

Introduction

This analysis is a preliminary cultural resources sensitivity study based on secondary source materials related to the history, prehistory, and ethnography of Carmel Valley and Monterey County. This analysis assumes that any development on or near a cultural resource may have a significant impact on that resource. Archaeological resources are sensitive to direct impacts from development (e.g., damaging or otherwise compromising the potential for future preservation/study), while architectural and modern cultural resources may be subject to direct or indirect impacts (e.g., damage to structures or changes to their historic setting, respectively).

Due to the programmatic level of environmental analysis conducted for this project, no site-specific surveys or records searches were conducted in preparation of this EIR. Jones & Stokes reviewed the following literature sources to prepare the cultural resources section of this chapter.

- Brandman, Michael and Associates. 2006. Draft Program Environmental Impact Report: Monterey County General Plan 2006. Monterey County, CA. August 18, 2006.
- Breschini Archaeological Consulting. Preliminary Archaeological Reconnaissance for Rancho Cañada Community Partners Housing Site on a Portion of the Rancho Cañada Golf Club in Carmel, Monterey, CA. December 13, 2003.
- Breschini, G. and Mary Doane. Archaeological Consulting. Preliminary Archaeological Reconnaissance for Rancho Cañada Village Extension, Including portions of APN 015-162-016 and APN 015-162-037 in Carmel, Monterey, CA. July 28, 2005.
- Monterey County Municipal Code. Chapters 18.25 and 21.54.

Environmental Setting

The regional conditions for cultural resources consist of the prehistoric and historic contexts of the program vicinity. The following contexts summarize information published in previously prepared reports and other secondary sources.

Prehistoric Background

Recent research models and methods have expanded our knowledge of Central Coast prehistory. Sites such as CA-MNT-234, a prehistoric village site located in Monterey, near Moss Landing and SCR-177, in Scotts Valley, have allowed a tentative reevaluation of the prehistory of this region. For example, recent archaeological undertakings have revealed that the prehistory of this area is much older than originally suspected. The first occupation of the area is well documented around 7,000 B.P. (Before Present) however it is possible that occupation of this area is much older and may exceed 10,000 years (Moratto 1984).

South Bay and Central Coast prehistory is well documented between circa 7,000–5,000 B.P., and is summarized in *California Archaeology*, by Michael Moratto (1984). Many carbon 14 dates (C-14) have been established for this time period. The Monterey Peninsula appears to have been inhabited by hunting and gathering groups. Archaeological evidence of settlements in the hills and along the coast attest to these populations. The toolkits of these individuals tend to include large projectile points, and milling stones, domed scrapers, large utilized flake stones and many bone and shell tools. Archaeological remains such as these suggest an importance on both vegetal and animal subsistence strategies (Moratto 1984).

Between 4000 B.P. and 2000 B.P., the populations of the Central Coast undergo a significant change. A new distinctive pattern develops that is markedly influenced by the Berkeley Pattern. The Berkeley pattern is characterized by widespread use of minimally shaped cobble mortars and pestles, limited use of manos and metates, darts, atlatls, and an increased emphasis on bone tool use. The ratio of grinding implements to shell mounds suggest an emphasis on food gathering both terrestrial and marine, rather than hunting. Burials of this time period are flexed with limited utilitarian grave goods (Moratto 1984).

By 1500 B.P., the Berkeley Pattern transforms into the Augustine Pattern. The Augustine Pattern has attributes of the Berkeley Pattern and displays a shift from spear and atlatl to the use of the bow and arrow. The artifacts from this period demonstrate a proliferation of settlements, intensification of trade, use of clam shell disc beads for monetary exchange, and new levels of social and political complexity. This period is an example of the relationship between increased contact among resident populations and improved environmental conditions (Moratto 1984).

In summary, dates from sites on the Monterey Peninsula range from approximately 1240–480 years B.P. (Bean 1994). Artifacts reveal that the activities at these sites include the exploitation of marine mammals and intensive shellfish processing, and the use of terrestrial resources. Breschini and Haversat were not able to determine if these sites were occupied exclusively by local groups or if certain sites were occupied by inland groups on a seasonal basis. Breschini and Haversat conclude that all of the groups on the area probably had access to these sites at some point (Bean 1994).

Ethnographic Background

At the time of European contact, the San Francisco Bay Area and south to Monterey was occupied by a group of Native Americans whom ethnographers refer to as Ohlone (or Costanoans). The territory of the Ohlone people extended along the coast from the Golden Gate in the north to just beyond Carmel in the south, and up to 60 miles inland (Levy 1978). There is also evidence that the Esselen Tribe was the first group in Carmel Valley and then later got pushed into the inland mountains and south to Big Sur by the Ohlone. The Ohlone were hunter-gatherers who relied heavily on acorns and seafood. They also exploited a wide range of other foods, including various seeds (the growth of which was promoted by controlled burning), buckeye, berries, roots, land and sea mammals, waterfowl, reptiles, and insects (Bean 1994).

Seven Spanish missions were founded in Ohlone territory between 1777 and 1797. While living within the mission system, the Ohlone commingled with other groups, including the Esselen, Yokuts, Miwok, and Patwin. Mission life devastated the Ohlone population (Milliken 1995). It has been estimated that in 1777, when the first mission was established in Ohlone territory, the Native American population numbered around 10,000. As a result of introduced disease, harsh living conditions, and reduced birth rates, the population declined sharply to less than 2,000 by 1832.

After the secularization of the missions around 1830, Native Americans gradually left the missions. Many went to work as wage laborers on local ranchos, in the mines, or as domestic laborers. There was a partial return to aboriginal religious practices and subsistence strategies, but the Ohlone culture was greatly diminished (Levy 1978). Today, descendants of the Ohlone still live in the vicinity of the program area, and many are active in maintaining their traditions and advocating for Native American issues.

Historic Background

Monterey County

Monterey Bay was the focus of several Spanish exploratory expeditions following Juan Cabrillo's initial 1542 discovery of the bay. The bay was named

for Conde de Monterrey, Viceroy of Spain, by Sebastian Vizcaino who sailed into it in 1602. The Franciscans founded three missions (San Carlos Borromeo, San Antonio de Padua, and Nuestra Sonora de Soledad) in what is now Monterey County, and these, along with the Presidio established in the late 1700s and eight large ranchos that formed from land concessions to Spanish army veterans, became focal points of activity.

When the Mexican Republic formed in 1822, the missions were secularized and their land holdings were dispersed to private owners through land grants. An agrarian economy emerged, mostly based on large-scale cattle ranching operations. The local economy received a boost when the Mexican government opened Monterey harbor to foreign trade, enabling rancheros to trade their hides and tallow for products from the outside world. The Custom House in Monterey became the site for collection of duties, providing the main source of income for Alta California's government. This commercial vitality, supported by Monterey Bay's ideal harbor, led to Monterey's role as the Mexican capital of California.

Monterey's importance to Mexican California and excellent harbor geography meant that it continued to play a key role after the United States took control of California in the late 1840s. For example, the convention to draft and sign California's new constitution convened at Colton Hall. This period coincided with the California Gold Rush, and during the 1850s the market for tallow and hides shifted to a demand for beef and grain to feed the population of gold prospectors congregating in San Francisco to the north. At the same time, dairy farming was introduced in the area around Gonzales and Soledad. This enterprise required irrigation to support alfalfa production, a practice based on rudimentary canal systems used earlier by friars at the missions.

Transportation soon became a major factor in supporting the County's growing economy. In 1872, Southern Pacific Railroad extended its line to Salinas from Pajaro and Hollister. As the railroad pushed farther south it opened new markets and stimulated settlement of new towns. From Salinas it extended southward to Chualar, followed by Gonzales and Soledad, as landowners donated right-of-way across their ranches. With this new transport capability, crops could be shipped to market more efficiently. As improved irrigation systems were introduced to the area in the late nineteenth century, combined with additional railroad connections, production of fruits and vegetables replaced dry farming of grains as the leading agricultural products.

In addition to agriculture, by the late nineteenth century, Monterey County became a destination for tourism and resort activities. Three hot spring resorts with hotels developed, at Paraiso, Tassajara, and Slates Hot Springs. Pacific Grove was founded as a religious and cultural retreat, growing from a tent city to a town of small Victorian cottages. In the early 1900s, Pebble Beach was subdivided and became a fashionable summer resort. The area's many golf courses further attracted recreational visitors. In Carmel, Pebble Beach, and Del Monte Forest, the Arts and Crafts movement took hold in local architecture, and the area achieved renown as a colony for artists and writers.

Paleontological Resources

Most of the fossils found in Monterey County are of marine life forms. They form a record of the region's geologic history of advancing and retreating sea levels. These deposits lack the large terrestrial fossils found in other regions due to their marine origin. (Brandman 2006.)

Monterey County's fossils are mainly comprised of microorganisms such as foraminifers or diatoms or assemblages of mollusks and barnacles most commonly found in sedimentary rocks ranging from Cretaceous age (138 to 96 million years old) to Pleistocene age (1.6 million to 11 thousand years old). (Brandman 2006.)

Fossils are found throughout the County because of the widespread distribution of marine deposit, however only 12 sites have been identified in Monterey County as being a significant paleontological resource (Brandman 2006).

Existing Conditions

Archaeological Resources

The program area is known to contain archeological resources related to the region's prehistory. The County General Plan Environmental Resource Management Element includes a map delineating archeological sensitivity throughout the County as either "high," "moderate," or "low." Much of the program area is shown as having high sensitivity, with the remaining area shown as moderate, meaning that while archeological surveys may not have been conducted for the entire area, known or assumed native settlement/activity patterns make archeological resources likely to occur in those areas. There are no areas of low archeological sensitivity in the program area. The areas of high sensitivity are mostly centered around the Carmel River and Carmel Valley.

In addition, the program area may be sensitive for historical archaeological resources related to early settlement of the region including resources from the Mexican, Spanish, and early American periods.

Historical Resources

Carmel Valley includes historic resources listed on inventories of landmarks and historic resources by federal, State, and County agencies.

The County Parks Department maintains an Official Register of Historic Resources that includes sites, structures, and other landmarks that are important to the County's cultural heritage. As of March 2007, this inventory includes six Native American sites, three historic sites, 18 historic structures (including four bridges), and one landmark tree located within Carmel Valley. These resources

and their approximate locations, as listed in the County inventory, are provided below (Clovis pers. comm.).

Native American Sites

1. Ichxenta, San Jose Creek
2. Tecutnut, mouth of Potrero Canyon
3. Socorronda, Mid-Carmel Valley
4. Echilat, San Francisco Flat
5. Sepponet, South of Tularcitos Guard Station
6. Indian Dam Site, Carmel River

Historic Sites

7. Bradley Sargeant Adobe site, Potrero Canyon
8. Inesimo/Meadows Adobe site, Mid-Carmel Valley
9. San Francisquito Adobe site, Rancho San Carlos

Historic Structures

10. Old Carmelo School, North of Schulte Road
11. Meadows Home, North of Schulte Road
12. Farm Center, Robinson Canyon Road at Carmel Valley Road
13. Carmel Valley Rock & Sand Co. Conveyor, behind the Farmer Center
14. Colton Home, Holt Ranch
15. Wright Cabin, Robinson Canyon
16. Los Laureles Lodge, Upper Carmel Valley: Carmel Valley Road past Boronda Road
17. Boronda Adobe, Boronda Road
18. Del Monte Milk Barn, Carmel Valley Village
19. Robles del Dio Lodge, Robles del Rio
20. Rosie's Cracker Barrel, Roles del Rio
21. Bridge #501, Schulte Road at Carmel River
22. Bridge #507 (Boronda Road Bridge), Boronda Road at Carmel River
23. Bridge #508, Esquiline Road at Carmel River
24. Bridge #523, Garzas Road at Garzas Creek

25. Cooper Barn, Garland Park
26. Chalk Rock House, 27200 Los Arboles Drive

Natural Landmarks

27. Descanso Oak site, Carmel Valley Road

Several sites and structures within Carmel Valley are also listed on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). These include:

- Berwick Manor and Orchard
- Boronda Road Bridge (also County-listed)
- 90 Boronda Road
- 10 East Carmel Valley Road
- Carmel Valley Historic Airpark

As indicated above, one structure—the Boronda Bridge—is listed on both the County inventory and the CRHR. In addition to its State listing, the Berwick Manor and Orchard site is also listed in the National Register of Historic Places National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (listed as registry number 77000309).

Regulatory Setting

Federal Regulations

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, is the primary mandate governing projects under federal jurisdiction that may affect cultural resources. If specific traffic improvement projects implemented under the proposed program are funded by the federal government, then this statute would apply. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that all federal agencies review and evaluate how their actions or undertakings may affect historic properties. Historic properties may include those that are already listed in national registers or that have not yet been reviewed and considered for such. The regulations implementing Section 106 are codified at 36 CFR Part 800 (2001).

The Section 106 review process involves four-steps:

- Initiate the Section 106 process by establishing the undertaking, developing a plan for public involvement, and identifying other consulting parties;
- Identify historic properties by determining the scope of efforts, identifying cultural resources and evaluating their eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP;

- Assess adverse effects by applying the criteria of adverse effect to historic properties (resources that are eligible for inclusion in the NRHP);
- Resolve adverse effects by consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and other consulting agencies, including the Advisory Council if necessary, to develop an agreement that addresses the treatment of historic properties.

To determine whether an undertaking may affect NRHP-eligible properties, cultural resources (including archaeological, historical, and architectural properties) must be inventoried and evaluated for listing in the NRHP. The criteria applied to evaluate the significance of cultural resources are defined as follows.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and

- a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Ordinarily, properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP. However, such properties will be considered eligible if a property that achieved significance within the past 50 years is of exceptional importance.

As codified in 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(2), if there are historic properties which may be affected by a federal undertaking, the agency official shall assess adverse effects, if any, in accordance with the *Criteria of Adverse Effect* (36 CFR 800.5 (a)(1)). In general, an adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in the NRHP. Adverse effects include, but are not limited to physical destruction, damage, alterations not consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (36 CFR part 68), removal, neglect, or change of setting, or the introduction of introduction of visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the integrity of the property's significant historic features.

State Regulations

California Environmental Quality Act

CEQA requires that public or private projects financed or approved by public agencies assess the effects of the project on historical resources. *Historical resources* are defined as buildings, sites, structures, objects, or districts, each of which may have historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural, or scientific significance. CEQA requires that, if the project would result in an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, alternative plans or measures to mitigate the effect must be considered; however, only significant historical resources need to be addressed. Therefore, the significance of cultural resources must be determined. The following steps are normally taken in a cultural resources investigation for CEQA compliance.

1. Identify cultural resources.
1. Evaluate the significance of the resources.
2. Evaluate the effects of the project on significant resources.
3. Develop and implement measures to mitigate the effects of the project on significant resources.

The CEQA guidelines define three ways that a property may qualify as a significant historical resource for the purposes of CEQA review.

- The resource is listed in or determined eligible for listing in the CRHR.
- The resource is included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5020.1(k) of the PRC, or identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC, unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.
- The lead agency determines the resource to be significant as supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record (CCR, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15064.5[a]).

Each of these ways of qualifying as a significant historical resource for the purposes of CEQA is related to the eligibility criteria for inclusion in the CRHR (PRC 5020.1[k], 5024.1, 5024.1[g]). A historical resource may be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR if it:

- is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction; represents the work of an important creative individual; or possesses high artistic values; or

- has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Properties that are listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP are considered eligible for listing in the CRHR, and thus are significant historical resources for the purpose of CEQA (PRC Section 5024.1[d][1]).

Other Regulations

Regulations on Human Remains

Records about Native American graves, cemeteries, and sacred places, as well as information about the location of archaeological sites, are exempt from being disclosed to the public under California's equivalent of the Freedom of Information Act (California Government Code Section 6254.10). Such information is considered sensitive and confidential; it should not be presented in a public document.

California Public Resources Code Section 5097.9 states that no public agency or private party on a public property shall "interfere with the free expression or exercise of Native American Religion." It also states the following:

No such agency or party [shall] cause severe or irreparable damage to any Native American sanctified cemetery, place of worship, religious or ceremonial site, or sacred shrine...

Treatment of Human Remains

The disturbance of human remains without authority of law is considered a felony. The treatment of human remains is well defined in various California laws and codes. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) acts as a central point of contact for notification of Native Americans and arbitration between the Native American representative and the property owner (who is also the owner of the remains and any associated archaeological materials). The following procedures are set forth in the PRC 5097.98: notification of discovery of Native American human remains, notification of descendants, and disposition of human remains and associated grave goods. The process is as follows.

- Discovery. If human remains were discovered (in either an archaeological or construction context), the County would notify the Monterey County coroner, who would determine whether the remains were suspected to be of Native American origin (California Health and Safety Code 7050.5c). (This is often done in consultation with the archaeological investigator or occasionally in consultation with a forensic or physical anthropologist.) If this determination were made, the coroner would notify NAHC.
- Notification of Most Likely Descendent. NAHC would notify those persons it believes are most likely descended from the deceased Native American.

This is usually a single individual, although for a number of reasons, NAHC may assign more than one Most Likely Descendent. The Most Likely Descendent would likely be on the original consultation list; however, this is not always the case because some individuals have removed themselves from the general consultation list.

- **Inspection and Recommendations.** The Most Likely Descendent would have 24 hours from the time he or she were contacted to inspect the remains and make recommendations to the County regarding the disposition of the remains. If the Most Likely Descendent failed to make a recommendation or the Most Likely Descendent and the County failed to come to an agreement (with mediation provided by the NAHC, as appropriate), then the County would respectfully re-enter the remains in consultation with the NAHC and the project archaeologist.
- Once the above-described protocols had been applied, excavation of all human remains within areas of direct project impacts would be required prior to any construction for the project. Each burial would be carefully removed using the appropriate excavation techniques conducted by an archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s standard, in the presence of a Native American Monitor. There would be no intentional disturbance of human remains in the absence of a Native American monitor. The soil matrix surrounding all burials would also be excavated for the recovery of all associated artifacts.

Local Regulations

Monterey County Municipal Code

Title 18 of the Monterey County Municipal Code (Buildings and Construction) includes a chapter (18.25) dedicated to historic resources preservation. The chapter outlines the County’s program and policies of protecting, enhancing, and perpetuating structures and districts within the County that are of historic, archaeological, architectural, and engineering significance, and thus of cultural and aesthetic value to the community and an asset to economic, cultural, and aesthetic benefit of the County as a whole. The program outlined in this chapter pertains to property that has not been zoned by the County as a Historic Resources District (“HR”), while property that is so zoned is subject to the regulations set forth in Chapter 21.54, which is discussed below.

The County maintains an inventory of historic resources and districts. According to County policy, an improvement, natural feature, or site within the County may be designated an historical resource and an area within the County may be designated a historic district if it meets the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historic Resources, or if one or more of several listed conditions pertaining to a site or district’s historical, cultural, architectural, and engineering significance, and its unique or valued community and geographic setting are met. County designation of historic resources and districts may be initiated by the County Board of Supervisors, the

County Planning Commission, the County Historic Resources Review Board (Review Board), the Director of the Department of Planning and Building Inspection (Planning Director), or upon application of the owner of the property for which designation is requested, or the authorized representative of the owner. No property is designated as a historic resource without the consent of the property owner. Proposals and applications for historic designation are considered by the Review Board at a public hearing, after which the Review Board makes a recommendation regarding the proposal and designation to the Board of Supervisors, who maintains sole authority to declare an historic resource or historic district.

For structures, sites, or districts listed on the County's register, granting of construction permits and entitlements by the County require application to the Planning Director, a field visit, and an initial determination of the proposed work's effect on a structure's appearance or a district's character. Applications found to affect the appearance or character during this initial review are referred to the Review Board for further investigation. Demolition of a designated historic resource or a structure in a designated historic district is prohibited without one hundred eighty days' prior written notice from the property owner or Planning Director that such act is planned for such structure. Following the receipt of such notice, the Review Board may take such steps as it determines are necessary to preserve the structure concerned.

The chapter also indicates that the Review Board will take appropriate steps to notify all public agencies and public utilities owning or acquiring property—including easements and public rights-of-way—about the existence and character of designated resources and historic districts, and that the Review Board will maintain a current record of such resources and districts with each such public agency and public utility. When construction, alteration, or modification is proposed on publicly owned property that is within a County-designated historic district but that is not subject to the County's permit review procedures, the agency owning such property is encouraged to seek the advice of the Review Board prior to approval or authorization of such work.

Chapter 21.54 of the Monterey County Municipal Code (Regulations for Historic Resources Zoning Districts) applies the "HR" zone to historic resources and requires Use Permit applications for proposed modification to structures and land so zoned. Plans for modifications are referred to the Review Board and Use Permits must be considered for approval by the Planning Commission.

Criteria for Determining Significance

In accordance with State CEQA Guidelines, applicable federal and state regulations, and local plans and policies, the proposed program would be considered to result in a significant impact if it would:

A. Historical Resources

Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5), including physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of historical resources or their immediate surroundings, such that their significance would be materially impaired. The significance of a historical resource is considered materially impaired when a project demolishes or adversely materially alters those physical characteristics that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for or inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or in registers meeting the definitions in Public Resources Code 5020.1(k) or 5024.1(g).

B. Archaeological Resources

Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, or potential disturbance to undiscovered archaeological resources (CEQA 15064.5).

C. Human Remains

Disturb or potentially disturb any undiscovered human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

D. Paleontological Resources

Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site, or a unique geological feature.

Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Impact CR-1: Potential Demolition, Destruction, Relocation, or Alteration of Historical Resources (Significant and Unavoidable)

Architectural Resources

As described under “Environmental Setting,” three historic sites, 18 historic structures (including four bridges), and one landmark tree within Carmel Valley are listed on the County inventory of historic resources. Five sites within Carmel Valley are listed in the CRHR, and one site is listed in the NRHP.

The proposed roadway improvement such as lane widenings and/or grade separation, could lead to the demolition or destruction of historical resources including structures and their surroundings and historic sites.

The proposed roadway improvement could also require relocation of historically significant buildings and structures and result in a substantial adverse change to historical resources if specific efforts are not made to maintain historical and structural integrity, setting, and association. The proposed grade separation could also result in visual changes to the environment and adversely impact historical resources. In particular, when viewsheds are character-defining elements, such as historic landscapes, visual changes must be taken into account. Implementation of new roadway facilities may also result in noticeable increases in noise levels. When loud noise (intermittent or constant) is out of character with a historic resource, it may constitute an impact to the integrity of the setting or to the actual structure itself. However, for historic properties at which noise was a normal aspect (e.g., manufacturing plants or railroad resources), increases in noise levels may not be an impact.

Archaeological Resources

Much of the program area is known to have a high or moderate sensitivity for presence of archeological resources related to the region's prehistory due to its proximity to major water sources and the near by Monterey Bay. Carmel Valley would have been a rich resource base and a very attractive place for Native American settlements. The program area may also be sensitive for historical archaeological resources related to early settlement of the region. Construction of the proposed roadway improvement projects could alter or damage existing archaeological sites or resources within the program area. Alteration or damage of archaeological sites or resources that are considered historically significant under CEQA or NEPA is considered an adverse effect.

As discussed above, demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of architectural or archaeological resources within the program area has the potential to damage the eligibility or eligibility potential of these resources for listing in the NRHP or CRHR. Project work also has the potential to affect County-listed resources, and would be subject to project review procedures set forth in Chapter 18.25 of the Monterey Municipal Code. Therefore, this impact is considered potentially significant. Implementation of **Mitigation Measures CR-1.1 to CR-1.6** would reduce these impacts to a **less-than-significant** level. However, if an architectural or archaeological resource cannot be avoided, the resource could be permanently damaged under project implementation. In this case, the impact would be considered **significant and unavoidable**. (Impact CR-2, below, discusses project impacts to previously unidentified buried resources, including disturbance to human remains).

Mitigation Measure CR-1.1: Avoid Historic Architectural and Archaeological Resources

Avoidance is the preferred mitigation measure for all historical resources, but it is often not feasible. When a project has sufficient flexibility, the County should consider avoidance of all historical resources as the primary mitigation measure.

Mitigation Measure CR-1.2: Architectural and Archaeological Resources—Conduct Project-Specific Records Searches, Background Research, and Field Surveys; and Prepare Technical Reports

Before initiating projects, the County shall direct a qualified archaeologist and architectural historian to perform a records search at the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System in Rohnert Park, California, along with a field survey of an individual project area. Analysis and resources identification and subsequent evaluation should be conducted to determine if there are archaeological resources present or potentially buried and which architectural resources are more than 50 years old and historically significant within an individual project area.

These investigations must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations depending upon the specific project. It is important that these studies are conducted as early in the planning stages as possible and always by a qualified archaeologist and architectural historian. It is also important to allocate sufficient time to allow for consideration of a full range of mitigation alternatives, if mitigation is necessary.

At a minimum, archaeological and architectural resource identification and sensitivity assessment studies require that a qualified archaeologist/architectural historian respectively conduct:

- a record search at the official state archive for Monterey County, which is located at the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resource Information System in Rohnert Park, California;
- research of other appropriate materials, including historical maps and local documents, library archives;
- consultation with historical societies;
- consultation with the NAHC and interested Native American individuals identified by the NAHC;
- a pedestrian survey or examination of exposed ground surface;
- written documentation of the methods and results of the study in a technical report, an assessment of the sensitivity of the project area for the presence of architectural resources, documentation of archaeological sites or building evaluations on Department of Parks and Recreation 523 forms, and recommendations for further work.

The archaeological sensitivity assessment may be based on the presence of artifacts or features on the ground surface, similarities in topography or geography to other archaeologically sensitive areas, reports of previous discoveries in the area, or evidence revealed during archival or other documentary research. Consultation with various state and federal

agencies, NAHC or other Native American individuals or groups, local historical societies, and other interested or knowledgeable parties may also be required.

If archaeological resources are discovered or if the potential for them to exist in the project area is considered significant, additional work to determine their nature, extent, and significance may be necessary. Such work is conducted to establish whether the archaeological resources appear to meet the criteria for inclusion in the NRHP or CRHR. This work should be conducted according to applicable federal or state guidelines and regulations, in consultation with the lead agency and other appropriate agencies and individuals, and by a qualified archaeologist. Evaluations of the significance of archaeological sites usually include, but are not limited to:

- additional archival research;
- preparation of a research design and treatment plan for any discovered resources;
- excavation or other types of fieldwork;
- analysis of artifacts and other data;
- special studies, such as obsidian hydration, geomorphological, or palynological studies;
- preparation of a technical report; and
- appropriate archival curation of the artifacts and accompanying data.

The technical report should document the methods and findings of the archival and field research; evaluate the ability of the site to meet the criteria for inclusion in the NRHP or CRHR; and make recommendations, if necessary, for mitigation of project impacts on any significant sites. Archaeological sites are most often determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or CRHR based on data recovered during excavation, not solely on the basis of surface finds or archival research.

**Mitigation Measure CR-1.3: Architectural Resources—
Conform to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for
Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic
Buildings in the Event of Relocation**

The County shall ensure that any alterations to historic buildings or structures conform to the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings. Implementation of this measure should be combined with project design review to ensure compliance. (This mitigation measure is solely applicable to historic architectural resources and is not appropriate for archaeological resources.)

Mitigation Measure CR-1.4: Architectural and Archaeological Resources—Review Project Design

The County shall consider redesigning or modifying project designs to reduce or avoid potential impacts on historical resources (including archaeological resources), particularly when the impacts are visual- or noise-related (e.g., maximizing the distance between new construction and historic resources, using soundwalls with vegetative screening, and limiting the height of a new building or structure). Parties involved in project design review may include but are not limited to lead agency officials or a local landmarks commission, depending on the project and the affected resource. The County shall consult with local Native American groups when sacred or traditional cultural properties, or sites containing human remains would be affected.

Mitigation Measure CR-1.5: Archaeological Resources—Recover Archaeological Data

After identification and evaluation efforts by a qualified archaeologist, if an archaeological site is determined to meet the criteria for inclusion in the NRHP or CRHR and if avoidance or redesign of the project is not feasible, research and fieldwork to recover and analyze the data contained at that site should be conducted. This effort may involve additional archival and historical research; excavation; analysis of artifacts, features, and data discovered; presentation of the results in a technical report; and curation of the recovered artifacts and accompanying data. Consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the SHPO, and other interested or knowledgeable parties may be required.

Mitigation Measure CR-1.6: Architectural Resources—Document Historical Resources Through Public Interpretation

If historical resources cannot be avoided, the County shall consider documentation of these resources by public interpretation. Public interpretation may include, but is not limited to the establishment of plaques, Web sites, brochures, museum exhibits, and public art. This type of mitigation seeks to engage the public directly regarding the historical significance of a resource and its importance to the community.

Impact CR-2: Potential Disturbance to Previously Unidentified Buried Archaeological Resources (Less than Significant with Mitigation)

Ground disturbing activities such as grading, trenching, and/or excavating have the potential to adversely affect unknown buried archaeological resources, including the discovery of human remains or paleontological resources. There is always the possibility that previously unrecorded sites will be disturbed during construction of the proposed traffic improvement projects. This impact is considered potentially significant. Implementation of **Mitigation Measures CR-2.1 to 2.4** would reduce this impact to a **less-than significant** level.

Mitigation Measure CR-2.1: Conduct Geomorphological Analysis on Specific Project Basis and Conduct Archaeological Test Excavations for Projects that are Determined To Be Located in Highly Sensitive Areas

Due to the high sensitivity for the presence of prehistoric archaeological resources and the geomorphological setting of the program area, there is a strong likelihood that buried archaeological resources could be present throughout the program area. Buried Resources analysis should be conducted for all specific projects, which examine the soils and geomorphology of each specific project area. In areas that are considered highly sensitive for buried resources, mechanical archaeological test excavations may be necessary to identify buried deposits.

Mitigation Measure CR-2.2: Archaeological Resources—Stop Work If Buried Cultural Deposits Are Encountered During Construction Activities

If buried cultural resources such as chipped stone or groundstone, historic debris, building foundations, or human bone are inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work will stop within a 100-foot radius of the find until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and recommend additional treatment measures appropriate to the nature of the find. The County will be responsible for ensuring that treatment measures are implemented, in accordance with the archaeologist's recommendations.

Mitigation Measure CR-2.3: Conduct Archaeological Monitoring During Ground Disturbing Activities Within the Specific Project Area During Construction

The alluvial plain of the Carmel River Valley is highly sensitive for the presence of buried prehistoric archaeological resources, which do not have surface expression and are, therefore, extremely difficult to identify through a simple field survey. Due to the sensitive nature and location of the project area, there is a strong possibility that buried prehistoric archaeological materials could be discovered during ground disturbing activities during the construction phase of the project. An archaeological monitor would enable efficient resource identification and minimize impacts to buried deposits if present.

Mitigation Measure CR-2.4: Archaeological Resources—Stop Work If Human Remains Are Encountered During Construction Activities

If human remains are encountered during construction, the County Coroner will be notified immediately, as required by County Ordinance No. B6-18. A qualified archaeologist will also be contacted immediately. If the County Coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the Coroner will then contact the Native American Heritage Commission, pursuant to Section 7050.5[c] of the California Health and Safety Code.

- S/he will also contact the County Coordinator of Indian Affairs. There will be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie human remains until the County Coroner has determined that no investigation of the cause of death is required; and, if the remains are of Native American origin,
- the descendants of the deceased Native Americans have made a recommendation to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work for means of treating or disposing of with appropriate dignity the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98;
- unless the Native American Heritage Commission was unable to identify a descendent or the descendent failed to make a recommendation within 24 hours after being notified by the commission.
- According to the California Health and Safety Code, six or more human burials at one location constitute a cemetery (Sec. 8100), and disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony (Sec. 7052).

Mitigation Measure CR-2.5: Paleontological Resources—Stop Work If Vertebrate Remains Are Encountered During Construction

If vertebrate fossils are discovered during construction, work will stop within a 100-foot radius of the find until a qualified professional paleontologist can assess the nature and importance of the find and recommend appropriate treatment. Treatment will include preparation and recovery of fossil materials so that they can be housed in an appropriate museum or university collection, and may also include preparation of a report for publication describing the finds. The County will be responsible for ensuring that the paleontologist's recommendations regarding treatment and reporting are implemented.

Impact CR-3: Expose Buried Archaeological Resources Due to Long-Term Use and Exposure (Less than Significant with Mitigation)

Long-term use of a specific project area could result in the exposure of buried archaeological resources that were not visible or uncovered during archaeological survey, or construction of the specific project. This could result from heavy human use, foot traffic, vehicular traffic, maintenance or construction activities, and any activities that could cause erosion within the specific project. This impact is considered potentially significant. Implementation of **Mitigation Measures CR-3.1** would reduce this impact to a **less-than significant** level.

Mitigation Measure CR-3.1: Consult with Qualified Archaeologist to Identify the Resources and Assess the Impacts

If archaeological resources are uncovered as a result of long-term use of a specific project area, resulting from the implementation of a specific project, the County will consult with a qualified archaeologist to identify the resource, assess the potential significance of the discovery, and assess and mitigate the impacts as appropriate to the resources and level of impacts, as required by CEQA or NEPA.