3/2/2018 NCIC File No.: NEV-18-23

Dawn Zydonis
Nevada City Parks and Recreation Manager
317 Broad Street
Nevada City, CA 95959

Records Search Results for
Nevada City Old Airport

Dawn Zydonis:

Per your request received by our office on 3/2/2018, a complete records search was conducted by searching California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) maps for cultural resource site records and survey reports in Nevada County within a 1/4-mile radius of the proposed project area.

Review of this information indicates that the proposed project area contains zero (0) prehistoric-period resource(s) and zero (0) historic-period cultural resource(s). Additionally, four (4) cultural resources study reports on file at this office cover a portion of the proposed project area.

Outside the proposed project area, but within the 1/4-mile radius, the broader search area contains one (1) prehistoric-period resource(s) and seven (7) historic-period cultural resource(s): prehistoric bedrock mortars, mining and water conveyance features, and historic era walls. Additionally, nine (9) cultural resources study reports on file at this office cover a portion of the broader search area.

In this part of Nevada County, archaeologists locate prehistoric-period habitation sites "along streams or on ridges or knolls, especially those with southern exposure." (Moratto 1984:290) This region is known as the ethnographic-period territory of the Nisenan, also called the Southern Maidu. The Nisenan maintained permanent settlements along major rivers in the Sacramento Valley and foothills; they also periodically traveled to higher elevations (Wilson and Towne 1978:387-389). The proposed project search area is situated in the Sierra Nevada foothills about two-thirds of a mile north of Deer Creek. Given the extent of known cultural resources and the environmental setting, there is low potential for locating prehistoric-period cultural resources in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area.

Within the search area, the 1867 GLO plat of T16N, R8E shows evidence of nineteenth-century buildings, roads, and a ditch. The 1950 Nevada City 7.5' USGS topographical map shows evidence of twentieth-century buildings, structures, and paved and unpaved roads. There is also a historic monument indicating the presence of the remains of two people. Given the extent of known cultural resources and patterns of local history, there is high potential for locating historic-period cultural resources in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area.

SENSITIVITY STATEMENT:

1) With respect to cultural resources, it appears that the proposed project area **is sensitive**.

2) Should the lead agency/authority require a cultural resources survey, a list of qualified local consultants can be found at http://chrisinfo.org.

3) If cultural resources are encountered during the project, avoid altering the materials and their context until a qualified cultural resources professional has evaluated the project area. <u>Project personnel should not collect cultural resources</u>. Prehistoric-period resources include: chert or obsidian flakes, projectile points, and other flaked-stone artifacts; mortars, grinding slicks, pestles, and other groundstone tools; and dark friable soil containing shell and bone dietary debris, heat-affected rock, or human burials. Historic-period resources include: stone or adobe foundations or walls; structures and remains with square nails; mine shafts, tailings, or ditches/flumes; and refuse deposits or bottle dumps, often located in old wells or privies.

4) Identified cultural resources should be recorded on DPR 523 (A-J) historic resource recordation forms, available at http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1069.

5) Review for possible historic-period cultural resources has included only those sources listed in the referenced literature and should not be considered comprehensive. The Office of Historic Preservation has determined that buildings, structures, and objects 45 years or older may be of historical value. If the area of potential effect contains such properties not noted in our research, they should be assessed by an architectural historian before commencement of project activities.

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

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

Thank you for using our services. Please contact North Central Information Center at (916) 278-6217 if you have any questions about this record search. An invoice is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Paul Rendes, Assistant Coordinator
North Central Information Center