019; *Sacramento Bee* 1981; *Sacramento Bee* 1983; UCSB 1937; Nationwide Environmental Title Search 2019; UCSB 1952).

## California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) Evaluation

Under CRHR Criterion 1, the property at 10590 Jackson Road is not significant for its association with important historic events within either an agricultural or residential context. This region was initially settled in the 1850s as scattered farms and the original development of the parcel dates to the late 1930s–1940s, when the shed was constructed. A small residence was then built on the property in the 1950s. The house was later expanded in 2004 under ownership by Paul Tang, and today it continues its use as a rural residential property. This property was developed decades after the initial settlement period in this part of Sacramento County and the development of this property in the twentieth century as a farm and residence does not appear to have played an important role in the development of small agricultural operations or residential properties in and around Brighton Township. It does not appear to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history.

Under CRHR Criterion 2, these buildings have no significant association with the lives of persons important to history. The historic record did not reveal the names of the persons associated with the development and use of the property when it was initially developed circa 1937–47 and early 1950s. It does not appear that any of the subsequent owners or occupants related to the development and use of this property made demonstrably important contributions to history at the local, state, or national level.

Under CRHR Criterion 3, these buildings are not significant for possessing distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The circa 1937–47 shed with its corrugated metal gable roof, vertical wood plank siding and corrugated metal siding is an unexceptional example of a common building type found nationwide on farms during the early twentieth century. This shed incorporates design principals and materials that were in widespread use at the time of its construction. The house was initially built as a small residence in the early 1950s and was expanded to its present size in 2004. The house is a modified, modest, and unexceptional example of the Minimal Traditional style, a residential type that emerged in the 1930s and proliferated in the years following World War II.

Under Criterion 4, these buildings are not significant as sources (or likely sources) of important information regarding history. They do not appear to have any likelihood of yielding important information about historic construction materials or technologies.

## Native American Consultation

A sacred lands search was requested by AECOM from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on May 17, 2019. The purpose of the search was to ascertain whether additional resources or locations exist that may be of importance to Native Americans who traditionally have resided in the project area. The NAHC responded on May 5, 2019 with a negative Sacred Lands Files result. SMUD is responsible for contacting the individuals and organizations on the Native American Heritage Commission Tribal Consultation List provided. The results are presented in Appendix B.

## Conclusion and Recommendations

A cultural resources records search at the CHRIS, archival research, and a pedestrian level cultural resources survey resulted in the identification of an historic-era property. The property at 10590 Jackson Road (APN 067-0050-040) does not appear to meet the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) and does not appear to be an historical resource for purposes of the CEQA. The property has been evaluated in accordance with Section 15064.5(a)(2)-(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, using the criteria outlined in Section 5024.1 of the California Public Resources Code. Therefore, it is recommended that implementation of the proposed project will not result in impacts to significant cultural resources.

If any unanticipated archaeological finds are made within the project site that are considered significant, a number of methods may be used to mitigate potential adverse effects. While avoidance through project redesign or some method of stabilization and preservation is the preferred method, in its absence, it is recommended that any potential impacts on unanticipated finds be mitigated through data recovery. It is

also recommended that local Native American groups be consulted and their input solicited and considered in all aspects of such testing and mitigation as related to prehistoric resources.

If human remains are found, the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) requires that excavation be halted in the immediate area and that the county coroner be notified to determine the nature of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (HSC. 7050.5[b]). If the coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, he or she must contact the NAHC by telephone within 24 hours of making that determination (HSC 7050.5[c]).

#### **References:**

- AECOM, 2019. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Proposed Jackson Bulk Substation Site #2 – Approximately 19.02 Acres, 10590 Jackson Road – APN 067-0050-040, Sacramento, Sacramento County, California 95829. Prepared for SMUD.
- Bedwell, Stephen F. 1970. Prehistory and Environment of the Pluvial Fort Rock Lake Area of Southcentral Oregon, Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation in Anthropology, University of Oregon, Eugene.
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- JRP Historical Consulting Services, 1996. Historic Architectural Survey Report: Eight Groups of Buildings and Structures Located Within the Project Area for Morrison Creek Mining Reach, Downstream (South of Jackson Highway, Sacramento County, California). Prepared for Garcia and Associates.
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- Sacramento County Building Inspection, 2004. "10590 Jackson Road," building inspection permit CBN2004-00331. Finaled March 23. Available: <https://actonline.saccounty.net/CitizenAccess/Default.aspx>. Accessed May 20, 2019.
- United States Geological Survey (USGS), 1911. Mills. Topographic map, scale 1:31680.
- USGS, 1950. Carmichael, California. Topographic map, scale 1:24000.
- USGS, 1967. Carmichael, California. Topographic map, scale 1:24000.
- University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), Aerial Photography Special Collection, 1937. Flight ABC-46, Frame 23. August 17.
- UCSB, 1952. Flight PAI-ABC-Y8, Frame 114.
- UCSB, 1961. Flight CAS-SAC-1, Frame 241. July 13.
- UCSB, 1981. Flight CAS-81081-5, Frame 144. April 9.
- Wilson, Norman L., and Arlean H. Towne. 1978. Nisenan. Handbook of North American Indians, Volume 8, California, edited by R. F. Heizer, pp. 387-397. Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

## **Appendix A**

### **Records Search Results**

**CHRIS Data Request Form**

**ACCESS AND USE AGREEMENT NO.:** 106 **IC FILE NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_

To: Northeast \_\_\_\_\_ Information Center

Print Name: Diana Ewing Date: 05/17/19

Affiliation: AECOM

Address: 2020 L Street, Suite 400

City: Sacramento State: CA Zip: 95811

Phone: (916) 361-6448 Fax: (916) 414-5850 Email: diana.r.ewing@aecom.co,

Billing Address (if different than above): USAPImaging@aecom.com

Project Name / Reference: Jackson Bio & Cult/ Project Number 60515445

Project Street Address: 6037 Excelsior Road and 10590 Jackson Road, Sacramento County, CA

County: Sacramento County

Township/Range/UTMs: Township 65 [N] Range 48 [E] Section 26

USGS 7.5' Quad(s): Carmichael Quad , CA

PRIORITY RESPONSE (Additional Fee): yes ☐/ no ☒

TOTAL FEE NOT TO EXCEED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions:

Please use a 0.25-mile buffer around the parcel for the records search.

Please send the invoice to [USAPImaging@aecom.com](mailto:USAPImaging@aecom.com) with the project number

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***Information Center Use Only***

Date of CHRIS Data Provided for this Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Confidential Data Included in Response: yes ☐/ no ☐

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHRIS Data Request Form

Include the following information (mark as necessary) for the records search area(s) shown on the attached map(s) or included in the associated shapefiles. Shapefiles are the current CHRIS standard format for digital spatial data products.

**NOTE: All digital data products are subject to availability - check with the appropriate Information Center.**

1. **Map Type Desired:** Digital map products will be provided only if they are available at the time of this request. *Regardless of what is requested, only hard copy hand-drawn maps will be provided for any part of the requested search area for which digital map products are not available at the time of this request.*  
*There is an additional charge for shapefiles, whether they are provided with or without Custom GIS Maps.*

**Mark one map choice only**

Custom GIS Maps ☒ Shapefiles ☐ Custom GIS Maps and Shapefiles ☐ Hard Copy Hand-Drawn Maps only ☐

**Any selection below left unmarked will be considered a "no."**

| 2a.                                                                    | Within project area                                           | Within <u>1/4</u> mi radius                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL Resource Locations <sup>+</sup>                         | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| NON-ARCHAEOLOGICAL Resource Locations                                  | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Report Locations <sup>+</sup>                                          | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Resource Database Printout* (list)                                     | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Resource Database Printout* (detail)                                   | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Resource Digital Database Records (spreadsheet) <sup>+</sup>           | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Report Database Printout* (list)                                       | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Report Database Printout* (detail)                                     | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| Report Digital Database Records (spreadsheet) <sup>+</sup>             | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| ARCHAEOLOGICAL Resource Record copies <sup>**</sup>                    | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| PDF <input checked="" type="radio"/> / Hard Copy <input type="radio"/> |                                                               |                                                               |
| NON-ARCHAEOLOGICAL Resource Record copies <sup>*</sup>                 | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| PDF <input checked="" type="radio"/> / Hard Copy <input type="radio"/> |                                                               |                                                               |
| Report copies <sup>**</sup> :                                          | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| PDF <input checked="" type="radio"/> / Hard Copy <input type="radio"/> |                                                               |                                                               |
|                                                                        | Only directory listing                                        | Associated documentation                                      |
| OHP Historic Properties Directory <sup>**</sup>                        |                                                               |                                                               |
| within project area                                                    | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| within <u>1/4</u> _____ mi radius                                      | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| OHP Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility <sup>+</sup>          |                                                               |                                                               |
| within project area                                                    | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| within <u>1/4</u> _____ mi radius                                      | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| California Inventory of Historical Resources (1976):                   |                                                               |                                                               |
| within project area                                                    | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |
| within <u>1/4</u> _____ mi radius                                      | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> no <input type="radio"/> |

+ In order to receive archaeological information, requestor must meet qualifications as specified in Section III of the current version of the California Historical Resources Information System Information Center Rules of Operation Manual and be identified as an Authorized User under an active CHRIS Access and Use Agreement.

\* These documents may be supplied as PDF files, if available

\*\* Includes, but is not limited to, information regarding National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, California State Historical Landmarks, California State Points of Historical Interest, and historic building surveys.

**CHRIS Data Request Form**

**2b.** Listed below are sources of additional information that may be available at the Information Center. Indicate if a review and documentation of any of the following types of information is requested.

|                                    |                                      |                                     |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Caltrans Bridge Survey</b>      | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| <b>Ethnographic Information</b>    | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| <b>Historical Literature</b>       | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| <b>Historical Maps</b>             | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> | no <input type="radio"/>            |
| <b>Local Inventories</b>           | yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> | no <input type="radio"/>            |
| <b>GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps</b> | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| <b>Shipwreck Inventory</b>         | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| <b>Soil Survey Maps</b>            | yes <input type="radio"/>            | no <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

## **Appendix B**

### **Native American Heritage Commission Response**

## Local Government Tribal Consultation List Request

### Native American Heritage Commission

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
916-373-3710  
916-373-5471 – Fax  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)

#### Type of List Requested

☒ CEQA Tribal Consultation List (AB 52) – *Per Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1, subs. (b), (d), (e) and 21080.3.2*

☒ General Plan (SB 18) - *Per Government Code § 65352.3.*

#### Local Action Type:

☐ General Plan ☐ General Plan Element ☐ General Plan Amendment

☐ Specific Plan ☐ Specific Plan Amendment ☒ Pre-planning Outreach Activity

#### Required Information

Project Title: SMUD Jackson

Local Government/Lead Agency: SMUD

Contact Person: Diana Ewing

Street Address: 2020 L Street, Suite 400

City: Sacramento, CA Zip: 95811

Phone: 916-361-6433 Fax: 916-414-5850

Email: diana.r.ewing@aecom.com

#### Specific Area Subject to Proposed Action

County: Sacramento

City/Community: 6037 Excelsior Road and 10590 Jackson Road

#### Project Description:

Proposed site for new substation with demolition of some currently standing buildings and remediation of any previously oil contaminated soils.

#### Additional Request

☒ Sacred Lands File Search – *Required Information:*

USGS Quadrangle Name(s): Carmichael, CA

Township: 65N Range: 48E Section(s): 26

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION  
Cultural and Environmental Department  
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
Phone: (916) 373-3710  
Email: [nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)  
Website: <http://www.nahc.ca.gov>



May 24, 2019

Diana R. Ewing  
AECOM

VIA Email to: [diana.r.ewing@aecom.com](mailto:diana.r.ewing@aecom.com)

RE: Native American Consultation, Pursuant to Senate Bill 18 (SB18), Government Codes §65352.3 and §65352.4, as well as Assembly Bill 52 (AB52), Public Resources Codes §21080.1, §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2, SMUD Jackson Project, Sacramento County

Dear Ms. Ewing:

Attached is a consultation list of tribes with traditional lands or cultural places located within the boundaries of the above referenced counties or projects.

Government Codes §65352.3 and §65352.4 require local governments to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of avoiding, protecting, and/or mitigating impacts to cultural places when creating or amending General Plans, Specific Plans and Community Plans.

Public Resources Codes §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2 requires public agencies to consult with California Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the purpose of avoiding, protecting, and/or mitigating impacts to tribal cultural resources as defined, for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects.

The law does not preclude local governments and agencies from initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction. The NAHC believes that this is the best practice to ensure that tribes are consulted commensurate with the intent of the law.

Best practice for the AB52 process and in accordance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1(d), is to do the following:

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 NAHC also recommends, but does not require that lead agencies include in their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential affect (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 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 the Sacred Lands File (SFL) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.
4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and
5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS is 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: [Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:Katy.Sanchez@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



for Katy Sanchez  
Associate Environmental Planner

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Tribal Consultation List  
05/24/2019**

**Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians**  
Rhonda Morningstar Pope, Chairperson  
1418 20th Street, Suite 200      Me-Wuk / Miwok  
Sacramento, CA 95811  
rhonda@buenavistatribe.com  
(916) 491-0011 Office

**Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians**  
Regina Cuellar, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1340      Miwok  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682      Maidu  
rcuellar@ssband.org  
(530) 387-4970

**Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe**  
Pamela Cubbler, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 4884      Miwok  
Auburn, CA 95604      Maidu  
PCubbler@colfaxrancheria.com  
(530) 320-3943

**United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria**  
Gene Whitehouse, Chairperson  
10720 Indian Hill Road      Maidu  
Auburn, CA 95603      Miwok  
bauth@auburnrancheria.com  
(530) 883-2390 Office

**Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe**  
Clvde Prout, Chairman  
P.O. Box 4884      Miwok  
Auburn, CA 95604      Maidu  
miwokmaidu@yahoo.com  
(916) 577-3558

**Wilton Rancheria**  
Raymond Hitchcock, Chairperson  
9728 Kent Street      Miwok  
Elk Grove, CA 95624  
rhitchcock@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov  
(916) 683-6000 Office

**Ione Band of Miwok Indians**  
Sara Dutschke Setchwaelo, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 699      Miwok  
Plymouth, CA 95669  
sara@ionemiwok.org  
(209) 245-5800 Office

**Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe**  
Cosme A. Valdez, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 580986      Miwok  
Elk Grove, CA 95758-00  
valdezcome@comcast.net  
(916) 429-8047 Voice/Fax

This list is current only as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.

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 applicable only for consultation with Native American tribes under Government Code Sections 65352.3, 65362.4 et seq. and Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed: SMUD Jackson Project, Sacramento County.

April 27, 2026

Sarah Ahmed  
Environmental Specialist,  
SMUD Environmental Services  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
6201 S Street, Mail Stop H201  
Sacramento, CA 95817

## **Re: SMUD Jackson Bulk Substation Cultural Resources Memorandum Addendum**

### **Introduction**

In 2019, AECOM conducted cultural resource services for the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) in Sacramento County on Jackson and Excelsior roads for the planned construction of a bulk substation in eight to 10 years. The preliminary project consisted of two adjacent parcels at 6037 Excelsior Road (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 067-0050-039 (25.64 acres), and 10590 Jackson Road (APN 067-0050-040) (19.02 acres) (AECOM 2019). AECOM conducted a North Central Information Center (NCIC) records search, background research, a reconnaissance-level cultural resource survey on May 23, 2019, on the two properties listed above, and prepared a cultural resources memorandum. The historic-age buildings and structures at 10590 Jackson Road were found ineligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR); therefore, were not considered historical resources for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and were subsequently demolished and cleared from the property.

SMUD has since refined and revised the proposed project to include linear corridors extending east, west, and south of the proposed substation for upgrades to existing distribution lines and proposed new sub-transmission lines. This addendum summarizes recent NCIC record searches, Native American consultation, and pedestrian surveys based on the revised Project linear overhead corridors.

### **Project Description**

SMUD is proposing to construct and operate the new Jackson Bulk Substation (The Project) in Sacramento County on Jackson and Excelsior roads (**Figure 1**). The Project includes construction of a new approximately 18-acre bulk substation and new or modified overhead 69,000-volt (69kV) and 230,000-volt (230kV) power lines that would link the substation to the electrical grid (**Figure 2**). Using transformers, substations transfer power from the transmission system to the distribution system that serves a particular area. The substation reduces the voltage from the large transmission lines and moves power into a system that powers residential and commercial customers. The proposed substation would convert high voltage from 230kV transmission lines to 69kV through transformers for local distribution into residential and commercial customers along the Jackson Road Corridor.

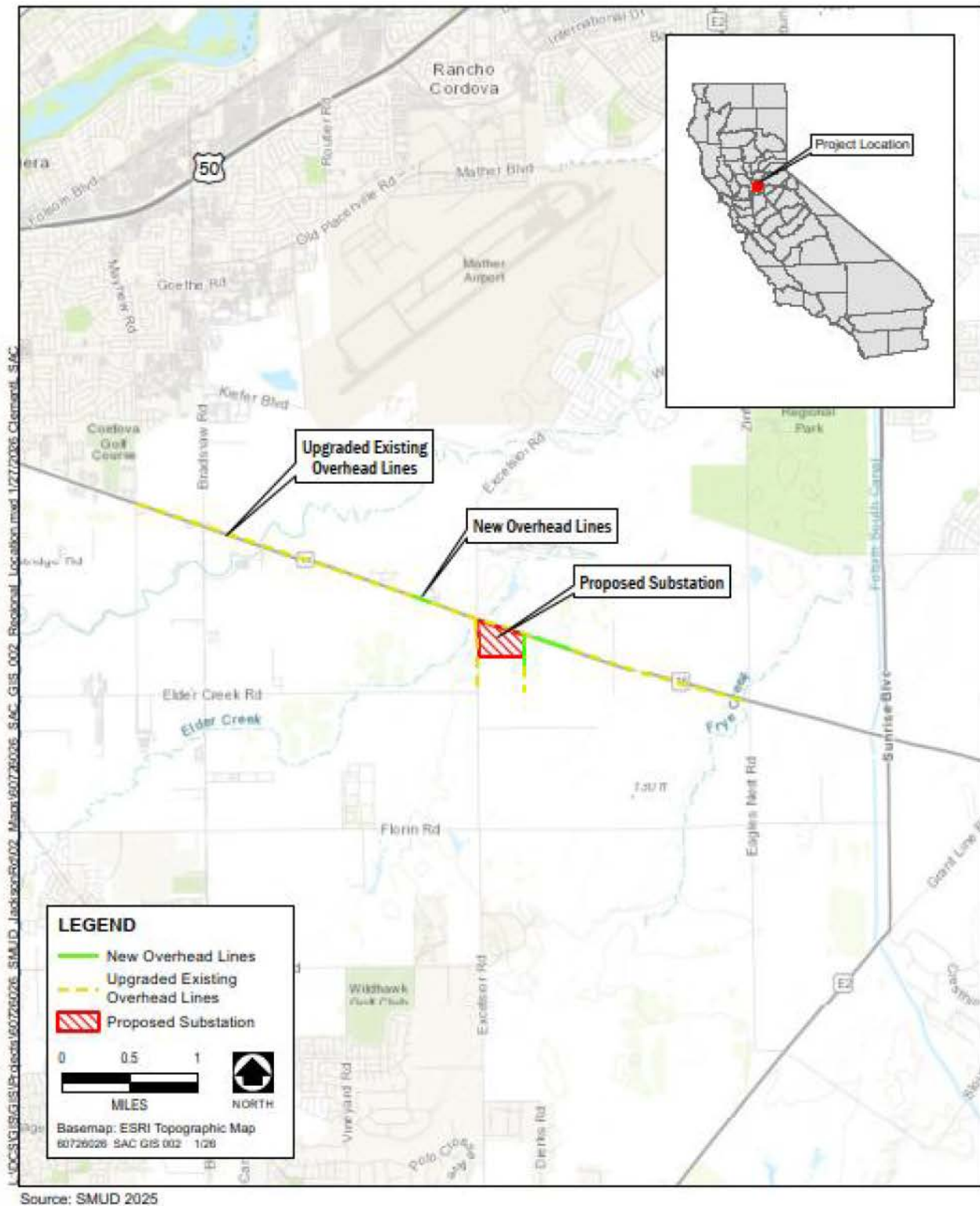


**Figure 1. Regional Location Map**

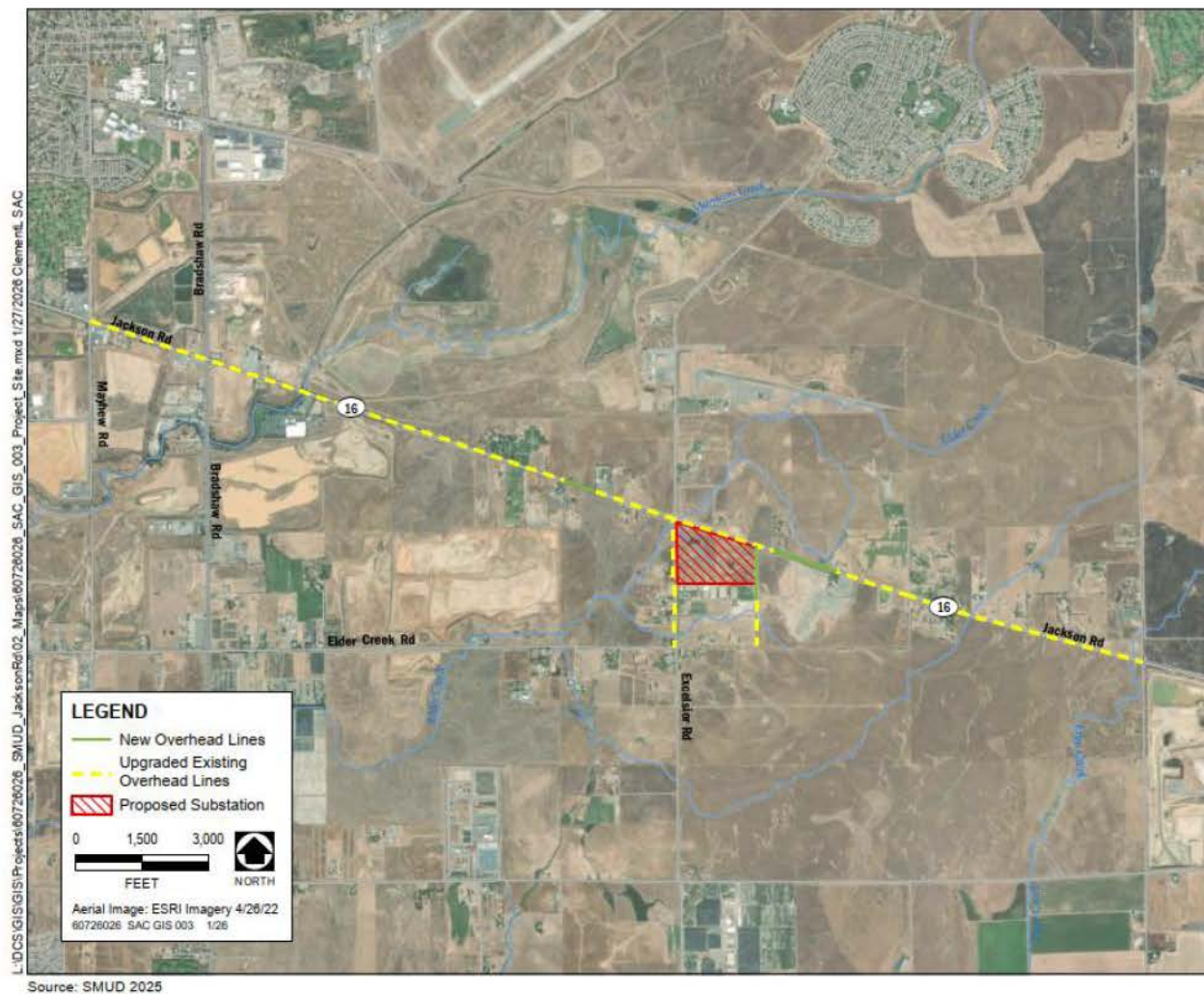


**Figure 2.** Proposed Substation and Offsite Overhead Line Work

## Regulatory Context

### California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA offers directives regarding impacts on historical resources and unique archaeological resources. Generally, CEQA states that if implementation of a project would result in significant environmental impacts, then public agencies should determine whether such impacts can be substantially lessened or avoided through feasible mitigation measures or feasible alternatives. This general mandate applies equally to significant environmental effects related to certain cultural resources.

Only significant cultural resources (e.g., “historical resources” and “unique archaeological resources”) need to be addressed. The State CEQA Guidelines define a “historical resource” as “a resource listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources” (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5, subdivision [a][1]; see also Public Resources Code [PRC] Sections 5024.1, 21084.1). A historical resource may be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), as determined by the State Historical Resources Commission or the lead agency, if the resource:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage; or

2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past; or
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In addition, a resource is presumed to constitute a “historical resource” if it is included in a “local register of historical resources” unless “the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant” (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5, subdivision [a][2]). The State CEQA Guidelines require consideration of unique archaeological sites (Section 15064.5; see also PRC Section 21083.2). A “unique archaeological resource” is defined as an 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 (PRC 21083.2):

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that 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.

If a cultural resource does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR but meets the definition of a unique archaeological resource as outlined in Section 21083.2 of the PRC, it is entitled to special protection or attention under CEQA. Treatment options under Section 21083.2 of CEQA include activities that preserve such resources in place, in an undisturbed state. Other acceptable methods of mitigation under Section 21083.2 include excavation and curation or study in place without excavation and curation (if the study finds that the artifacts would not meet one or more of the criteria for defining a “unique archaeological resource”).

The State CEQA Guidelines require that excavation activities be stopped whenever human remains are uncovered, and that the county coroner be called to assess the remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are those of Native Americans, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) must be contacted within 24 hours. At that time, Section 15064.5(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines directs the lead agency to consult with the appropriate Native Americans, as identified by the NAHC, and directs the lead agency (or project applicant), under certain circumstances, to develop an agreement with the Native Americans for the treatment and disposition of the remains. SMUD as the lead agency would be responsible for compliance with CEQA.

## **Environmental Setting**

The proposed substation site is predominantly used for grazing and temporary soil storage. Elder Creek flows southwest under the intersection of Jackson and Excelsior roads, at the northwestern boundary of the proposed substation site. The Sacramento County zoning designation of the property is Agricultural. The proposed substation site is accessible from the west via Highway 16, also known as Jackson Road, and from the north or south via Excelsior Road. The proposed substation site is approximately 6.7 miles southeast of the Highway 50/Highway 16 interchange.

Surrounding land uses include rural residences, ranch and grazing lands, and scattered commercial and industrial uses. Vernal pool/annual grassland complexes are adjacent to the north, east, and west of the project area and are used for cattle grazing. Single-family residences are present within most of these lands. An equine facility with jumping courses, pavilions, and stables is to the immediate south of the proposed substation site. East and west of the site on Jackson Road there are rural residences and grazing lands, intermixed with small-scale agriculture and commercial/industrial uses. Similar land uses are present to the north and south of the site on Excelsior Road.

## Precontact Setting

Ethnographic and archaeological research in the region by western academics has led to the development of a cultural chronology and context that can be used to interpret the archaeological record. Early ethnographers wrote that the Plains Miwok and Nisenan Tribal groups lived in the project area during European contact, and American archaeologists have attributed archaeological sites and artifacts in this area to those ancestral groups.

California's Central Valley has long held the attention of archaeologists, and was a focus of early research in California. Archaeological work through the twentieth century established, reiterated, and refined a general cultural chronology for the Sacramento Valley, identifying three overarching archaeological cultures and time periods, named Early, Transitional, and Late. These periods were associated with three cultural patterns, defined to reflect the general sharing of lifeways within groups in a specific area. The Windmill pattern of the Early Horizon included cultural patterns dating from 5,000 to 3,000 BP; the Berkeley Pattern of the Middle Horizon (also known as the Cosumnes cultural pattern after Ragir 1972), included cultural patterns dating from 3,000 BP to AD 500, and the Augustine Pattern of the Late Horizon included the cultural patterns from AD 500 to the historic period (Beardsley 1948, 1954; Fredrickson 1973, 1974, and 1994; Heizer 1949; and Lillard et al. 1939).

In the early twenty-first century, Rosenthal, White, and Sutton (2007) recalibrated the sequence is divided into three broad periods: The Paleoindian Period (11,550 to 8,550 cal. BC); the three-staged Archaic period, consisting of the Lower Archaic (8,550 to 5,550 cal. BC), Middle Archaic (5,550 to 550 cal. BC), and Upper Archaic (550 cal. BC to cal. AD 1100); and the Emergent Period (cal. AD 1100 to Historic) (Rosenthal et al. 2007). The three divisions of the Archaic Period correspond to climate changes. The aforementioned periods are characterized by the following:

**Paleo-Indian Period:** This period began when the first people began to inhabit what is now known as the California culture area. It was commonly believed these first people subsisted on big game and minimally processed foods, (i.e., hunters and gatherers), presumably with no trade networks. More recent research indicates these people may have been more sedentary, relied on some processed foods, and traded (Rosenthal et al. 2007). Populations likely consisted of small groups traveling frequently to gather food and resources.

**Archaic Period:** This period was characterized by evidence of increased plant use, more elaborate burial accoutrements, and increase in trade network complexity (Bennyhoff and Fredrickson 1994). The three divisions that correspond to prehistoric climate change are characterized by the following aspects (Rosenthal et al. 2007):

- **Lower Archaic Period**—characterized by cycles of widespread floodplain and alluvial fan deposition. Artifact assemblages from this period include chipped stone crescents and early wide-stemmed points, marine shell beads, eastern Nevada obsidian, and obsidian from the north Coast Ranges. These types of artifacts found on sites dating to this period indicate trade was occurring in multiple directions. A variety of plant and animal species were also utilized, including acorns, wild cucumber, and manzanita berries.
- **Middle Archaic Period**—this period is characterized by a drier climate period. Rosenthal et al. (2007:153) identified two distinct settlement/subsistence patterns in this period: the Foothill Tradition and the Valley Tradition. Functional artifact assemblages, consisting primarily of locally sourced flaked-stone and groundstone cobbles, characterize the foothills tradition, while the Valley Tradition was generally characterized by diverse subsistence practices and extended periods of sedentism.
- **Upper Archaic Period**—this period is characterized by abrupt change to wetter and cooler environmental climate conditions. Much greater cultural diversity is evident from this period. More specialized artifacts, such as bone tools, ceremonial blades, polished and groundstone plummets, saucer and saddle *Olivella* shell beads, *Haliotis* shell ornaments, and a variety of groundstone implements are characteristic of this period.

**Emergent Period:** This period is most notably marked by the introduction of the bow and arrow, the emergence of social stratification linked to wealth, and more expansive trade networks signified by the presence of clam disk beads that were used as currency (Moratto 1984). It is characterized by the appearance of small projectile points (largely obsidian), rimmed display mortars, flanged steatite pipes, flanged pestles, and chevron-designed bird-bone tubes. Large mammals and small seeded resources appear to have made up a larger part of the diet during this period (Fredrickson 1968; Meyer and Rosenthal 1997).

## Ethnohistoric Setting

The project area is situated near the nexus of the Plains Miwok and Nisenan (sometimes referred to as the Southern Maidu) tribal territories.

The Nisenan territory includes the drainages of the Yuba, Bear, and American rivers, and the lower drainages of the Feather River, extending from the crest of the Sierra Nevada to the banks of the Sacramento River and south to the Cosumnes River. In the Nisenan territory, several political divisions, constituting tribelets, each had their own respective headmen who lived in the larger villages. However, it is not known which of these larger population centers wielded more influence than others, although they were all located in the foothill areas. In general, more substantial and permanent Nisenan villages were not established on the valley plain between the Sacramento River and the foothills, although this area was used as a rich hunting and gathering ground (Kroeber 1925; Wilson and Towne 1978).

Plains Miwok territory includes riverine fishing, hunting and resource gathering areas at the lower reaches of the Mokelumne and Cosumnes Rivers and both banks of the Sacramento River from Rio Vista to Freeport. The territory was largely a flat plain of four distinct physiographic divisions. These are alluvial plains, delta marshland, river channels, and upland ridges, and the flora and fauna of these divisions would have provided ample resources. The Plains Miwok practiced an intensive food collecting subsistence strategy based primarily on plant food, particularly the acorn. Hunting and fishing, though practiced, appeared to have been of secondary importance (Bennyhoff 1977).

The project area is within an approximately 300-square-mile Tribal Cultural Landscape (TCL), called the "Tosewin District," described as a "landscape of survivance" where displaced Native Americans congregated during the Gold Rush period. Sited east from Sacramento, south from Folsom, and between the American and Consumnes rivers, this area served as a refuge from Rancho and mining displacement, disease, forced labor, and violence inflicted on Native Americans by colonizers. The Walltown Indian camp at the Walltown Mining District, and a larger village two miles to the south on Deer Creek were the main settlements at Tosewin and were approximately 11.5-miles and 11-miles northeast from the project area, respectively. The village on Deer Creek was abandoned by the early 1870s, followed by Walltown the next decade as tribal members continued to move further east (County of Sacramento 2025: 14-14 to 14-17; Payen 1961: 1-2, 17-18).

In addition to being a "landscape of survivance," the Tosewin District TCL is also associated with traditional sacred origin stories and their related viewsheds. One origin tale describes how the first people came into being on top of the mountain and lived immortal and without need for resources. Coyote led them away from the mountain to creeks below the American River. They bathed in the creek and became mortals and now had to learn to make baskets and harvest acorns, and the general area is where they first did this (Burril 1988 in County of Sacramento 2025: 14-19).

The Tosewin District TCL was found eligible for listing in the CRHR in 2025 and is a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA (see evaluation below):

"The Tosewin TCL, is directly associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage (CRHR Criterion 1). Specifically, the landscape was vital in the maintenance of traditional tribal lifeways during a period of major upheaval for the Sacramento Valley and foothills indigenous population and is also important in ethnic heritage and sacred origin stories. Contributing elements of the Tosewin TCL include habitation sites, resource collection and

processing sites, burial sites, travel routes/paths, specific locations (e.g., Coyote Creek) related to sacred origin stories, viewsheds related to these stories (e.g., viewshed of Mount Diablo), as well as animal and plant communities (including native oak woodlands and “heritage trees”) that are considered sacred and necessary for passing down indigenous traditions and customs. The Tosewin TCL is also directly associated with the lives of individuals who made an important contribution to the past (CRHR Criterion 2). Specifically, Coyote Spirit (an important spiritual figure prominent in various festivals and ceremonies) is associated with locations across the landscape. As described in the revised National Register Bulletin 38 (which is specifically developed to assist with evaluation under the National Historic Preservation Act but is a credible and relevant source of guidance in the County’s consideration of the Tosewin TCL) “‘persons’ can refer to a physical human being whose existence in the past can be documented from historical, ethnographic, or other research, as well as an ancestor or spirit who features in the traditions of a group. Criterion B [equivalent to CRHR Criterion 2, in this case] is intended to be applied to a place associated with a specific person—or ancestor or spirit—not a general group like ‘the ancestors’.” (NPS 2023: 60). Finally, the Tosewin TCL appears significant for its potential to yield information important to the history and prehistory of California (Criterion 4). Aside from the archaeological sites identified within the Tosewin District...which are assumed eligible as historical resources with the potential to yield important archaeological data... as well as being eligible as TCRs, other as yet undefined portions of Tosewin have the potential to yield important information through ethnographic, archeological, sociological, folkloric, or other studies. Through ongoing tribal interaction with the landscape, the Tosewin TCL has the potential to continue to provide important ethnographic and historic information about the integral relationship between the landscape and the Tribes.

Large portions of the Tosewin TCL do not retain sufficient integrity. Large swaths of the TCL, primarily along the American River corridor, have been altered through modern development (e.g., the communities of Carmichael, Rancho Cordova, etc.) impacting many of the traditional contributing elements described above. Despite this, the southern and eastern portions of the TCL...remain relatively undeveloped (other than disparate agricultural and historic mining areas) and retain sufficient integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association, to convey the historic sense of place of this natural landscape.

The CRHR and the NRHP require definition of the “period of significance” for an eligible resource (i.e., the time period during which the resource is associated with significant events or attained significance). As stated in the revised draft National Register Bulletin 38, “Since significance to a living community in the present is a key characteristic of a... TCP, the period of significance of a TCP must extend to the present and may continue into the future. However, determining the ‘starting point’ of a period of significance for a TCP may be challenging” (NPS 2023: 109). Numerous examples are given in Bulletin 38 of TCP associated with sacred origin stories and the perpetuation of cultural traditions “where no specific starting date is readily identified, the recommended phrase for nomination is ‘time immemorial to the present’” (NPS 2023: 113). Although the Tosewin TCL is directly related to the landscape of survivance, sites like Walltown, and individuals like Rabbit George, all of which gained significance during the historic-era, associations with sacred locations and viewsheds (like the Coyote and Mount Diablo origin stories) and the importance of the region to living descendants, suggest that the period of significance for Tosewin is indeed time immemorial to the present” (County of Sacramento 2025: 14-30 to 14-31).

The project area is also approximately 10 miles from the community of Rancho Murieta. Near the present community of Rancho Murieta a village called ‘Palamana’ once existed. An isolated mound of earth is located in Rancho Murieta, which is a symbol of native California’s mythic heritage. According to mythology and oral literature, this mound of earth was formed by the coils of a giant snake ‘hiiki’ (Bibby 2005).

Oral tradition and stories shared by the Elders of the Wilton Rancheria indicate that the general alignment of Jackson Road/Highway 16 was used as travel route for the Native American Peoples of the area.

## **Contemporary Native American Setting**

Today, Tribes are actively involved in defining their role as stewards of their ancestral sites and homelands including subject matter expertise on the identification of TCRs. TCRs represent areas of cultural significance that are rooted in or contribute to cultural practices, traditional stories, traditional knowledge, and cultural identity. TCRs provide the backdrop to religious understanding, traditional stories, knowledge of resources such as varying landscapes, bodies of water, animals and plants, and self-identity. Knowledge of place is central to the continuation and persistence of culture, even if former Tribal occupants live removed from their traditional homeland. Tribal groups view these interconnected sites and places as living entities; their associations and feelings persist and connect with descendant communities.

Historically, archaeologists focused on traditional Native American culture and ignored the active and vibrant current culture. This approach ignored the set of values maintained by the current Native American community related to their history and the landscape. Tribes view themselves as contemporary stewards of their culture and the landscape, representing a continuum from time immemorial to the present. They are resilient, vibrant, and active in the community. Tribes maintain their connection to their history and ongoing culture by practicing traditional ceremonies, engaging in traditional practices (e.g., basketry), and contributing to public education and interpretation. California has acknowledged the importance and contributions of Native American history, traditional knowledge and cultural practices, as well as the persistence of Tribes and the Tribal community via Executive Orders B-10-11 and N-15-19.

Of the Tribes contacted to consult on this project, Wilton Rancheria asked to consult. The following provides a summary of the Tribe's current status.

### **Wilton Rancheria**

Members of Wilton Rancheria are descendants of the Penutian linguistic family identified as speaking the Miwok dialect. The Tribe's indigenous territory encompasses Sacramento, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Amador, and Calaveras Counties. Between March 1851 and January 1852, three federally appointed Indian treaty commissioners hastily negotiated eighteen treaties with representatives of some of the indigenous population in California. The Treaty of the Forks of the Cosumnes River ceded the lands on which the Wilton Rancheria in Sacramento County was later established, but promised to establish a rancheria on the Cosumnes River (Wilton Rancheria 2024).

The Tribe's ancestors came back from nearly being annihilated only to have their children taken to boarding schools that stripped their indigenous language and culture further. Finally, in July 1928, the United States acquired land in trust for the Miwok people that were living in Sacramento County. A 38.77-acre tract of land in Wilton was purchased from the Cosumnes Company which formally established the Wilton Rancheria. However, under the California Rancheria Act of 1958, the federal government terminated federal recognition of the Tribe in 1964 (Wilton Rancheria 2024).

In 1991, surviving members of Wilton Rancheria reorganized their tribal government and in 1999 requested the United States formally restore their federal status. A United States District Court Judge restored Wilton Rancheria as a Federally Recognized Tribe in 2009. It is the only federally recognized tribe in Sacramento County, with its administration office located in the City of Elk Grove (Wilton Rancheria 2024).

In May 2024, Wilton Rancheria purchased 77-acres of their original Rancheria land that was taken from them by the federal government in 1959 after enactment of the California Rancheria Act of 1958. The Tribe plans to use the land to establish a community and cultural center, as well as teach non-natives about their history and who they are today (Sacramento Bee 2024 May 14).

## Historical Setting<sup>1</sup>

### Sacramento County History

Highway 16, also called Jackson Road, was initially developed in the late 1840s as a route from Sacramento to the mining trading center of Jackson in Amador County, and to foothill gold camps. Rural farmsteads developed along this “Sacramento and Jackson Road” within Brighton Township beginning in the 1850s. Historically, land ownership in Brighton Township ranged from 160 to 500 acres with stock raising, hay, and grain as the primary focus of the agriculture in the area, and into the twentieth century, small acreages of vineyards and orchards were planted with limited success when compared to other parts of Sacramento County. The Sacramento and Jackson Road was paved in 1907, which spurred additional development in the region with an improved transportation route; however, the roadway was not brought into the state highway system until the 1950s when adopted by the Department of Transportation as State Route 16. Beginning in the 1920s and continuing into the post-World War II period, smaller farms with rural residential homes sprang up along Jackson Road as the historically larger parcels were sold off and divided (Britton & Rey 1885; USGS 1911; JRP 1996:2-6; UCSB 1937).

In the post-World War II period, the character of Jackson Road corridor in the area has shifted from primarily scattered farmsteads engaged in agriculture to a mixture of light industrial, surface mining, cemeteries, large church/community centers, small acreage rural residential development, and equestrian properties. The route continues as a heavily trafficked transportation corridor connecting smaller communities in rural Sacramento and Amador counties to the city of Sacramento (Nationwide Environmental Title Search 2019; UCSB 1961; UCSB 1952; UCSB 1981).

### Assembly Bill 52 Native American Consultation

On February 27, 2024, SMUD sent Assembly Bill (AB) 52 notification letters about the proposed project to four Tribes: Wilton Rancheria, Lone Band of Miwok Indians (IBMI), Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians (SSBMI), and United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria (UAIC). At the time, the proposed project did not include the overhead line corridor work. Wilton Rancheria emailed SMUD Environmental Specialist Sarah Ahmed on December 17, 2024 to inquire about a tribal member accompanying the AECOM archaeologist during the cultural survey on January 6, 2025.

After adding the overhead line corridors to the proposed project, SMUD re-sent AB 52 consultation letters to the same four Tribes on October 21, 2025. Wilton Rancheria responded via email on October 28, 2025 formally requesting AB 52 consultation. SMUD subsequently held four AB 52 project meetings with Wilton Rancheria on December 1, 2025, December 17, 2025, January 15, 2026, and February 12, 2026. The meetings included discussions of project scope and schedule, sharing locational project files with the Tribe, sending copies of previous and current cultural resources reports prepared for the project, and adding suggested ethnohistoric setting into the current cultural resources report. Consultation with Wilton Rancheria is on-going.

No responses were received from IBMI during the 30-day consultation period. An email from UAIC was received on December 1, 2025, after the 30-day consultation period, that based on their tribal geographic information system there were no identified TCRs or cultural sensitivity. Lastly, an email from SSBMI was received on December 11, 2025 after the 30-day consultation period that the Tribe did not wish to consult on the project.

### Summary of Records Search Results

SMUD refined the proposed substation project in April 2024, but had yet to add the proposed overhead line corridors. Due to the passage of time, a new records search of the two adjacent proposed substation parcels with a 0.25-mile search radius was conducted on April 30, 2024 at the NCIC. The results of the

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from AECOM, 2019, “10590 Jackson Road – Cultural Resources Memorandum.” Report on file at AECOM, Sacramento, CA.

records search identified the same two previously recorded cultural resources from the 2019 records search results reported in AECOM's 2019 cultural resources report, P-34-002106 and P-34-004822, and a newly identified resource within the property boundary of 6037 Excelsior Road (Assessor Parcel Number [APN] 067-0050-039), P-34-005324 (NCIC File No. SAC-24-66). The newly identified resource within the property boundary of 6037 Excelsior Road, P-34-005324, is a pair of black locust trees that were recorded in 2017, and it is unknown why this recordation was not included as part of the 2019 search results.

After the April 2024 NCIC records search and subsequent January 2025 pedestrian survey by AECOM, SMUD revised the proposed project to include linear proposed overhead line corridors extending east, west, and south of the proposed substation. The revised project footprint, including the proposed overhead line work, were utilized to review the September 2025 NCIC records search results and SMUD shared the three previously recorded cultural resources records (P-34-002106, P-34-004822, and P-34-005324), as well as five additional resources that intersect the proposed overhead lines (P-34-001627, P-34-002474, P-34-005303, P-34-005339, and P-34-005400) with AECOM (NCIC File No. SAC-25-36) (see **Table 1**).

**Table 1: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources in the Project Area**

| Primary No. | Resource Type | Description                                  | NRHP Eligibility/CRHR Significance |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| P-34-002106 | Historic      | Eleven Mile House (Stage Stop)               | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-005324 | Historic      | Domestic Vegetation (Two Black Locust Trees) | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-001627 | Historic      | Concrete trough                              | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-002474 | Historic      | Concrete box culvert bridge                  | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-004822 | Historic      | Power Transmission Line                      | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-005303 | Historic      | Ohio House/Ten Mile House                    | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-005339 | Historic      | McManus Ranch (site only)                    | Not Evaluated                      |
| P-34-005400 | Historic      | Walsh's Station Area Site                    | Not Evaluated                      |

Notes: Cultural resource documentation is on file at the NCIC

CRHR = California Register of Historical Resources

NCIC = North Central Information Center

NRHP = National Register of Historic Places

Source: NCIC 2019, 2024, 2025; Data compiled by AECOM 2025

The locations of the previously documented cultural resources in relation to the proposed substation site and overhead line corridors are depicted in Attachment A.

### January 2025 Survey Results

Based on the project description and April 2024 NCIC records search and the AB 52 Notification letters sent by SMUD in February 2024, AECOM Archaeologist Zenzi Moore-Dawes, accompanied by Wilton Rancheria Tribal Monitor Tacante Thomas, conducted a pedestrian survey on the proposed substation parcels APN 067-0050-039 and 067-0050-040 on January 6, 2025. Fifteen-meter parallel transects were utilized to cover the proposed substation project site. Overall surface visibility was low due to dense grass and pools of water. No cultural materials were observed during this survey.

### December 2025 Survey Results

Subsequent to the project revision with the proposed overhead line corridor and the updated records search results, AECOM archaeologists Kenny Robertson and Katie Sage conducted a pedestrian archaeological survey on the proposed substation parcels APN 067-0050-039 and 067-0050-040, the proposed overhead line corridors, and re-located the previously recorded cultural resources within the proposed substation site and overhead line corridors, on December 5, 2025. No new cultural resources were observed or required recordation.

The entire survey area was generally level, with 10-20% ground visibility due to vegetation growth from recent precipitation, and foliage cover typical of the fall/winter season. Vegetation consisted of grasses, pines, oaks, small shrubs as well as non-native trees and grasses from landscaping. Modern- and indeterminate-aged drainages were noted along Jackson Road. Gravel was present on the surface alongside Jackson Road and native soil was a brown clay loam. Modern trash and indeterminate-aged clay fragments and bottle glass fragments were also observed throughout the survey area along Jackson Road.

Fifteen-meter parallel transects were utilized to cover the proposed substation site. The survey area was generally level, with 10% ground visibility due to vegetation growth from recent precipitation, foliage cover typical of the fall/winter season, and pools of water (**Photograph 1** and **Photograph 2**). Spoils piles are located at the southwest corner of the proposed substation site and a previously recorded transmission line cuts through the south end of the proposed substation site (**Photograph 3**).



**Photograph 1.** Overview of northeast corner of substation Project Site facing east, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 2.** Overview of northwest corner of substation Project Site near intersection of Jackson and Excelsior Roads, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 3.** Overview of spoils piles at southwest corner of substation Project Site facing east, with transmission line P-34-04822, at far right, December 5, 2025.

All of the previously recorded resources were revisited by AECOM archaeologists, but none of the site records were updated as part of the survey effort. The following provides a brief description of the previously documented resources and the associated Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms are presented in Attachment B.

**P-34-001627:** This resource is a concrete water trough that was recorded in 2006. It appears in a similar condition to the previous recordation (**Photograph 4**).



**Photograph 4.** Overview of P-34-001627, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-002106:** This archaeological site, the Eleven Mile House, was an early stage and wagon stop on the Gold Rush-era Jackson Road, and was previously recorded in 2007 and 2016. Extant features consist of a stone foundation that appears to partially extend into the Jackson Road right of way, and a modern corral (**Photograph 5** and **Photograph 6**). No other artifacts were observed.



**Photograph 5.** Overview of stone foundation and corrals at P-34-002106, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 6.** Overview of stone foundation and corrals at P-34-002106, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-002474:** This resource is a concrete box culvert bridge that was previously recorded in 1979. It appears in a similar condition to the previous recordation (**Photograph 7**).



**Photograph 7.** Overview of P-34-002474, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-04822:** This resource is the Gold Hill-Eight Mile Road 230 kilovolt (kV)/Gold Hill-Lodi STIG 230kV double-circuit line that was previously recorded in 2013 and 2014. It consists of two parallel sets of high voltage electrical transmission lines on lattice-type towers. It appears in a similar condition to the previous recordations (**Photograph 8**).



**Photograph 8.** Overview of P-34-004822 with Jackson Road at far right, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-005303:** This resource was the Ohio House/10 Mile House at 10320 Jackson Road which was previously recorded in 2016. The recordation included a two-story Italianate-style residence, a two-story well house, and a concrete trough (recorded in 2006 and assigned P-34-001627) but the trough was not identified with its Primary number in the 2016 recordation of the Ohio House/10 Mile House. Since the 2016 recordation, the residence and two-story wellhouse burned and have been cleared from the property (**Photograph 9**). Modern trash and grasses obscure the surface, hard to see any artifacts that were present in the right-of-way mentioned in the 2016 site record. Observed one possible green glazed ceramic sherd and one bottle fragment.



**Photograph 9.** Overview of where the residence and well house previously stood, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-005324:** This resource is an ecofact and consists of two Black Locust trees planted along a fenceline in the Jackson Road right-of-way that was previously recorded in 2017. It appears in a similar condition to the previous recordation (**Photograph 10**).



**Photograph 10.** Overview of P-34-005324 with fenceline on far right, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-005339:** This site was the former McManus Ranch, which was established in 1876. An artifact scatter was recorded at this site in 2016 but was not observed during the December 2025 survey. The general area of scatter was overgrown with vegetation and modern trash was present (**Photograph 11**).



**Photograph 11.** Overview of P-34-005339 with Jackson Road and right-of-way at right, December 5, 2025.

**P-34-005400:** This resource, known as Walsh's Station Area Site, consists of three linear concrete foundations, an artifact scatter, and a concrete culvert. All three foundations were relocated as part of this survey (**Photograph 12 to Photograph 14**). The concrete culvert recorded at the site in 2020 as part of an update was relocated, but the western component has been partially destroyed (**Photograph 15**). The 2020 update did not relocate the artifact scatter, but several green bottle glass fragments with a maker's mark visible on one of them were observed at the western end of the site (**Photograph 16**).



**Photograph 12.** Overview of Foundation 1 at P-34-005400, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 13.** Overview of Foundation 2 at P-34-005400, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 14.** Overview of Foundation 3 at P-34-005400, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 15.** Detail of damaged culvert, originally recorded at P-34-005400 in 2020, December 5, 2025.



**Photograph 16.** Detail of glass scatter bottle glass fragments observed at the western end of P-34-005400, December 5, 2025.

## Summary

Based on a review of records search results from the NCIC and two pedestrian surveys in 2025 of the proposed substation site and the overhead line corridors, there are eight previously recorded historic-age cultural resources within the project area. No new cultural resources were observed during the two pedestrian surveys in 2025.

None of the previously recorded cultural resources have been evaluated for eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). There is no indication that any of these resources would rise to the level of significance required for eligibility in either register and none would be considered historical resources for the purposes of CEQA.

## Management Recommendations

If any unanticipated archaeological finds are made within the project area during project construction that are considered significant, a number of methods may be used to mitigate potential significant impacts. While avoidance through project redesign or some method of stabilization and preservation is the preferred method, in its absence, it is recommended that any potential impacts on unanticipated finds be mitigated through data recovery. It is also recommended that local Native American groups be consulted and their input solicited and considered in all aspects of such testing and mitigation as related to precontact resources.

If human remains are found, the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) requires excavation be halted in the immediate area and that the County coroner be notified to determine the nature of the remains. The coroner is required to examine all discoveries of human remains within 48 hours of receiving notice of a discovery on private or state lands (HSC 7050.5[b]). If the coroner determines that the remains are those of a Native American, he or she must contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) by telephone within 24 hours of making that determination (HSC 7050.5[c]).

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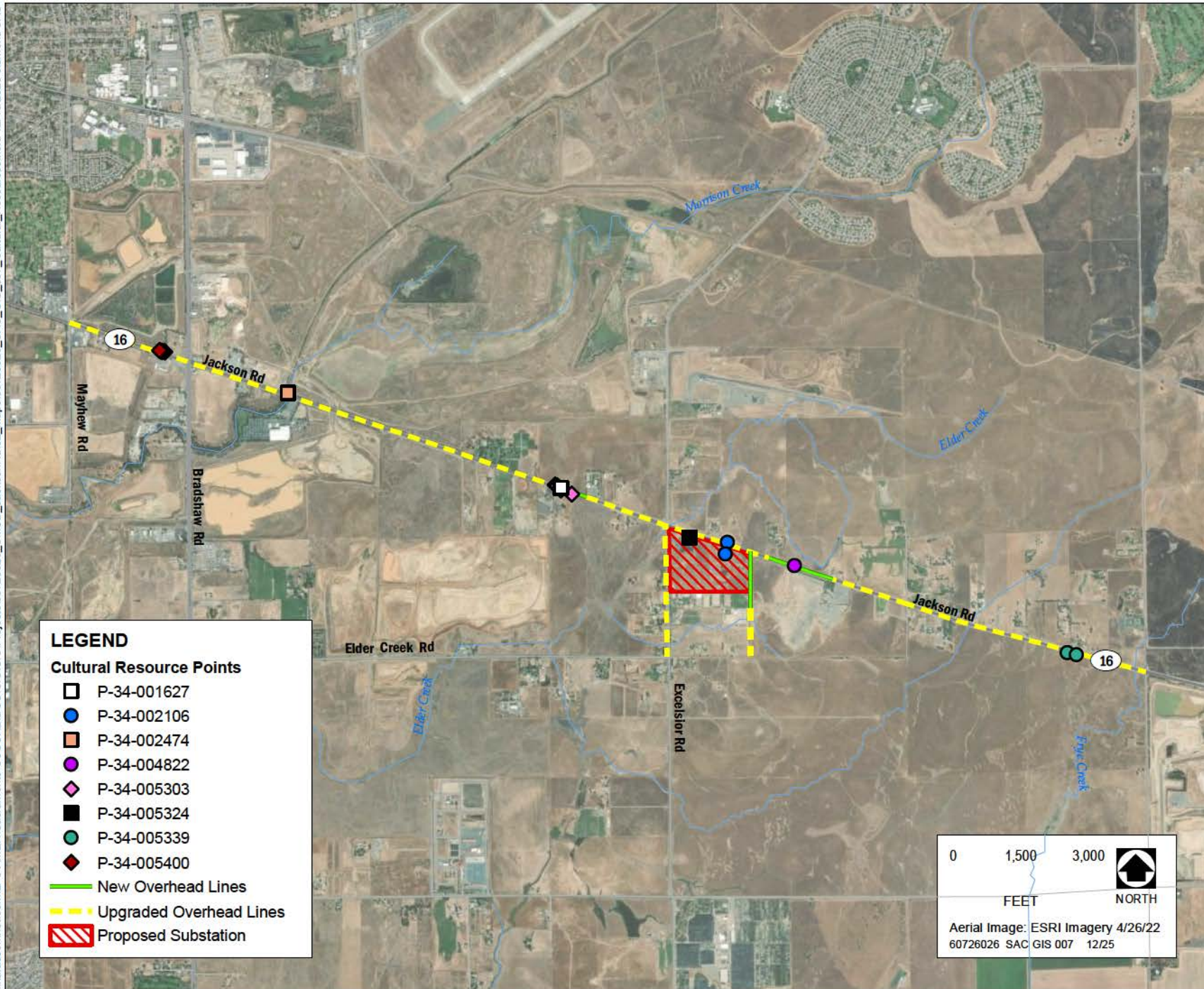
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## Acronyms

|       |                                                  |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------|
| AB    | Assembly Bill                                    |
| APN   | Assessor's Parcel Number                         |
| CEQA  | California Environmental Quality Act             |
| CHRIS | California Historic Resources Information System |
| CRHR  | California Register of Historical Resources      |
| HSC   | California Health and Safety Code                |
| kV    | kilovolt                                         |
| NAHC  | Native American Heritage Commission              |
| NCIC  | North Central Information Center                 |
| NRHP  | National Register of Historic Places             |
| SMUD  | Sacramento Municipal Utility District            |

**Attachment A**  
**Project and Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Map**



Source: SMUD 2025

**Attachment B (Confidential)**

**Department of Parks and Recreation Forms (Previously  
Documented Cultural Resources Within Project Area)**

