CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT, PROPOSED PLANNING STUDY AREA FOR THE TRAVER COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE, TULARE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

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Topographic Quadrangle: Traver, 7.5' (1971)
Area: ~640 acres (259 hectares)

(Keywords: *Tulare, Township 17S, Range 23E, Nutunutu Yokuts, '76 Land and Water Company, Charles Traver, Alta Irrigation District)*

INTRODUCTION

The County of Tulare is updating the Traver Community Plan and has requested that a cultural resources assessment be completed for the proposed planning study area. Provisions and implementing guidelines of the CEQA, as amended March 18, 2010, state that identification and evaluation of historical resources is required for any action that may result in a potential adverse effect on the significance of such resources, which include cultural resources.

This report presents the findings of a records search and windshield survey of the Traver Planning Area, and identification of potential cultural resources constraints on future development. The study area includes approximately 640 acres (259 hectares) and is located in northwest Tulare County along State Route 99, approximately 6 miles south of the Fresno/Tulare County boundary (Maps 1 and 2).

The study was completed by the Sierra Valley Cultural Planning (SVCP) Principal Investigator C. Kristina Roper. Ms. Roper has over 33 years of professional experience in the field of archaeology, historical research, specifically in the investigation and management of cultural resources within the context of local, state and federal regulatory compliance for projects in the Far West. Ms. Roper holds a Master's degree in Cultural Resources Management awarded in 1993 from Sonoma State University, and is certified as a Registered Professional Archaeologist.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

CEQA requires consideration of project impacts on archaeological or historical sites deemed to be "historical resources." Under CEQA, a substantial adverse change in the significant qualities of a historical resource is considered a significant effect on the environment. For the purposes of CEQA, a "historical resource" is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the CR (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Historical resources may include, but are not limited to, "any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (PRC §5020.1(j)).

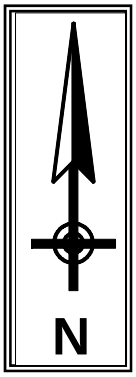
The eligibility criteria for the CR are the definitive criteria for assessing the significance of historical resources for the purposes of CEQA (Office of Historic Preservation n.d.). Generally, a resource is considered "historically significant" if it meets one or more of the following criteria for listing on the CR:

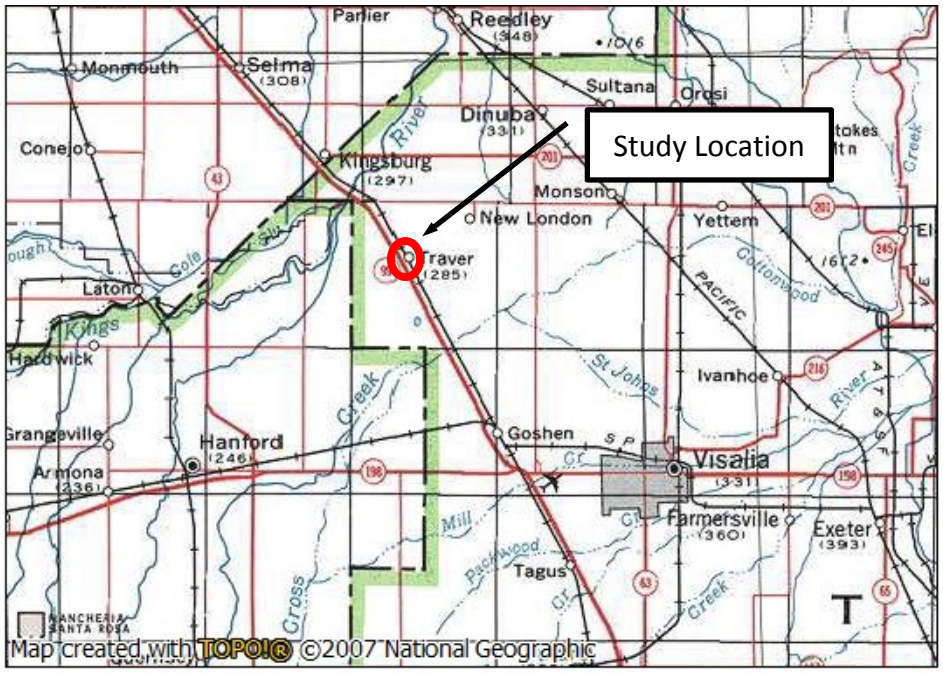
(1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
(2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
(3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
(4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1(c)).

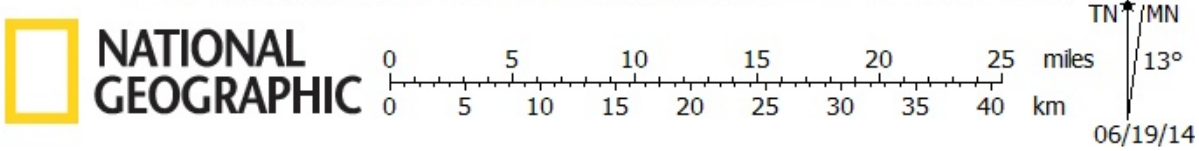
MAP 1. STUDY VICINITY

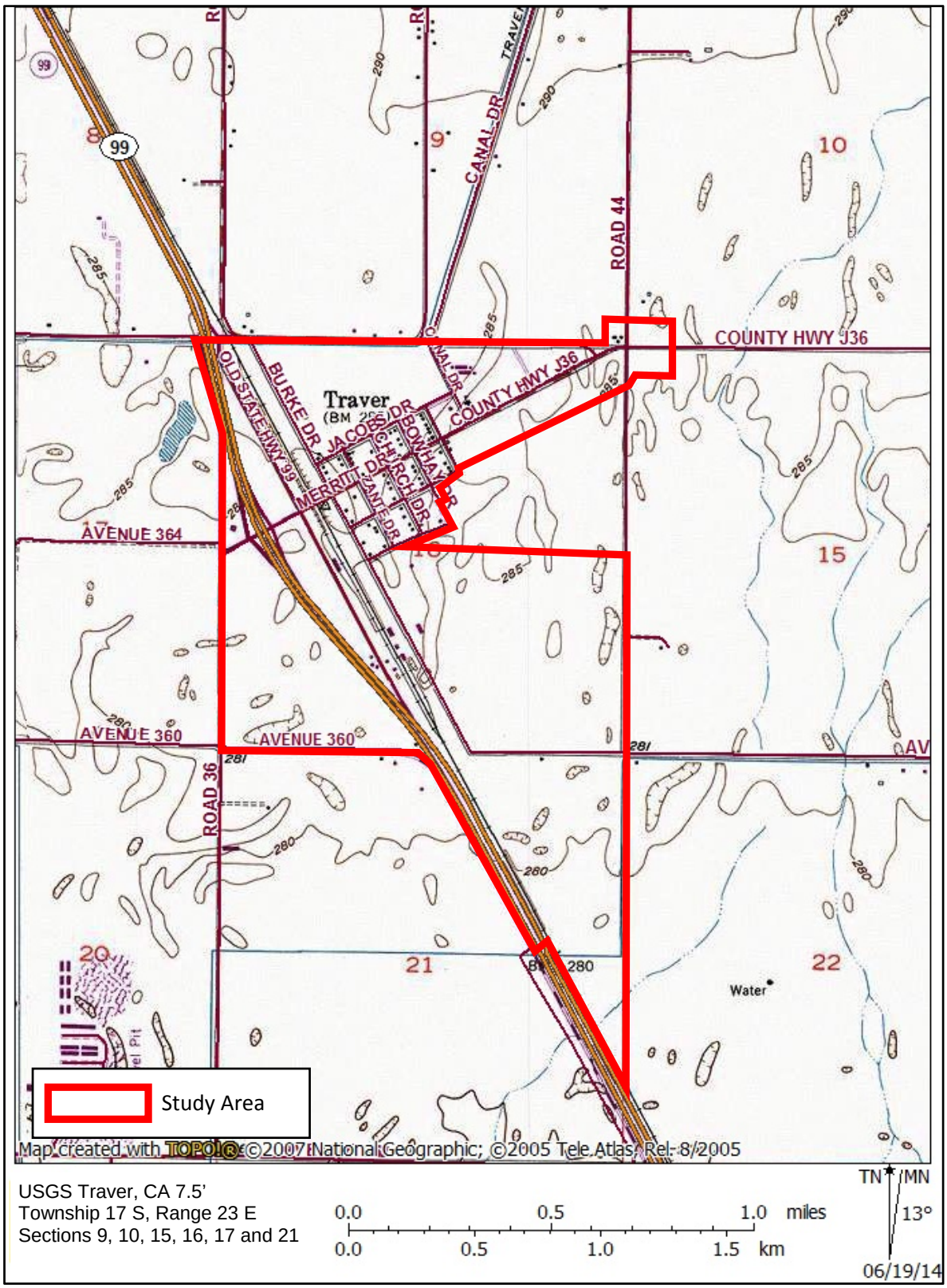
Traver Community Plan Update:
Cultural Resources

County of Tulare









Map 2. Traver Planning Study Area.

BACKGROUND

Prior to EuroAmerican exploration and settlement in the region, the central San Joaquin Valley was extensive grassland covered with spring-flowering herbs. Stands of trees -- sycamore, cottonwoods, box elders and willows -- lined the stream and river courses with groves of valley oaks in well-watered localities with rich soil. Rivers yielded fish, mussels, and pond turtles; migratory waterfowl nested in the dense tules along the river sloughs downstream. When the Spanish first set foot in the area, they found the deer and tule elk trails to be so broad and extensive that they first supposed that the area was occupied by cattle. Grizzly bears occupied the open grassland and riparian corridors on the valley floor and adjacent foothills. Smaller mammals and birds, including jackrabbits, ground squirrels, and quail were abundant. Native Americans occupants of the region describe abundant sedge beds, along with rich areas of deer grass, plants that figure prominently in the construction of Native American basketry items.

Prehistoric Period Summary

The San Joaquin Valley and adjacent Sierran foothills and Coast Range have a long and complex cultural history with distinct regional patterns that extend back more than 11,000 years (McGuire 1995). The first generally agreed-upon evidence for the presence of prehistoric peoples in the region is represented by the distinctive basally-thinned and fluted projectile points, found on the margins of extinct lakes in the San Joaquin Valley. These projectiles, often compared to Clovis points, have been found at three localities in the San Joaquin Valley including along the Pleistocene shorelines of former Tulare Lake. Based on evidence from these sites and other well-dated contexts elsewhere, these Paleo-Indian hunters who used these spear points existed during a narrow time range of 11550 cal B.C. to 8550 cal B.C. (Rosenthal et al. 2007).

As a result of climate change at the end of the Pleistocene, a period of extensive deposition occurred throughout the lowlands of central California, burying many older landforms and providing a distinct break between Pleistocene and subsequent occupations during the Holocene. Another period of deposition, also a product of climate change, had similar results around 7550 cal B.C., burying some of the oldest archaeological deposits discovered in California (Rosenthal and Meyer 2004).

The Lower Archaic (8550-5550 cal B.C.) is characterized by an apparent contrast in economies, although it is possible they may be seasonal expressions of the same economy. Archaeological deposits which date to this period on the valley floor frequently include only large stemmed spear points, suggesting an emphasis on large game such as artiodactyls (Wallace 1991). Recent discoveries in the adjacent Sierra Nevada have yielded distinct milling assemblages which clearly indicate a reliance on plant foods. Investigations at Copperopolis (LaJeunesse and Pryor 1996) argue that nut crops were the primary target of seasonal plant exploitation. Assemblages at these foothill sites include dense accumulations of handstones, millingslabs, and various cobble-core tools, representing “frequently visited camps in a seasonally structured settlement system” (Rosenthal et al. 2007:152). During the Lower Archaic, regional interaction spheres were well established. Marine shell from the central California coast has been found in early Holocene contexts in the Great Basin east of the Sierra Nevada, and eastern Sierra obsidian comprises a large percentage of flaked stone debitage and tools recovered from sites on both sides of the Sierra (Rosenthal et al. 2007:152).

About 8,000 years ago, many California cultures shifted the main focus of their subsistence strategies from hunting to nut and seed gathering, as evidenced by the increase in food-grinding implements found in archeological sites dating to this period. This cultural pattern is best known for southern California, where it has been termed the Milling Stone Horizon (Wallace 1954, 1978a), but recent studies suggest that the horizon may be more widespread than originally described and is found throughout the central region during the Middle Archaic Period. Dates

associated with this period vary between 9,000 and 2,000 cal BP, although most cluster in the 6,800 to 4,500 cal BP range (Basgall and True 1985).

On the valley floor, early Middle Archaic sites are relatively rare; this changes significantly toward the end of the Middle Archaic. In central California late Middle Archaic settlement focused on river courses on the valley floor. “Extended residential settlement at these sites is indicated by refined and specialized tool assemblages and features, a wide range of nonutilitarian artifacts, abundant trade objects, and plant and animal remains indicative of year-round occupation” (Rosenthal et al. 2007:154). Again, climate change apparently influence this shift, with warmer, drier conditions prevailing throughout California. The shorelines of many lakes, including Tulare Lake, contracted substantially, while at the same time rising sea levels favored the expansion of the San Joaquin/Sacramento Delta region, with newly formed wetlands extending eastward from the San Francisco Bay.

In contrast with rare early Middle Archaic sites on the valley floor, early Middle Archaic sites are relatively common in the Sierran foothills, and their recovered, mainly utilitarian assemblages show relatively little change from the preceding period with a continued emphasis on acorns and pine nuts. Few bone or shell artifacts, beads, or ornaments have been recovered from these localities. Projectile points from this period reflect a high degree of regional morphological variability, with an emphasis on local toolstone material supplemented with a small amount of obsidian from eastern sources. In contrast with the more elaborate mortuary assemblages and extended burial mode documented at Valley sites, burials sites documented at some foothill sites such as CA-FRE-61 on Wahtoke Creek are reminiscent of “re-burial” features reported from Milling Stone Horizon sites in southern California. These re-burials are characterized by re-interment of incomplete skeletons often capped with inverted millingstones (McGuire 1995:57).

A return to colder and wetter conditions marked the Upper Archaic in Central California (550 cal B.C. to cal A.D. 1100). Previously desiccated lakes returned to spill levels and increased freshwater flowed in the San Joaquin and Sacramento watershed. Cultural patterns as reflected in the archeological record, particularly specialized subsistence practices, emerged during this period. The archeological record becomes more complex, as specialized adaptations to locally available resources were developed and valley populations expanded into the lower Sierran foothills. New and specialized technologies expanded and distinct shell bead types occurred across the region. The range of subsistence resources utilized and exchange systems expanded significantly from the previous period. In the Central Valley, archaeological evidence of social stratification and craft specialization is indicated by well-made artifacts such as charmstones and beads, often found as mortuary items.

The period between approximately cal A.D. 1000 and Euro-American contact is referred to as the Emergent Period. The Emergent Period is marked by the introduction of bow and arrow technology which replaced the dart and atlatl at about cal A.D. 1000 and 1300. In the San Joaquin region, villages and small residential sites developed along the many stream courses in the lower foothills and along the river channels and sloughs of the valley floor. A local form of pottery was developed in the southern Sierran foothills along the Kaweah River. While many sites with rich archaeological assemblages have been documented in the northern Central Valley, relatively few sites have been documented from this period in the southern Sierran foothills and adjacent valley floor, despite the fact that the ethnographic record suggests dense populations for this region.

Ethnographic Summary

Prior to EuroAmerican settlement, most of the San Joaquin Valley and the bordering foothills of the Sierra Nevada were inhabited by speakers of Yokutsan languages. The present study area falls within the easternmost area of the *Nutunutu* Yokuts territory. The *Nutunutu*

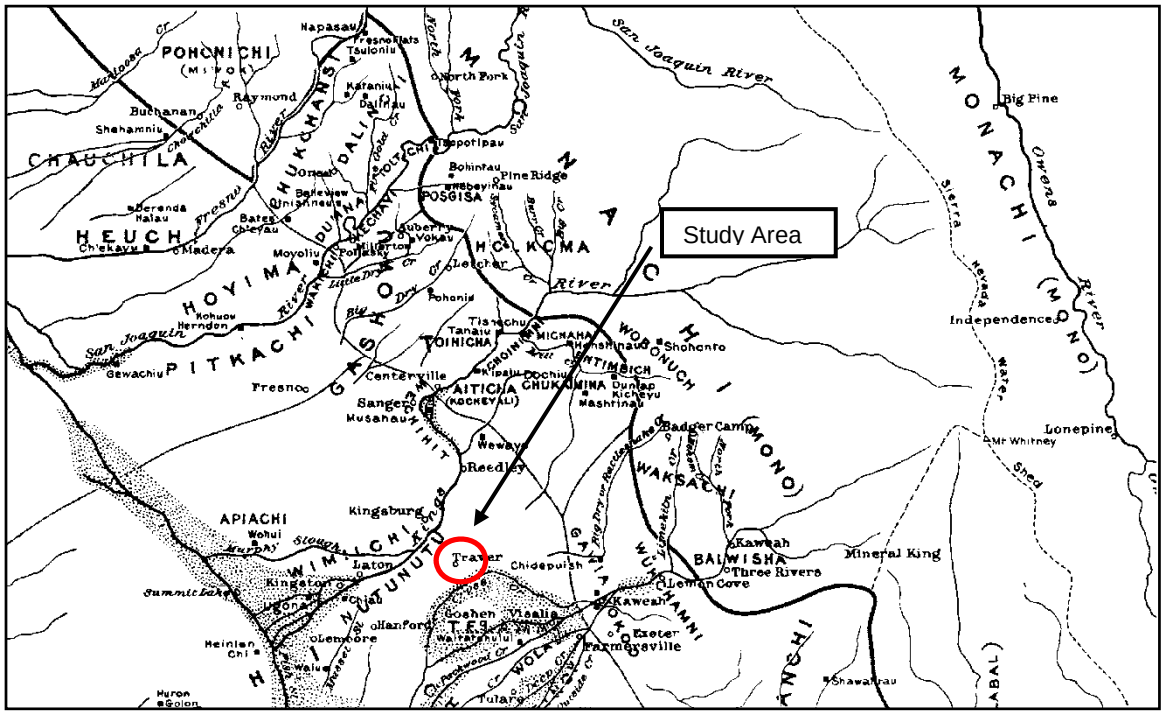


Figure 1. *Nutunutu* Territory relative to the Study Area (Kroeber 1925).

Yokuts occupied the area south of lower Kings River west of the study area, in a country formerly a mass of sloughs and swamps (Kroeber 1925:483).

Due to the abundance and diversity of wildlife habitats and plant communities within the Sierran foothills and nearby San Joaquin Valley and higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada, Native American population densities in the region were quite high (Baumhoff 1963). While the acorn was the dietary staple, the diversity of accessible natural resources provided an omnivorous diet. The reader is referred to Gayton (1948), Kroeber (1925), Latta (1999), and Wallace (1978b) for additional information on pre-contact Yokuts subsistence and culture. Figure 1 depicts the territory of the location of *Nutunutu* Yokut relative to the study area.

Historic Period Summary

The San Joaquin Valley was visited in the early 1800s by Spanish expeditions exploring the interior in search of potential mission sites. One of the earliest Americans to explore the Tulare area was Jedediah Strong Smith in 1826-27. In 1832-33 Colonel Jose J. Warner, a member of the Ewing-Young trapping expedition, passed through the San Joaquin Valley. Warner described Native villages densely packed along the valley waterways, from the foothills down into the slough area. The next year he revisited the area following a devastating malaria epidemic. Whereas the previous year the region had been densely occupied by Native peoples, during this trip not more than five Indians were observed between the head of the Sacramento Valley and the Kings River (Cook 1955).

EuroAmerican appreciation for the land did not include acceptance of its indigenous human populations, and pressure was exerted upon the US military to remove the Native population from the region, leaving the region open for American settlement and resource development. EuroAmerican settlement of the region began in 1851 with the establishment of Fort Miller on the San Joaquin River. Hostilities between Native inhabitants and American settlers

initially prevented widespread settlement of the region; however, by 1860 such threats had been reduced and settlers began taking up large tracts in the region.

In late 1849 or early 1850, a party under the leadership of John Wood settled on the south bank of the Kaweah River, about seven miles east of the present city of Visalia (Hoover et al. 1990:508). In April, 1852, Tulare County was created, with the county seat initially located at Woodsville. In 1853 the county seat was removed to Fort Visalia, located in the area bounded by Oak, Center, Garden and Bridge streets.

Many of the early EuroAmerican settlers in the region were successful gold miners, eager to settle in this new land and reinvest their profits. The earliest economic development of the area focused on cattle. Miller and Lux, the cattle kings, claimed ownership to hundreds of thousands of acres in the San Joaquin Valley. Agriculture, particularly winter wheat cultivation, gained importance following passage of the "No Fence" law of 1874 (Clough 1996:29). Crop production later shifted to orchard and vineyard crops, particularly oranges.

Conflicts between ranchers and farmers over water rights led to the passage of the Wright Act in 1887 (JRP 2000). The Wright Act enabled the creation of irrigation districts within the state. These districts were often controlled by large land owners and provided little relief to small farm owners. Later in the 1930s, state and federal government took on a much larger role in providing reliable water conveyance. In 1933 California voters approved the Central Valley Project, which called for construction of a huge system of canals and dams/reservoirs throughout the state. In 1935 the Federal government released funds for construction of the project, and two years later the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation was given authority to take over the project (JRP 2000:74). The Friant-Kern Canal was authorized for construction by Congress in the Central Valley Project Act of 1937, and the canal was built between 1945 and 1951. The Friant-Kern Canal conveys water from Lake Millerton to Bakersfield, covering a distance of 152 miles.

The following description of the history of Traver is taken directly from Hoover et al. *Historic Spots in California* (1990:512-513):

> *The traveler through the mining districts of California often comes upon ghost towns, tiny settlements that thrived for a few months or years before meeting an early death. A rare example of such a place in an agricultural region is Traver, some sixteen miles north of Tulare on SR 99.*
>
> *For intensive agriculture, is was realized, the San Joaquin Valley had to depend on irrigation. In 1882 Peter Y. Baker, a civil engineer, conceived the idea of a large irrigation project that would furnish water to some 130,000 acres of land on the south side of the Kings River in both Tulare and Fresno counties. Enough investors participated in the project to allow the newly formed corporation to acquire 30,000 acres. The corporation was called the 76 Land and Water Company, after the cattle brand of Senator Thomas Fowler, owner of part of the new holding and a principal stockholder. The main settlement of the project was named after Charles Traver, company director. The 76 or Alta Canal was built to bring water into this hitherto unplanted area, and the townsite was platted while railroads offered excursion rates to bring prospective settlers to the area.*
>
> *After some initial setbacks, Traver was soon in full swing. Annie Mitchel continues the story: "When the first contingent of buyers arrived on April 4, 1884, water was flowing through the canal. On that auspicious day the depot was the only completely finished building, but by the end of the days buyers had invested $65,000. Two months later Traver had two general stores, a drug store, a hardware*

store, two lumber yards, two hotels, two barber shops, two livery stables, three saloons, a postoffice, a school, an express office, a large Chinatown and a lively red light district.

"Fruit, grapes, vegetables and alfalfa did well, but basically Traver was a storage and shipping point for grain. Each of three warehouses held 30,000 tons of sacked grains. Most of the time they were filled and sacks of grains were piled outside and along the railroad right of way. Teamsters waited hours and even days to upload their wagons. By 1886 Traver was one of the largest grain shipping towns in the nation." Since the Bonanza gold rush days, very few California towns had boasted such rapid growth and apparent prosperity.

By a terrible irony, Traver was already beginning to die in the middle of this boom; in Annie Mitchell's words, "Traver was ruined by the same thing that created it – water." The soil was highly alkaline, and as intensive irrigation brought the alkali to the surface, virtually all of the plants were destroyed. Like a blight, the alkali spread until the fertile fields were a desert plain. At the same time, the railroad opened a new line on the eastern side of the valley, developing the new towns of Dinuba and Reedley. And in 1887 Traver experienced the first of five fires that discouraged settlers from remaining.

The removal of the Alta Irrigation District from Traver to Dinuba early in 1897 was the final blow to Traver's prosperity. Trade dropped off and the population decreased, many of the inhabitants moving to Dinuba or Reedley. "Many residences and one or more grain warehouses were moved over to the growing cities east of Traver, and the once prosperous, thriving community gradually settled into the state in which is exists today, a sleepy village with a few scattered buildings" (Small 1926:193).

In 2010 the population of Traver was noted as 713. The majority of residences are single family homes. A few buildings date to the early/middle1900s, although the vast majority of constructions appears to date to post 1960. Little above-ground evidence remains of the boom period of the late 1880s.

EXISTING RESOURCES

Records Search Results

Prior to a windshield survey of the study area, a records search was conducted by the author at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System at CSU Bakersfield to identify areas previously surveyed and identify known cultural resources present within or in close proximity to the study area. Two previously recorded historic-period sites have been recorded within the study area; two additional historic-period sites have been identified within one-half mile of the study area (Map 3).

There are no other resources within or in the immediate vicinity of the study area that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historic Resources, California Points of Historical Interest, State Historic Landmarks, or the California Inventory of Historic Resources.

Six cultural resources surveys have been completed within the study area; an additional study has been completed within one-mile of the study area (Map 4). All records search materials are included as Attachment A.

Cultural Resource Identification within the Traver Planning Study Area

Based on current information, there are two known cultural resource sites within or immediately adjacent to the study area. These include two non-Native American historic-era sites (See Map 3). No Native American resources have been identified within or in close proximity to the study.

P-54-002171

This resource includes an earthen canal flowing in an east/west direction. A wood and steel railroad trestle supports the railroad crossing over the canal. The canal feature is part of the historic 76 Canal built by the 76 Land and Water Company (now known as the raver Canal, part of the Alta Irrigation District) and is associated with agricultural development of the region. The resource was recorded in 1995 as part of the Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline Concord to Colton Project by William Self Associates.

P-54-002172

This resource includes two railroad spurs, a concrete reinforced 3-pipe culvert, a concrete railroad bridge, and an earthen canal. The earthen canal, identified as Banks Ditch on the Traver. CA, 7.5' topographic map, flows in an east/west direction under the railroad tracks and Highway 99, and is associated with agriculture, specifically vineyards and orchards. The resource was recorded in 1995 as part of the Santa Fe Pacific Pipeline Concord to Colton Project by William Self Associates.

Cultural Resources Identified Near the Traver Planning Study Area

P-54-002170

This site includes a small portion of old blacktop road, possibly a remnant of what is identified as an "old homestead road" on an historic topographic map.

P-54-004829

This site consist of a disturbed scatter of historic-era artifacts and a stand of non-native trees. The artifacts include clear, brown, green, cobalt and light blue glass; white improved earthenware; orange, turquoise, lime green, and blue ceramics; milk glass including canning jar lids and cold cream jars; decorated ceramics including several pieces with Chinese designs; a brick fragment, a shell button, and a glass marble. Non-native landscaping includes a Tree of Heaven. The site is highly disturbed due to agricultural disking.

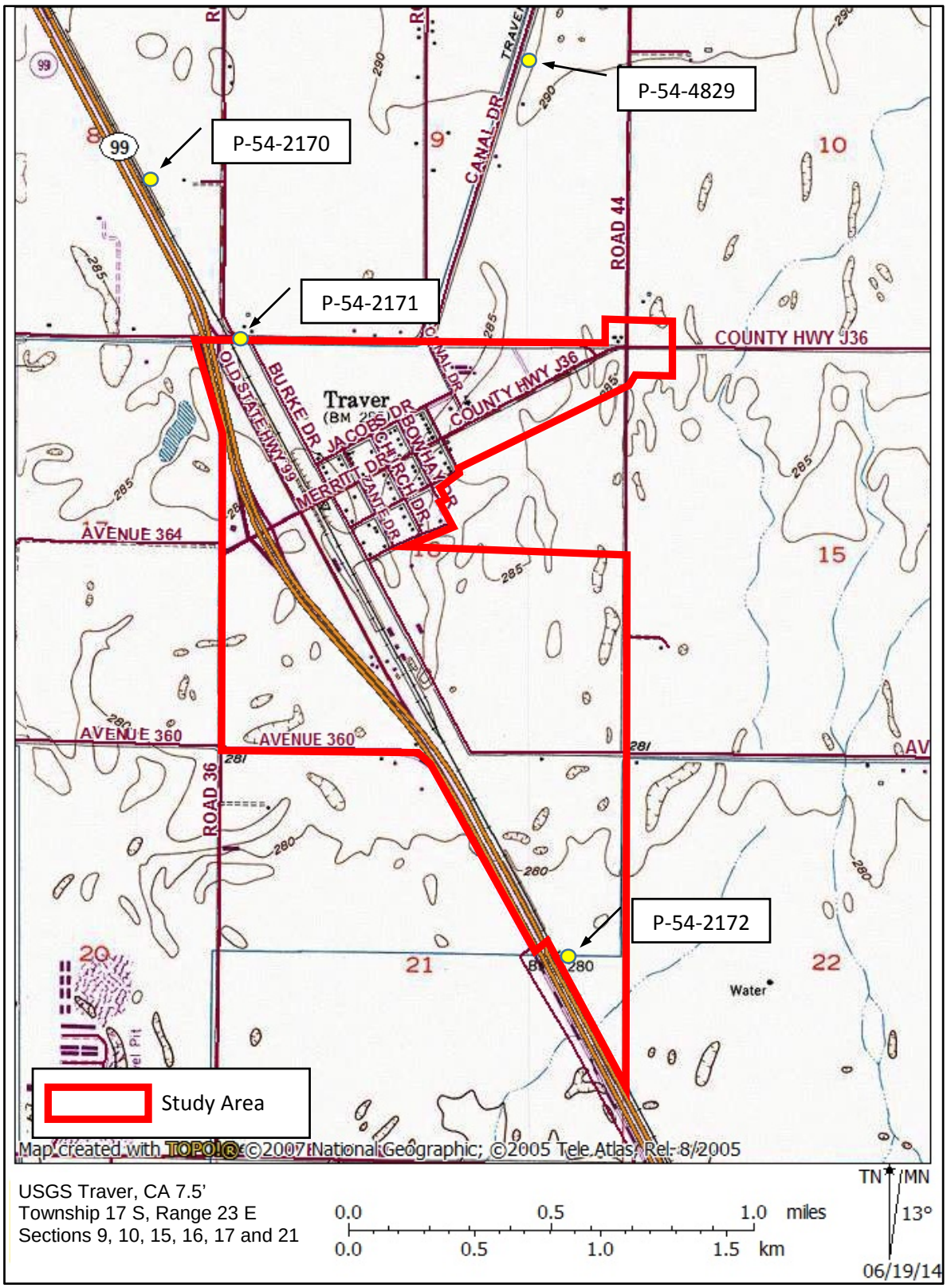
Previous Cultural Resource Investigations within the Study Area

Six cultural resource studies have been completed within the study area. One study has been completed within one-mile radius of the study area.

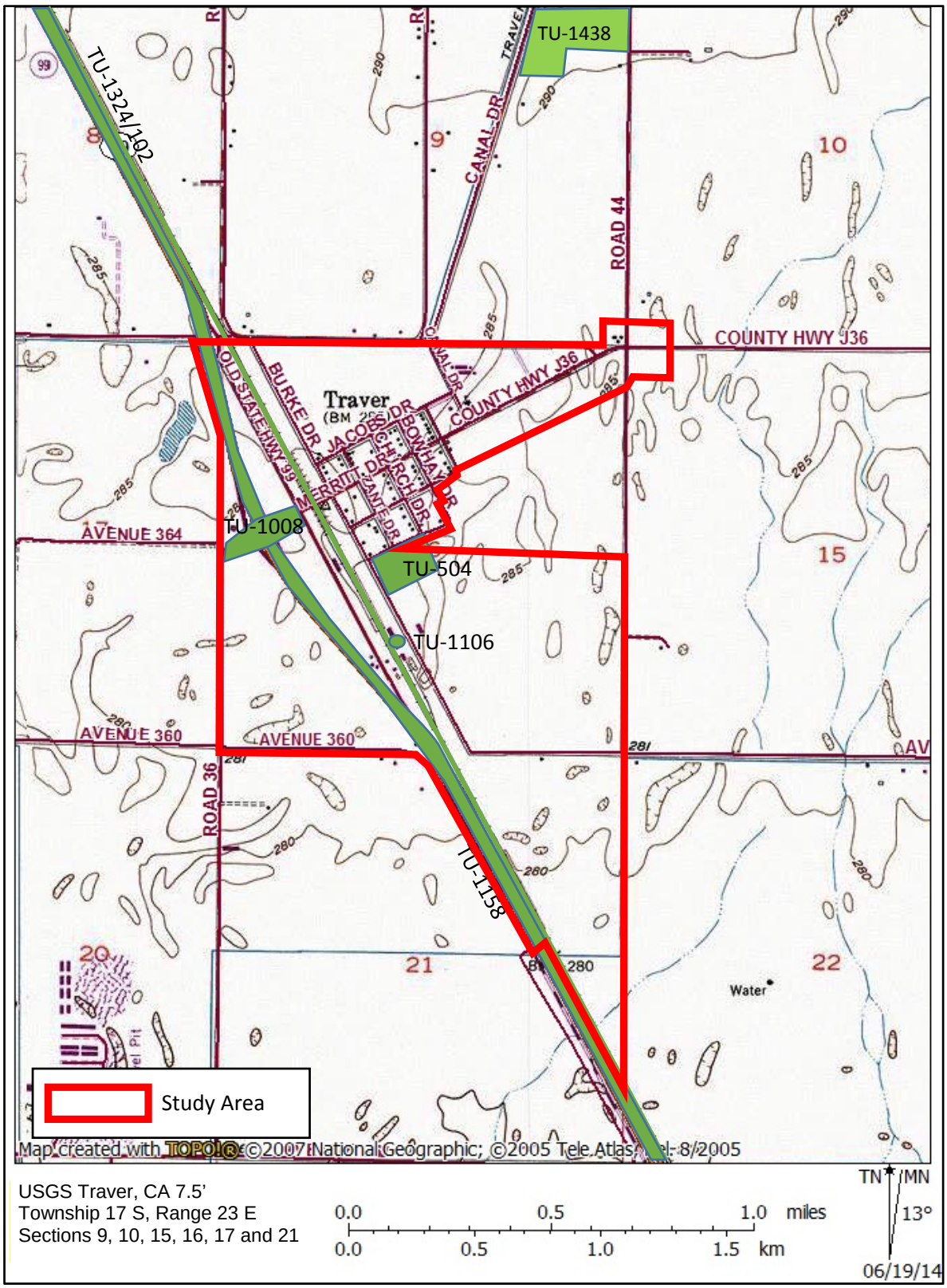
In 1978 an archaeological survey was completed of the proposed Traver Elementary School-Community Park (TU-504). The study was completed my Michael E. Thornton, Archaeologist with the Laboratory of Archaeology/Cultural Resources Facility at CSU Fresno. No resources were identified.

In 1995 Woodward-Clyde Consultants completed their report of a cultural resources inventory for the proposed Mojave Northward Expansion Project (TU-102). The survey route was along the existing railroad tracks which parallel State Route 99 on the east. Three historic-period resources were identified within the project area (P-54-002171 and -002172; see above). A third site was recorded north of the study area (P-54-002170).

In 1999 Caltrans District 6 Archaeologist Kevin Hovey completed an archaeological survey of the area of potential impact associated with the upgrade of bridge rails on the Merritt Avenue Overcrossing on State Route 99 (Bridge 46-0176; TU-1008). No resources were identified.



Map 3. Cultural Resources Identified within the Traver Planning Study Area Vicinity.



Map 4. Cultural Resource Studies completed within the Traver Planning Study Area Vicinity.

In 2000 EarthTouch LLC Historic Archaeologist Lorna Billat completed a cultural resources study of a Nextel Communications Wireless Telecommunications Service Facility located on Clarkson south of Traver (TU-1106). No resources were identified.

In 2003 an archaeological survey was completed of the Goshen/Kingsburg Six-Lane Project on State Route 99 (TU-1158). No resources were identified within or in close proximity as a result of this survey.

In 2010 Three Girls and a Shovel, LLC, recorded an historic-period artifact scatter (P-54-004829; see above) during a cultural resources assessment for the Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project northeast of Traver. The survey area included a portion of the Traver Canal which runs along Canal Drive. No report is on file at the Information Center other than the site record noted above.

Native American Consultation

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was contacted on 1 June 2014 in order to determine whether Native American sacred sites have been identified either within or in close proximity to the study area. The request was resent on June 16, 2014. No response has been received to date.

Windshield Survey of the Study Area

On June 12 the author completed a windshield survey of the study area to field check previously recorded resources and identify any structures and/or other features which may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources. As noted above, very few structures appear to date to the period prior to 1960, and many of these have been modified to include additions, aluminum windows, and other more modern features. Several structures, however, appear to date to the early 1900s and appear relatively unmodified. Examples are located at 36617 Burke and 36661 Baker. A red barn which appears to date to the early 1900s is located on Bullard west of Zante (see Figures 2a-c). Commercial and industrial structures all appear to be modern in construction.

Canal features are present within the study area; at least one canal follows the historic path of the ’76 Canal constructed in the 1880s.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

Cultural resources consist of significant and potentially significant prehistoric and ethnographic sites, historic and ethnographic resources, cultural material collections, and cultural landscapes. As noted above, based on current information, there are two known cultural resources sites within or adjacent to the Traver Planning Study Area. In addition to these a resources, a number of historic-era structures (older than 50 years in age) exist in the study area but have not been formally recorded.

Very little of the area within the Traver Planning rea has been surveyed, and documented resources likely exist. Utilization of the available data is integral to planning for future uses and activities and to determine the best management strategy for such resources at this phase of the planning process. All actions taken pursuant to the Traver Community Plan shall be planned and implemented in coordination with provisions and implementing guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended March 18, 2010, which states that identification and evaluation of historical resources is required for any action that may result in a potential adverse effect on the significance of such resources, which includes archaeological resources.

Figure 2a. Historic Structure, 36617 Burke

Figure 2b. Historic Structure, 36661 Baker

Figure 2c. Historic Barn, Bullard west of Zante

Once specific projects are planned, targeted studies can be conducted to avoid or minimize impacts to significant cultural resources.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are offered to ensure that cultural resources are afforded an appropriate level of protection and preservation, while also allowing for future planning and development:

- Incorporate within the Traver Community Plan the identification and management of potentially sensitive prehistoric and historic-period resources;
- Ensure that the local Native American communities are included in all planning and development activities;
- Conduct intensive cultural resources field inventories prior to development of specific projects that could disturb or destroy sensitive and significant cultural resources.

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PREPARER'S QUALIFICATIONS

C. Kristina Roper conducted the historical resources inventory and background research, and assisted in the preparation of this Archaeological Survey Report. Ms. Roper has over 30 years of professional experience in the field of archaeology, historical research and architectural evaluation, specifically in the investigation and management of cultural resources within the context of local, state and federal regulatory compliance for projects in the Far West. Ms. Roper holds a Master's degree in Cultural Resources Management awarded in 1993 from Sonoma State University, and is certified as a Registered Professional Archaeologist. She has completed graduate-level coursework in historical architectural evaluation and historic research. Her experience in cultural resources management includes both government and private sector employment and contracting for archaeological field services and historic research, documentation of resource assessments for Initial Studies (IS), Environmental Assessments (EA), Environmental Impact Reports (EIR), and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). Ms. Roper is a registered archaeologist with the California Historic Resources Information System.

Ms. Roper has participated in planning efforts with numerous governmental entities in the San Joaquin Valley. She has prepared heritage preservation ordinances for the City of Chowchilla, serves as advisory staff to the Chowchilla Heritage Preservation Commission, and has recently completed a multi-year survey and assessment of Chowchilla's built environment. Ms. Roper has prepared a cultural resources records search and sensitivity analysis to be used in the development of a revised General Plan for the City of Coalinga, Fresno County. Ms. Roper has consulted with Native American tribes in the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra foothills under Senate Bill 18 (SB 18), which applies to General Plans, Specific Plans, and amendments proposed on or after March 1, 2005. SB 18 expands CEQA for the protection of California's traditional tribal cultural places by requiring consultation with Native American Groups during these planning efforts to define resources and sacred areas and incorporate protection of these important resources into the planning process.

Ms. Roper has served as a Lecturer in Anthropology at California State University Fresno from 1995 to the present. Among her many courses taught is an upper division course in Cultural Resources Management which provides an overview of state and federal historic preservation law and the identification and evaluation of cultural resources. From 2002 through June of 2009, Ms. Roper served as Project Director for a services contract with the California Department of Transportation, District 6, Cultural Resources Branch, administered by the California State University Foundation. Ms. Roper supervised a team of cultural resources technicians who performed professional and technical services required by Caltrans for cultural resource studies. These included archaeological survey, title search for historic structures and properties, prehistoric and historic background research, excavation of archaeological sites, electronic data entry, and maintenance of confidential archaeological records and files.