

**APPENDIX C**  
**DPR 523 Forms**

**NRHP Listed and Eligible Historic Properties and CEQA Historical Resources**

<b>APN</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>COUNTY</b>
031-154-011	Oy Kuong Laundry/Ranch Restaurant	245 W. 16th Street	Merced	Merced
031-211-007		912 W. 15th Street	Merced	Merced
031-213-015	Caswell T. Hunter Home	843 W. 14th Street	Merced	Merced
031-213-016	Frank Bacigalupi Home	849 W. 14th Street	Merced	Merced
031-213-017	Jacob Schafer Home	861 W. 14th Street	Merced	Merced
031-231-005	PG&E Building	560 W. 15th Street	Merced	Merced
031-243-004	Merced Beverage and Supply Company	210 W. 15th Street	Merced	Merced
031-360-001 031-360-027	Merced Southern Pacific Company Passenger Station	740 W. 16th Street	Merced	Merced
034-205-005	KAMB/California Highway Patrol Building	90 E. 16th Street	Merced	Merced
035-160-010	De Long Memorial Park/Evergreen Memorial Park	1480 B Street	Merced	Merced
026-233-011		24302 Road 15	Chowchilla	Madera
No APN	Robertson Boulevard Tree Row	Robertson Blvd	Chowchilla	Madera
007-101-016	Madera Southern Pacific Railroad Station	120 N. E Street	Madera	Madera
007-101-020	Valley Feed & Fuel Co.	121 N. Gateway Drive	Madera	Madera
450-02-008	Roeding Park	890 W. Belmont Avenue	Fresno	Fresno
510-23-303 510-23-304	Forestiere Underground Gardens	5021 W Shaw Avenue	Fresno	Fresno
No APN	Belmont Avenue Subway and Traffic Circle	West Belmont Avenue	Fresno	Fresno
No APN	Weber Avenue Overcrossing (Bridge 42C0071)	Weber Avenue	Fresno	Fresno

\*The source for the basemaps used for the sketch maps on the Building, Structure, Object (BSO) forms is Google Maps satellite imagery (2011).

State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000935

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

NRHP Status Code 6Z / 5S2

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 031-154-011

P1. Other Identifier: 245 W 16th Street

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 14E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 30; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: 245 W 16th St City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM (give more than one for large and/or linear resources): Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate):

APN: 031-154-011

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

Located on a city parcel within Merced, the building has a rectangular plan. The exterior walls are brick and extend up to a capped parapet roofline, stepped at the facade. The façade contains one recessed doorway with a segmental arch at the head, and three fixed windows with segmental arches above and wooden sills. The façade also has faux wood beam ends, or vigas, at a false roofline. The building has a very low-pitch front gable roof. A neon sign is attached to the main façade that reads "The Ranch Restaurant & Lounge." The windows and entrances on the east façade were infilled.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 Story Commercial Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)

Camera facing northeast, 3/10/2011

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1925/City of Merced Survey (1985)

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Kim Hunter

245 W 16th St

Merced, CA 95340

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM

1420 Kettner Blvd., Suite 500

San Diego, CA 92101

\*P9. Date Recorded: 3/10/2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) California Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Inventory Form, 1985 (P-24-000935)

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

## BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z / 5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 031-154-011

B1. Historic Name: Oy Kong Laundry

B2. Common Name: The Ranch Restaurant and Lounge

B3. Original Use: Commercial

B4. Present Use: Commercial

\*B5. Architectural Style: Spanish Eclectic

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) Built 1925; windows and entrances infilled, replacement windows – ca. 1973

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Commercial Development Area Merced

Period of Significance 1925 Property Type Commercial Building Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This property does not appear to meet the criteria for the NRHP or the CRHR. This building was constructed in 1925 during a period of growth in Merced. Research indicates that it was owned by the Kong family, who operated the Oy Kuong Laundry. The Kong family operated their laundry business until the mid-1950s. It was then sold to William Harang and Julius Zanotelli who operated the Atlas Drapery and Awning Company. When the business closed in 1959 the building stood vacant until 1966 when it was purchased by Millheim Motors. That business closed in the early 1970s. In 1975, Clark and Ruth Hunter bought the building, remodeled it and opened the Ranch Restaurant. The Hunter family continues to own and operate The Ranch (Bik 2010:11; Sanborn Map Company 1950:21; City of Merced Building Permit 1973).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Bik, Michael. *Bik's Picks: Midcentury Merced Revisited*. Merced: Merced County Historical Society, 2010; City of Merced Building Permits, 1973, on file with the City of Merced; Sanborn Map Company. *Merced*. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1950; Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Inventory Form, 1985.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher

\*Date of Evaluation: July 14, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)

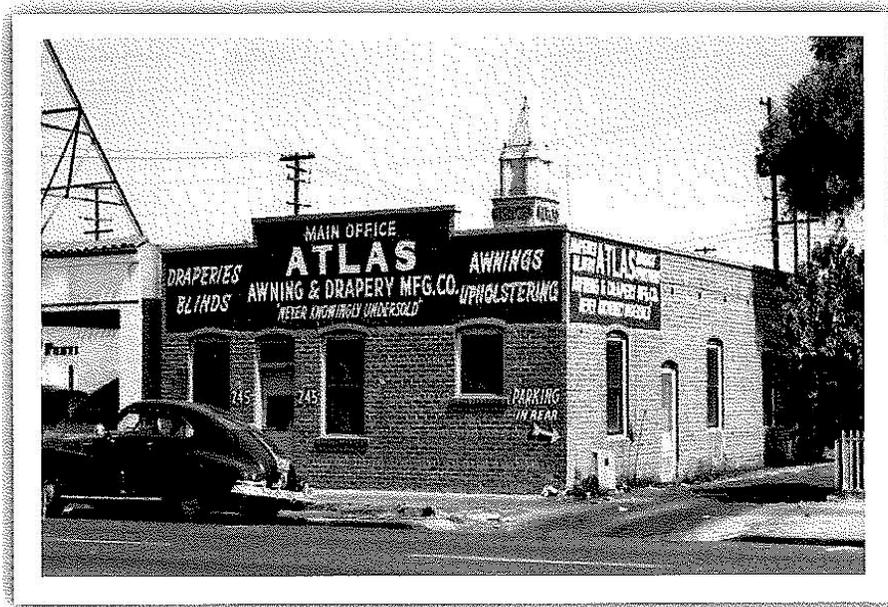


**Significance (cont)**

This property was one of several businesses that developed along this commercial stretch of W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street and does not appear to have played a significant role in the commercial development of Merced; therefore it does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1. The property also does not appear to be associated with persons who made significant contributions to history or in their fields of endeavor and does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. Architecturally, this building is a modest example of the Spanish Eclectic style applied to a commercial building. It does not represent the work of a master nor does it possess high artistic value. This building does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3. Under NRHP Criterion D and CRHR Criterion 4, the property does not appear likely to yield information important to history. In addition to lacking historical and architectural significance, this property also lacks integrity of design, materials, and setting.

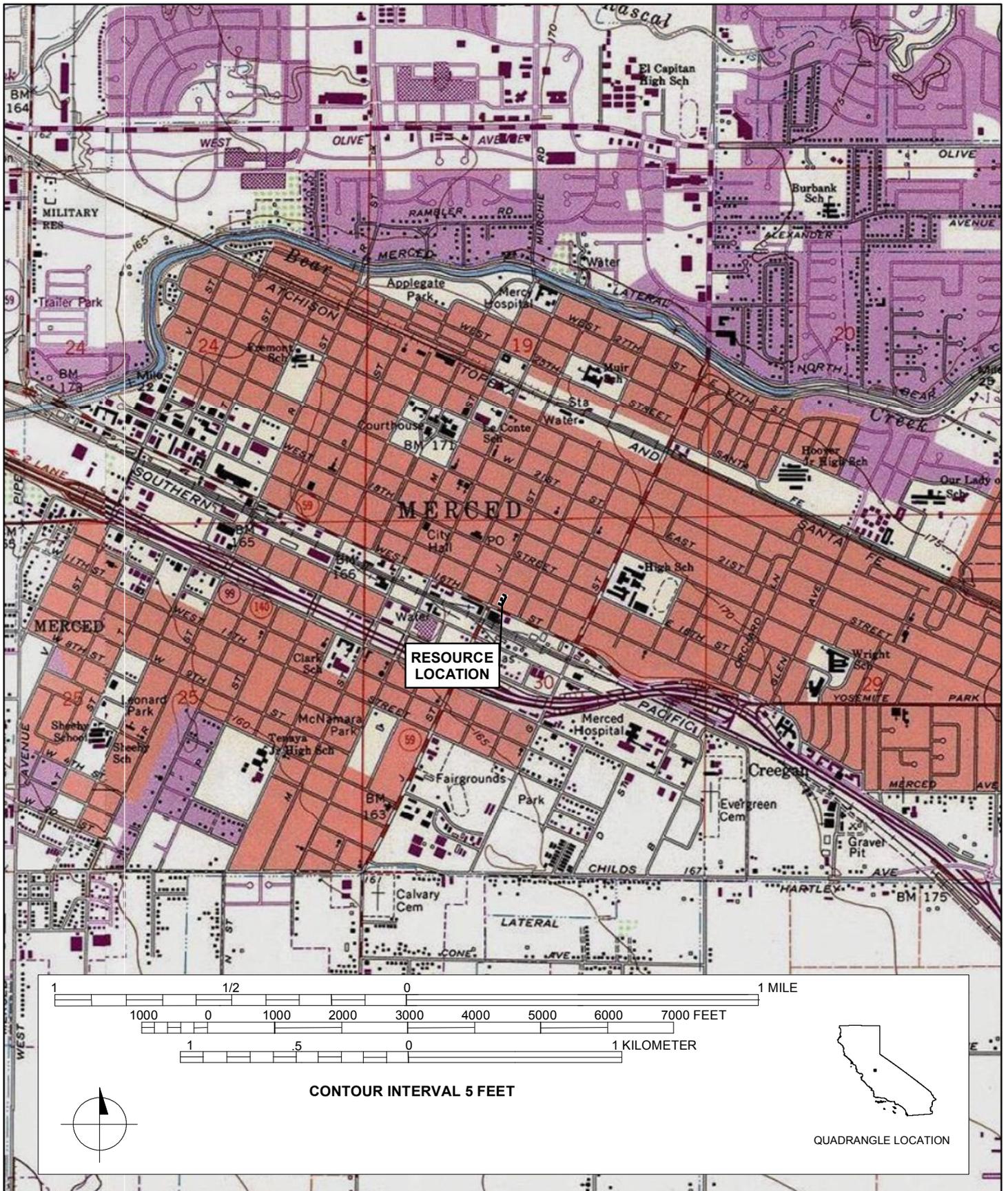
Although this property does not appear to meet any of the NRHP and CRHR evaluation criteria, the building was documented as part of the 1985 Merced City Survey and was assigned the NRHP status code 5S2 (Eligible for Local Listing Only-Likely to Become Eligible Under Local Ordinance). Therefore, this property is considered an historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

**Photographs (cont.)**



**Photograph 2.** Historic photo ca. 1957, that shows windows and Entrances on east elevation.

[Bik, Michael. *Bik's Picks: Midcentury Merced Revisited*. Merced: Merced County Historical Society, 2010, p.11]



P. 24-000935  
Ser. No. 5340-79  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 35 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/723480/4130965 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

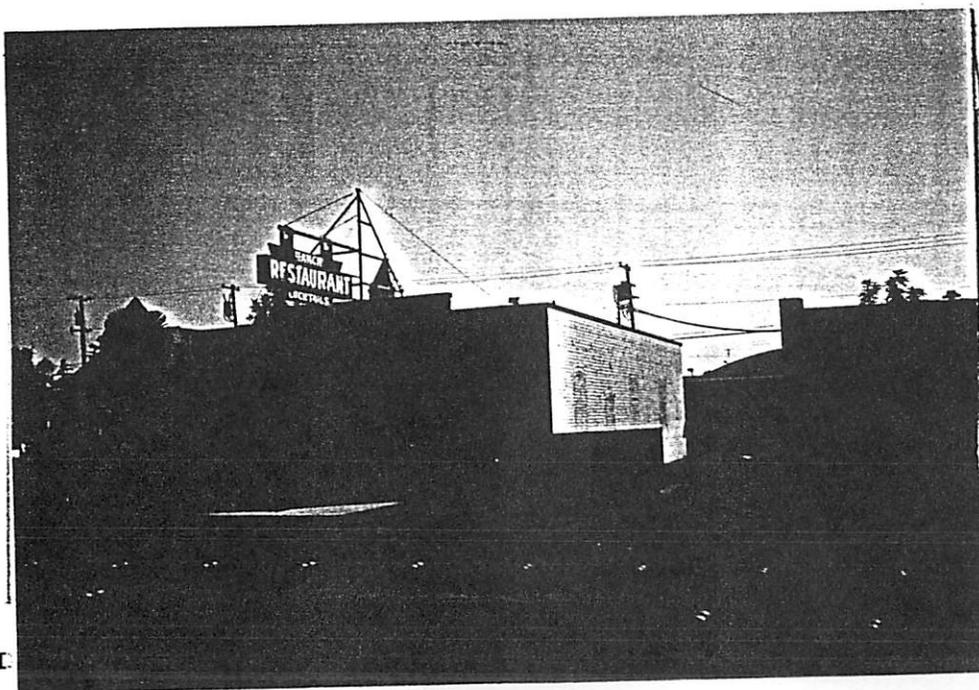
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: The Ranch Restaurant ARI MERCED 7.50
2. Historic name: Oy Kuong Laundry
3. Street or rural address: 245 W. 16th Street.
- City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-154-11
5. Present Owner: Clark R. and Ruth M. Hunter Address: 3534 Oakhurst
- City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Restaurant Original use: Laundry

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Single story brick building
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This single story rectangular plan brick building has a stepped parapet. A new door and windows have replaced those originally in the segmental arched openings facing the street. Similar apertures on the sides of the building have been blocked. The common bond brick is laid with six stretcher courses between header courses. A faded sign is painted on the western wall. False beam ends have been applied to the facade and a block addition has been built at the rear.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1925
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
6/23/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good X Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: Windows and doors changed or blocked; false beam decoration; rear addition.
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up X  
Residential \_\_\_ Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial X Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known X Private development \_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

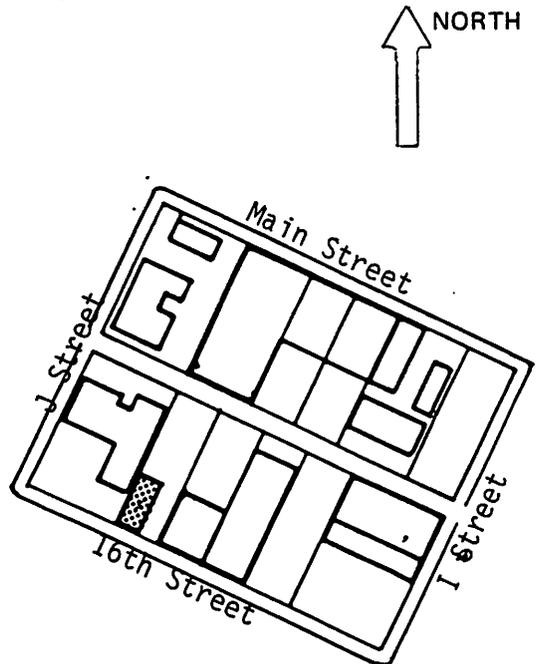
Several Chinese laundries served Merced in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries but competition from non-oriental cleaners reduced their numbers so that only the Oy Kuong Company, who moved to this location around 1925, was still in business in the mid 1920's. This is believed to be the only surviving pre-1940 building associated with this ethnic group's commercial endeavors in Merced. The arched fenestration adds to the utilitarian charm of this building.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
 Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_\_\_  
 Economic/Industrial 1 Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
 Government \_\_\_\_\_ Military \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
 Sanborn (1940).  
Polk's Merced Directory (1926/1928/1930/1935/1938).  
 Interview: K. McSwain (6/15/85).

22. Date form prepared 6/18/85  
 By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
 Organization City of Merced  
 Address: 1730 M Street  
 City Merced Zip 95340  
 Phone: 385-6827

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000930  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 6Z/ 5S2  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-211-007

P1. Other Identifier: 912 W 15th Street

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S ; R 13E ;      ¼ of Sec 25 ;      B.M.

c. Address 912 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10 ; 722460 mE/ 4131050 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-211-007

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A wood-frame, single-story residence is located at 912 West 15th Street. The residence features a side-gabled roof and shiplap siding. The roof is covered with rolled composition and includes a plain boxed cornice with a sloped soffit. An addition at the rear of the building is sided with horizontal boards. A secondary addition is located on the south elevation near the main entrance and was originally part of an open veranda. Wood stairs with iron rails provide access to the main entryway, which is sheltered by a porch supported by wood square posts. Windows are replacement metal sliding-sash units. A raised foundation supports the residence. A chain-link fence, lawn, and trees are located on the parcel.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2. Single Family Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing west, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca. 1890/Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
Alejandro and Guadalupe Romero  
2070 Almondwood Lane  
Merced, CA 95340

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 3

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-211-007

B1. Historic Name: \_\_\_\_\_

B2. Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

B3. Original Use: Residence B4. Present Use: Residence

\*B5. Architectural Style: National Folk

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) c 1890

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: circa 1940s Original Location: unknown; garage demolished - 1958

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme 19th Century Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1890 Property Type Residence Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The residence on this parcel was constructed ca. 1890. The residence was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as a significant resource and given a status code of 5S2 (individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation). The residence was noted at that time as it “reflects the domestic architectural style characteristic of Merced’s more modest residences at the end of the 19th century.” The residence is essentially unchanged since it was last recorded in 1985. Because it retains integrity to 1985 and is listed in the City survey, it is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

For the purposes of the current project, the property was also considered for its ability to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Apparently constructed during the late 19th century, the building was moved to the site sometime between 1922 and 1950 (Sanborn 1922: 23; 1922-1950: 23). The property is not known to be associated with significant persons or events in the area and therefore does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion A and B or Criterion 1 and 2 of the CRHR. The residence is a modest example of the late 19th century National Folk style and does not display distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. This residence does not appear to meet Criterion C of the NRHP or Criterion 3 of the CRHR. The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

In summary, the property does not appear to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP or the CRHR, but does appear to be a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: 1985 City of Merced Survey; Sanborn Map Company, Merced, California. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1922; 1922-1950.

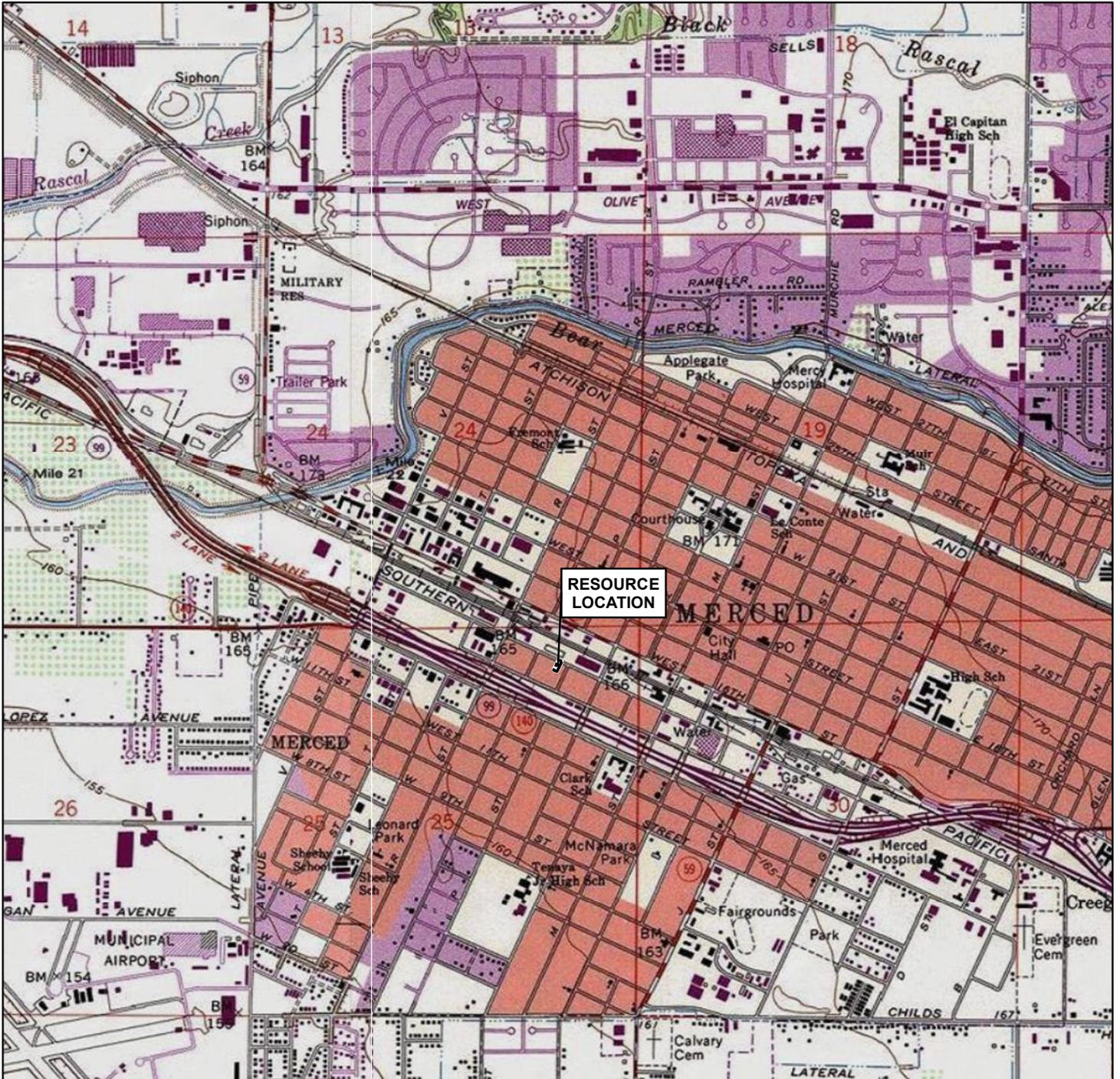
B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

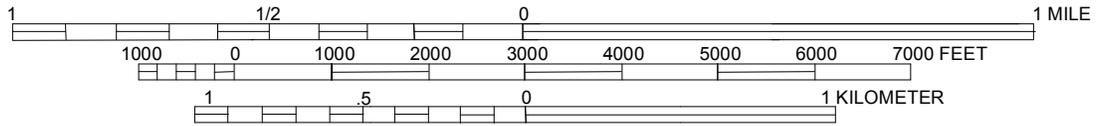
\*Date of Evaluation: August 5, 2010

(This space reserved for official comments.)

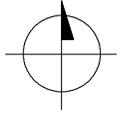




RESOURCE LOCATION



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

P-24-000930 Ser. No. 5340-75  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 35 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/722460/4131050 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None HRI MERCEO 7-50
2. Historic name: Unknown
3. Street or rural address: 912 West 15th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-211-07
5. Present Owner: Guadalupe A. Romero Address: 912 W. 15th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Wood framed home with gabled roof
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The original rectangular plan of this single story home has been modified by the addition of a rear extension. Shiplap siding was used on the older portion while boards cover the addition. Another addition located to the left of the centrally placed door, projects into what was originally an open veranda. Square posts support the roof over the porch. The gabled roof has a plain boxed cornice with sloped soffit. The tall narrow windows have double hung sash. A square vent is located in the eastern gable. The structure rests on a high foundation. A collapsing garage stands to the south. The home is secluded by vegetation.



8. Construction date: Estimated 1890 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
7/12/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good \_\_\_ Fair X Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: Additions to front and rear
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up \_\_\_  
Residential X Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial X Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known \_\_\_ Private development X Zoning X Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? \_\_\_ Moved? X Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: Garage

SIGNIFICANCE

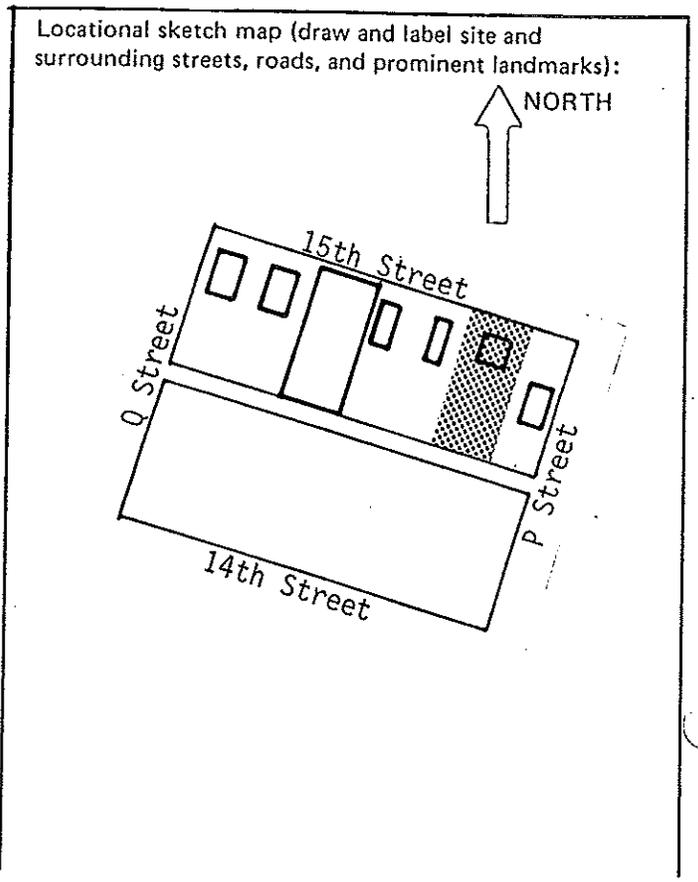
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This reasonably intact home reflects the domestic architectural style characteristic of Merced's more modest residences at the end of the 19th century.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture X Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

22. Date form prepared 8/20/85  
 By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
 Organization City of Merced  
 Address: 1730 M Street  
 City Merced Zip 95340  
 Phone: 385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000916

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-213-015

P1. Other Identifier: Caswell T. Hunter Home

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Merced

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 13E; \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 25; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 843 W.14th Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-213-015

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A single-family residence is located on parcel 031-213-015. The residence features horizontal wood siding and a gable-on-hip roof covered with composition shingles. An open veranda with a wood railing and supported by four wood posts is located on the front elevation. Concrete stairs access the porch. Windows appear to be wood-frame double-hung sash. Additions are located on the rear of the residence. One addition features a hip roof and one has a shed roof. A garage and shed as well as some citrus trees and a lawn are also on the property.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2 Single Family Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing north, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

ca. 1895, Historic Resources Inventory form

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Unknown

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

Mark Bowen

AECOM

2020 L Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS, AECOM 2011.

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Copy of Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 035-160-010

B1. Historic Name: Caswell T. Hunter Home

B2. Common Name:

B3. Original Use: Residence B4. Present Use: Residence

\*B5. Architectural Style: National Folk

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) c 1895, addition on rear

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: garage, shed

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1895 Property Type Residence Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

Caswell Thomas Hunter was born in Wisconsin during 1857, and relocated to Merced County in 1870. Two years later, Caswell formed a partnership with his father to establish a blacksmith shop at Seventeenth and L streets. During his lifetime, Hunter served as the sixth mayor of Merced, city street superintendent, and trustee of the Merced Elementary School District. Later in life, he became the custodian of the Galen Clark School in Merced (Modesto Bee and Herald Newsy 1935).

The residence on this parcel was constructed circa 1895 and associated with Caswell T. Hunter who was part of a prominent blacksmithing family in Merced until his death in 1935. The residence was noted in the 1985 city survey as "...one of the better examples of unembellished late 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic architecture in the City." The residence was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as a significant resource and given a status code of 5S2 (individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation). The residence is essentially unchanged since it was last recorded in 1985. Because it retains integrity and is listed in the City survey, it is considered a historical resource for the purpose of CEQA. (See continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Arguelles and Arguelles 1985; Modesto Bee and Herald News, 11 May 1935 as noted in findagrave website: <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=43827108> accessed 12 June 2011.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date of Evaluation: 7/15/11

(This space reserved for official comments.)



**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # 24-000916

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 035-160-010

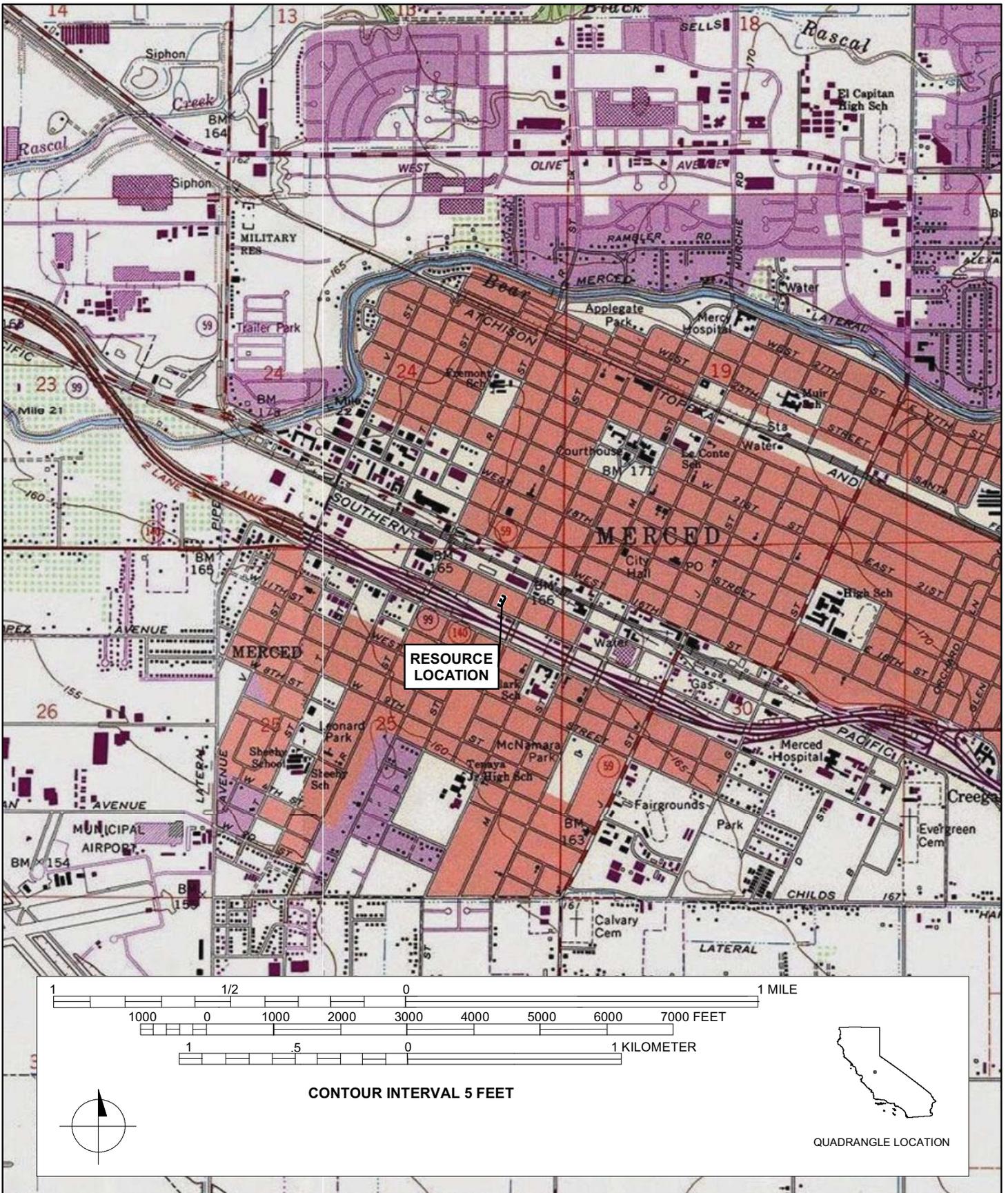
\*Recorded by: Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date: 7/15/11     Continuation     Update

**Significance (cont)**

For the purposes of the current project, the property was also considered for its ability to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Constructed in Merced during the late 1800s, the simple residence represents one of many houses built during this period to meet the housing needs of businessmen such as Hunter who operated a blacksmith shop similar to that of his neighbor (and fellow blacksmith) Frank Bacigalupi. Hunter's wife, Ruth continued to live at the house until at least 1960 (Polk's 1960: 350). Thus, the property is not known to be associated with significant events or persons in the area and therefore does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion A and B or Criterion 1 and 2 of the CRHR. The residence is a modest example of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century National Folk style common to the region and does not display distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. This residence does not appear to meet Criterion C of the NRHP or Criterion 3 of the CRHR. The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

In summary, the property does not appear to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP or the CRHR, but does appear to be a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.



P-24-000911e Ser. No. 5340-67  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 35 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/722510/4130950 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

### HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

#### IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None HRI MERCED 7-50
2. Historic name: Hunter, Caswell T., Home
3. Street or rural address: 845 West 14th Street (843 W. 14th Street)  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-213-15
5. Present Owner: Ruth Hunter Address: 843 W. 14th St.  
City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Vacant Residence Original use: Residence

#### DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Wood framed building with gablet roof.
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The vented gablet roof of this single story home has wood shingles and a plain boxed cornice with frieze. The V-rustic siding covering the exterior walls has endboards. The roof of the open veranda, which extends across the front, is supported by four 4x4 posts. Formed concrete steps lead to the porch and the centrally placed four panel door. The original square plan of this home was altered between 1898 and 1907 by the addition of two extensions to the rear; one with a hip roof, the other a shed roof. While the siding used on these additions match the original, that on an enclosed porch across the rear does not. The windows are tall, narrow, and have double hung sash. This home, which is situated among citrus trees, has a garage and a shed.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1895 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
7/12/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good X Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: Additions to rear (ca. 1900)
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up X  
Residential X Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial \_\_\_ Other: Elevated freeway
- 16. Threats to site: None Known \_\_\_ Private development X Zoning X Vandalism X  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. Related features: Garage, shed

**SIGNIFICANCE**

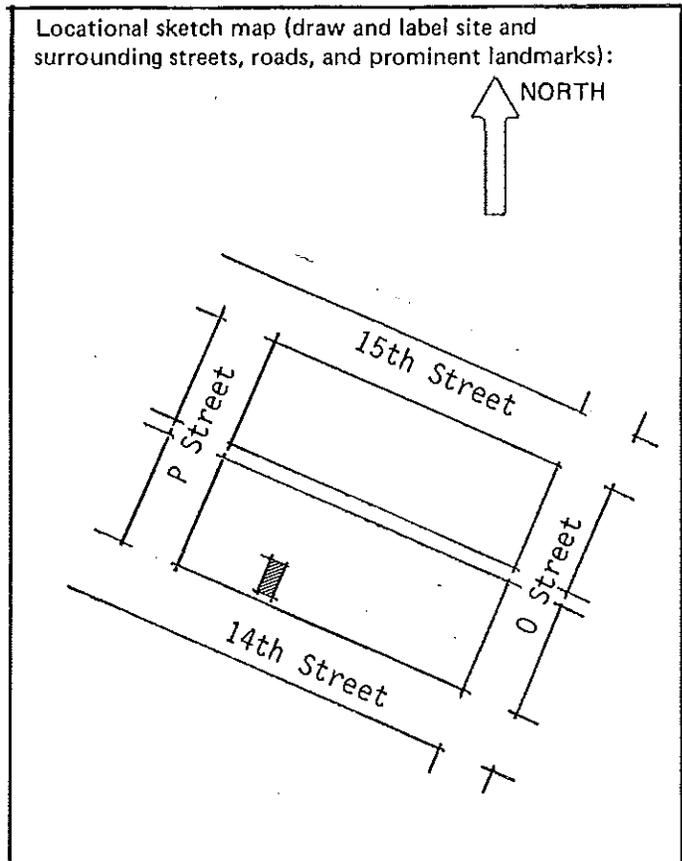
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This relatively well maintained home was the residence of Merced's sixth mayor (1911) Caswell T. Hunter. This is one of the better examples of unembellished late 19th century domestic architecture in the City. The gabled roof on this home is one of the few encountered during the survey with this kind of venting arrangement.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
Government 1 Military \_\_\_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates). Sanborn (1898/1907/1940);  
PT&T Merced Directory (1909);  
Poik's Merced Directory (1914);  
Merced County Library Historical Files.

22. Date form prepared 3/15/85  
By (name) Marcus and Susan Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000917

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-213-016

P1. Other Identifier: Frank Bacigalupi Home

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Merced

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 13E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 25; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 849 W 14th Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-213-016

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A single-story residence is located on parcel 031-213-016. The wood-frame house takes form under a hip roof with a vented gable on the front elevation and a gable on the west elevation. The roof is covered with composition shingles. Eaves feature exposed rafters with fascia and brackets. A veranda accessed by concrete stairs shelters the front elevation. Cobble piers with multiple posts support the veranda. The building is clad with clapboard siding and includes wood-frame windows with double-hung sash. The parcel is also planted with fruit trees and a lawn.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2 Single Family Property.

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

\*P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing north, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

C 1910/ Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Parish, Charles A & Sandra J Trustees  
4498 E State Highway 140  
Merced, CA

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 3

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-213-016

B1. Historic Name: Frank Bacigalupi Home

B2. Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

B3. Original Use: Residence B4. Present Use: Residence

\*B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman Bungalow

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1910 Property Type Residence Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The craftsman bungalow residence on this parcel was constructed ca. 1910 as part of the early 20 century development in the City of Merced. Merced blacksmith Frank Bacigalupi resided on the property as early as 1914 and was likely an original owner. From the late 1920s to 1960, Hunter Wallace occupied the property (Polks 1926/1927, 1960). The house appears to be part of residential construction in downtown Merced that took place following the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The residence was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as “architecturally interesting” and given a status code of 5S2 (individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation). The residence is essentially unchanged since it was last evaluated in 1985. Because it retains integrity to its previous evaluation and is listed in the City survey, it is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

The building was also evaluated for its potential to meet the criteria for listing on the NRHP or CRHR. Under Criterion A (1), the house is not known to be associated with any notable historic events of the City, State, or Nation. There is no indication that the building is associated with individuals important to the area and thus, does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. Under Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3, the craftsman bungalow residence represents a common architectural style for the Merced area during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Constructed in great numbers in both urban and rural areas during this period, the residence displays characteristics of the craftsman bungalow style. However, the characteristics displayed are not significant or unique for the type, period, or method of construction. The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Historic Resources Inventory form 1985; R. L. Polk & Company. Polk's Merced City Directory. San Francisco: R. L. Polk and Company, 1926/1927, 1960.

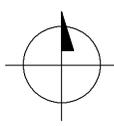
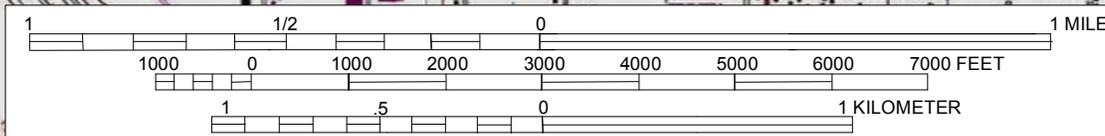
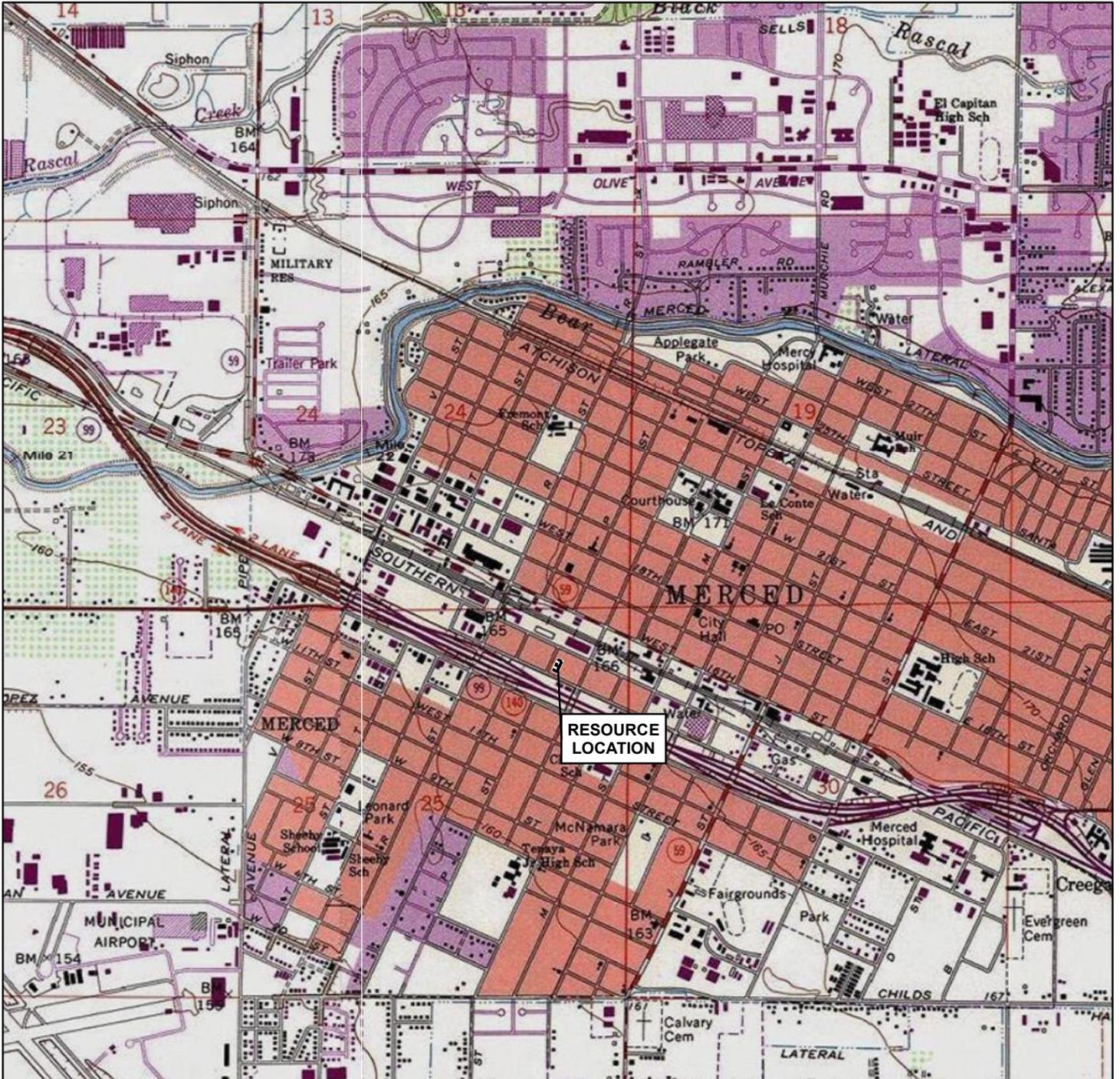
B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date of Evaluation: 6/26/11

(This space reserved for official comments.)





CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

P-24-000917 Ser. No. 5340-68  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/722500/4130960 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

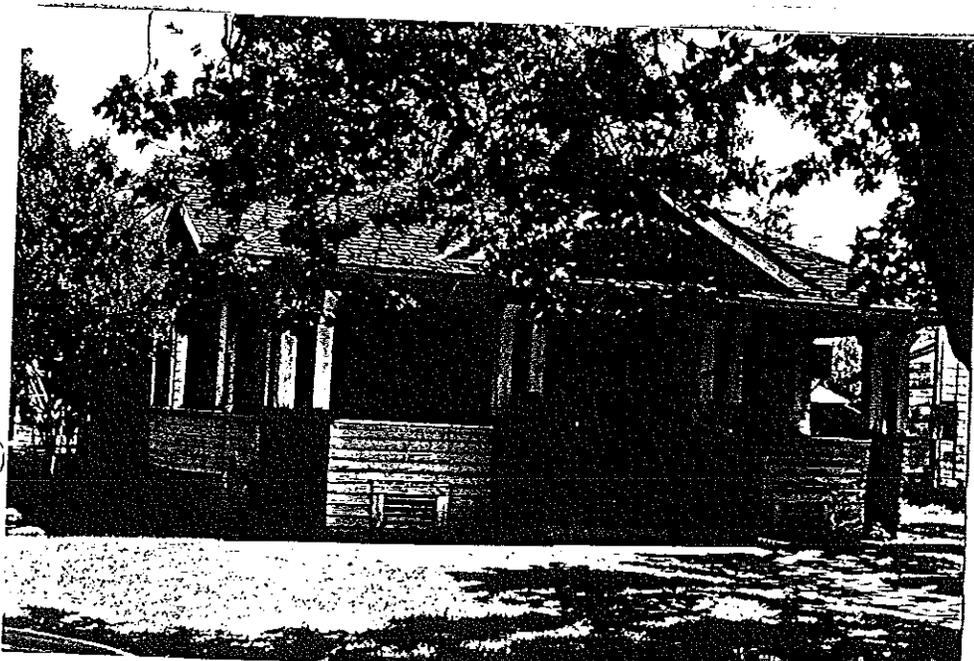
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None HUI MERCED 750
2. Historic name: Bacigalupi, Frank, Home
3. Street or rural address: 849 West 14th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-213-16
5. Present Owner: Charles A. and Sandra J. Parish Address: 1831 E. 21st Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: \_\_\_\_\_ Original use: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Transitional Colonial Revival-Craftsman
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This single story rectangular plan home has a hip roof with a vented gable facing the street as well as a gable over a bay window on the western side of the house. The eaves have exposed rafters with a fascia and brackets. The inset veranda has cobble piers supporting multiple posts with angular "capitals" on which rests a king beam. The door has four panes of beveled glass. The windows occur individually or in combination and have double hung sash. Clapboard siding covers the exterior.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1910 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
7/12/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good  Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up   
Residential  Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known \_\_\_ Private development  Zoning  Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site?  Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNIFICANCE**

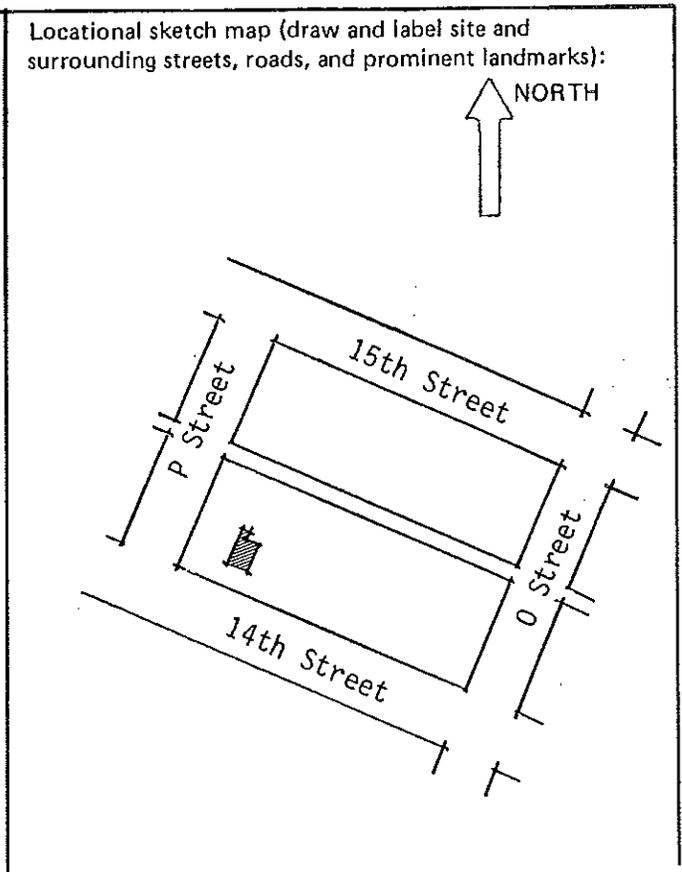
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This architecturally interesting home presents a Colonial Revival house plan executed in the Craftsman mode. The large veranda, with its cobble piers and posts, carrying angular capital, is one of the most attractive features of this residence and reflects the Craftsman ethnic which promoted the use of natural materials and the abandonment of classical column forms. Frank Bacigalupi, a blacksmith, lived at this address in 1914.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
Sanborn (1940);  
Polks Merced Directory (1914).

22. Date form prepared 8/5/85  
By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000918  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-213-017

P1. Other Identifier: Jacob Schafer Home

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 13E; \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 25; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 861 W 14th Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-213-017

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A single story residence is located on parcel 031-213-017. The wood-frame residence features vertical board-and-batten siding and a gabled roof with exposed rafters (**Photograph 1**). The main entrance to the residence is accessed by concrete steps. Directly adjacent to the entrance is a bank of screened bay-style windows sheltered by a gabled roof with brackets. Additional windows are original wood-frame double-hung sash and replacement fixed-pane style. A shed-roofed garage is located at the rear of the residence (**Photograph 2**). Vegetation in the forms of trees, shrubs, and lawn is also on the parcel.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2 Single Family Property.

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Photograph 1, residence, camera facing north, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca. 1918/Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
Schafer Kathleen Elizabeth  
861 W 14TH ST  
Merced, CA

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010  
and January 19, 2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  
 District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Copy of Historic Resources Inventory Form 1985  
DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z/5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-213-017

B1. Historic Name: Jacob Schafer Home

B2. Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

B3. Original Use: Residence B4. Present Use: Residence

\*B5. Architectural Style: Craftsman Bungalow

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) House constructed 1918; garage post-1922

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: garage

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme 19th Century Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1918 Property Type Residence Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The residence was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as a significant resource and given a status code of 5S2 (individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation). The craftsman bungalow house was noted in 1985 as “unique in Merced for its attractively rustic board and batten siding.” The residence is essentially unchanged since it was last recorded in 1985. Because it retains integrity and is listed in the City survey for its attractive siding, it is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

The residence on this parcel was constructed ca. 1918 by Jacob Schafer, a sign painter who worked out of his garage located on the same property. Schafer owned the property until at least 1935 (Polk’s 1935: 127) when his wife Orrin took over the property and remained a resident until at least 1960 (Polk’s 1960: 14). While the residence appears to have been constructed by 1918, the garage did not appear until sometime after 1922 and was removed sometime after 1985 (Sanborn 1922: 23; Sanborn 1922/50: 23). A shed-roofed garage building was constructed to the rear of the residence during the same period. (See Continuation Sheet).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Arguelles and Arguelles, 1985b, Historic Resources Inventory form; Sanborn Map Company, Merced, California. New York., 1922; 1922-1950. Polk’s Directory, Merced, San Francisco, CA 1935; 1960.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date of Evaluation: 6/26/11

(This space reserved for official comments.)



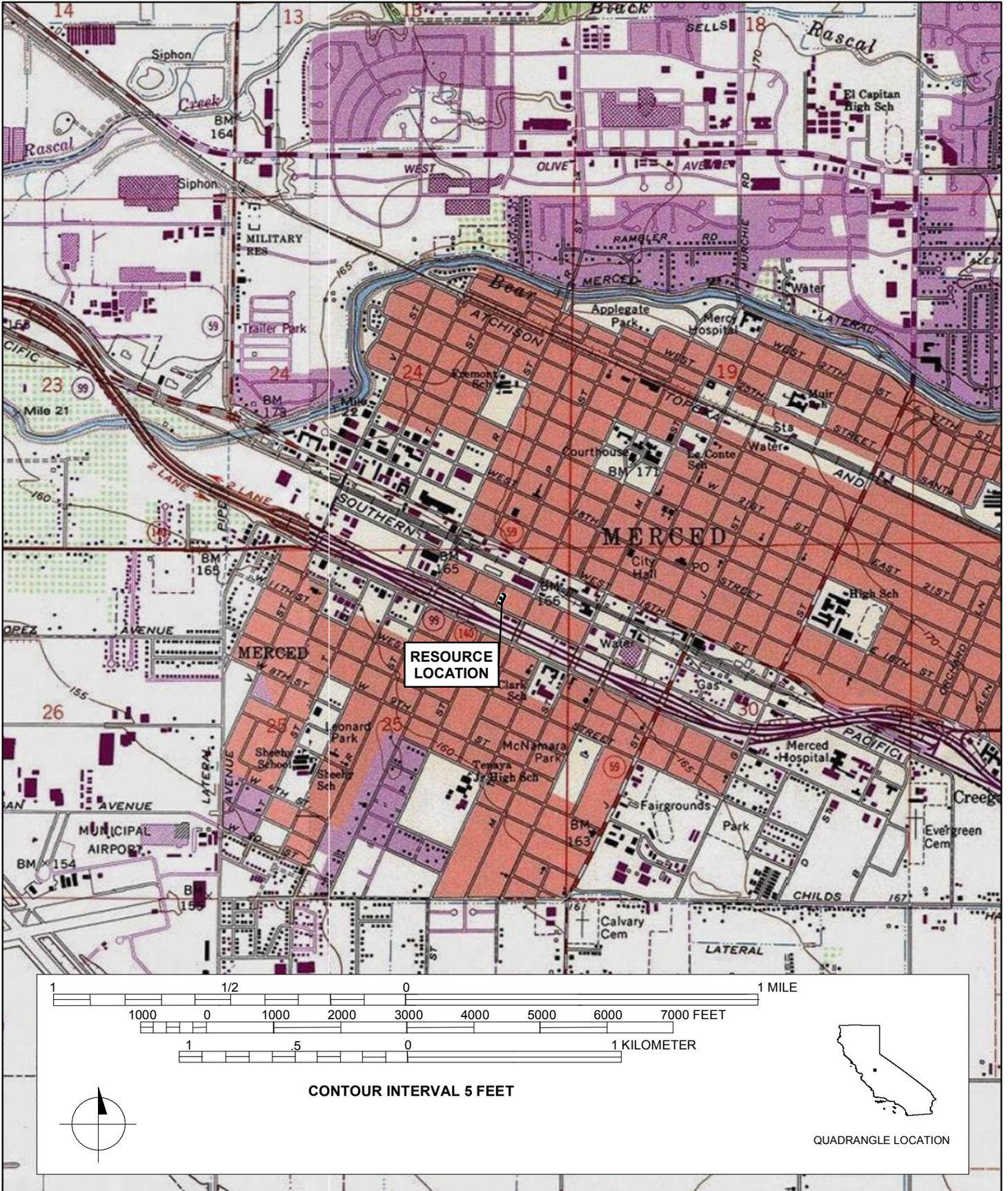
**Significance (cont)**

For the purposes of the current project, the property was also considered for its ability to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Constructed in Merced during the early 1900s, the simple residence represents one of many craftsman bungalow houses built during this period to meet the housing needs of businessmen such as Jacob Schafer who operated sign painting shop out of a shop located to the rear of his property. Schafer's wife, Orrin continued to live at the house until at least 1960 (Polk's 1960: 14). While he operated a business out of the property, Schafer is not known to have represented a particular art movement in Merced or known to have been a particularly noted as an artist in the region. Thus, the property is not known to be associated with significant events or persons in the area and therefore does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion A and B or Criterion 1 and 2 of the CRHR. The residence is a modest example of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century craftsman bungalow style common to the region and does not display distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. Board and batten siding is also common for buildings in the agriculturally focused Central Valley area and does not represent a unique or groundbreaking architectural method. This residence does not appear to meet Criterion C of the NRHP or Criterion 3 of the CRHR. The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4. In summary, the property does not appear to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP or the CRHR, but does appear to be a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

**Photographs (cont)**



**Photograph 2.** Garage, camera facing southeast, January 19, 2011



P-24-000918  
Ser. No. 5340-60  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 35 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/722485/4130970 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

### HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

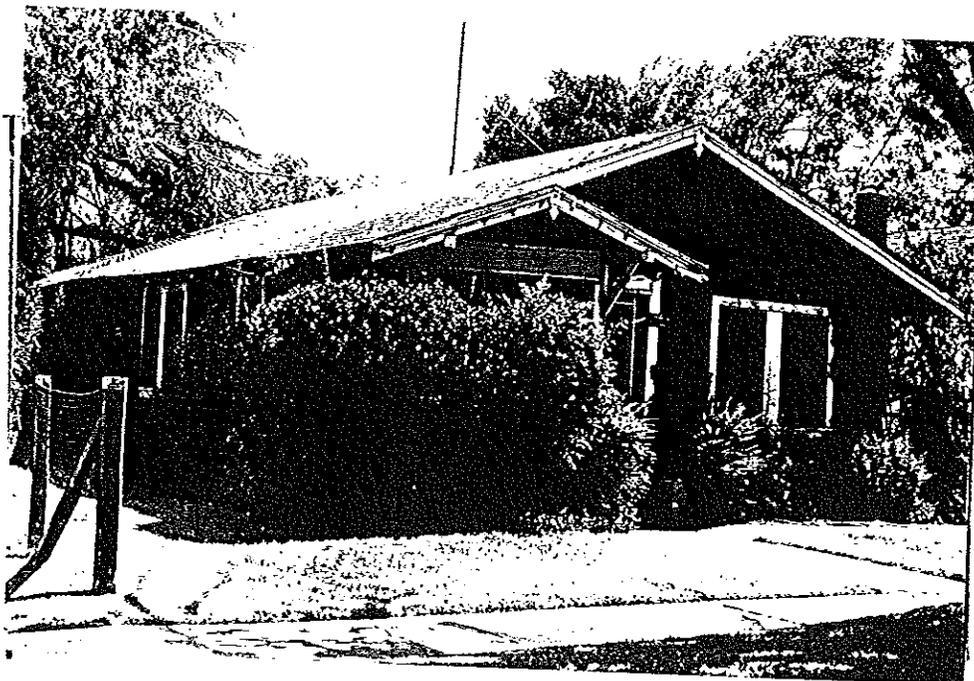
#### IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: None HRI MERCED 7.50
2. Historic name: Schafer, Jacob Home
3. Street or rural address: 861 West 14th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Present Owner: William Schafer Address: 861 West 14th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Residence Original use: Residence/Sign Shop

#### DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Craftsman
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This rustic Craftsman bungalow, located on a corner lot, has a gabled roof facing 14th Street. The entrance consists of a gabled, partially recessed screened porch with brackets. The eaves of the roof have exposed rafters. The exterior walls have vertical board and batten siding. The double garage, located at the rear of the lot facing "P" Street, has a gabled roof with a shingled false front. Each entrance has double doors made of V-rustic boards which covers most of the lower facade. Vertical board and batten siding was used on the other walls.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1918 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Jacob Schafer
10. Builder Jacob Schafer
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 50 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
7/12/85

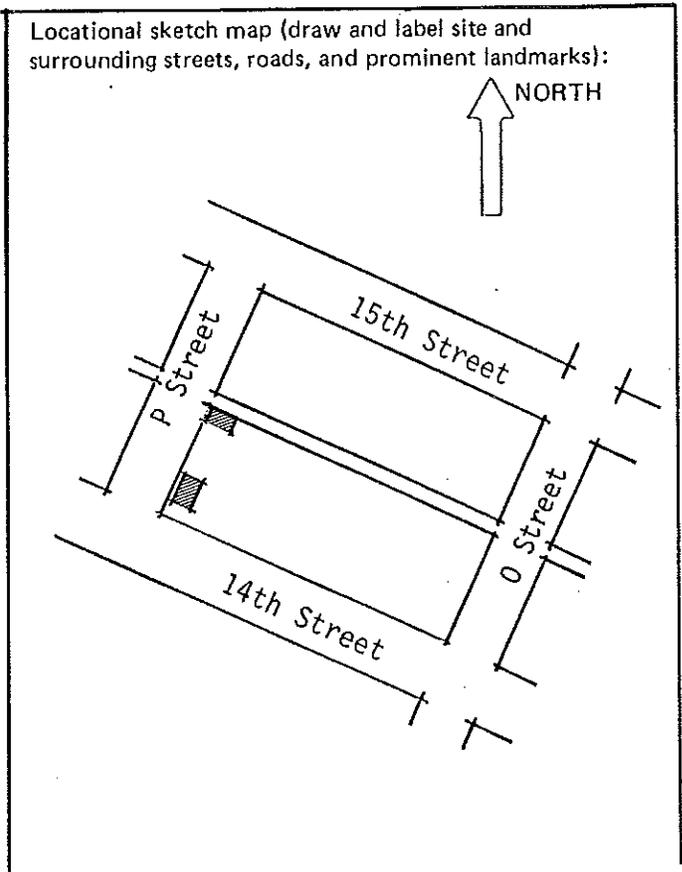
- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good  Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up   
Residential  Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known \_\_\_ Private development \_\_\_ Zoning  Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site?  Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: Double garage

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Jacob Schafer, a sign painter, built this home ca. 1918. He used the garage in his work for painting signs on wagons and later on panel trucks. He also painted signs in the commercial district. This Craftsman bungalow is unique in Merced for its attractively rustic board and batten siding.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial 2 Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_
- 21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
Polk's Merced Directory (1922);  
Interview: William Schafer (3/30/85)
- 22. Date form prepared 3/30/85  
By (name) Marcus and Susan Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000922  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3S  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-231-005

P1. Other Identifier: PG&E Building, San Joaquin Light and Power Corp., Merced Receiving/Substation

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 14E; \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 25, 30; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 560 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-231-005

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The PG&E Building is a one-story receiving station with Mission-style details constructed 1918-1920. This concrete and stucco building is four-bays across the front elevation and eight-bays deep with a rectangular plan. The roof is flat with a raised band of trim at the cornice and a decorative parapet with floral scrolls in relief on the north elevation. The building cornice features dentil decoration. The north (front) elevation also includes pilasters dividing the lower portion of the wall into panels with rectangles. Contemporary lettering on the wall reads, "PG&E: Yosemite Division." (See Continuation Sheet)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP9 Public Utility Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing northeast, January 21, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca. 1915, Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
PG&E  
77 Beale Street  
San Francisco, CA

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 21, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 3S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-231-005

B1. Historic Name: San Joaquin Light and Power Corp., Merced Receiving/Substation

B2. Common Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Plant

B3. Original Use: Receiving/Substation B4. Present Use: Offices/Plant

\*B5. Architectural Style: Mission

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) ca. 1915

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced County

Period of Significance 1915 Property Type Receiving/Substation Applicable Criteria C/3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This property appears to meet NRHP Criterion C/CRHR Criterion 3, because it is a distinctive example of a Mission Revival style at the local level of significance. The property does not appear to meet NRHP Criteria A and B or CRHR Criteria 1 or 2. It was constructed in 1915 for the San Joaquin Light and Power Company at time when Merced and the company were expanding. Evidence does not suggest that this particular property played a significant role in history. Under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3, the property does appear architecturally significant. The Mission Revival style gained prominence in the early twentieth century and is characterized by smooth stucco walls, unadorned surfaces limited fenestration, and curved gables or end walls. The style was commonly found in residential and small commercial buildings and less frequently in industrial buildings such as the subject building. Under NRHP Criterion D and CRHR Criterion 4, the property does not appear likely to yield information important to history. In summary, this property appears eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR for its architecture at the local level of significance and retains integrity to convey that significance. Therefore, this property is considered an historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: California Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

\*Date of Evaluation: July 18, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)



**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # 24-000922

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 4

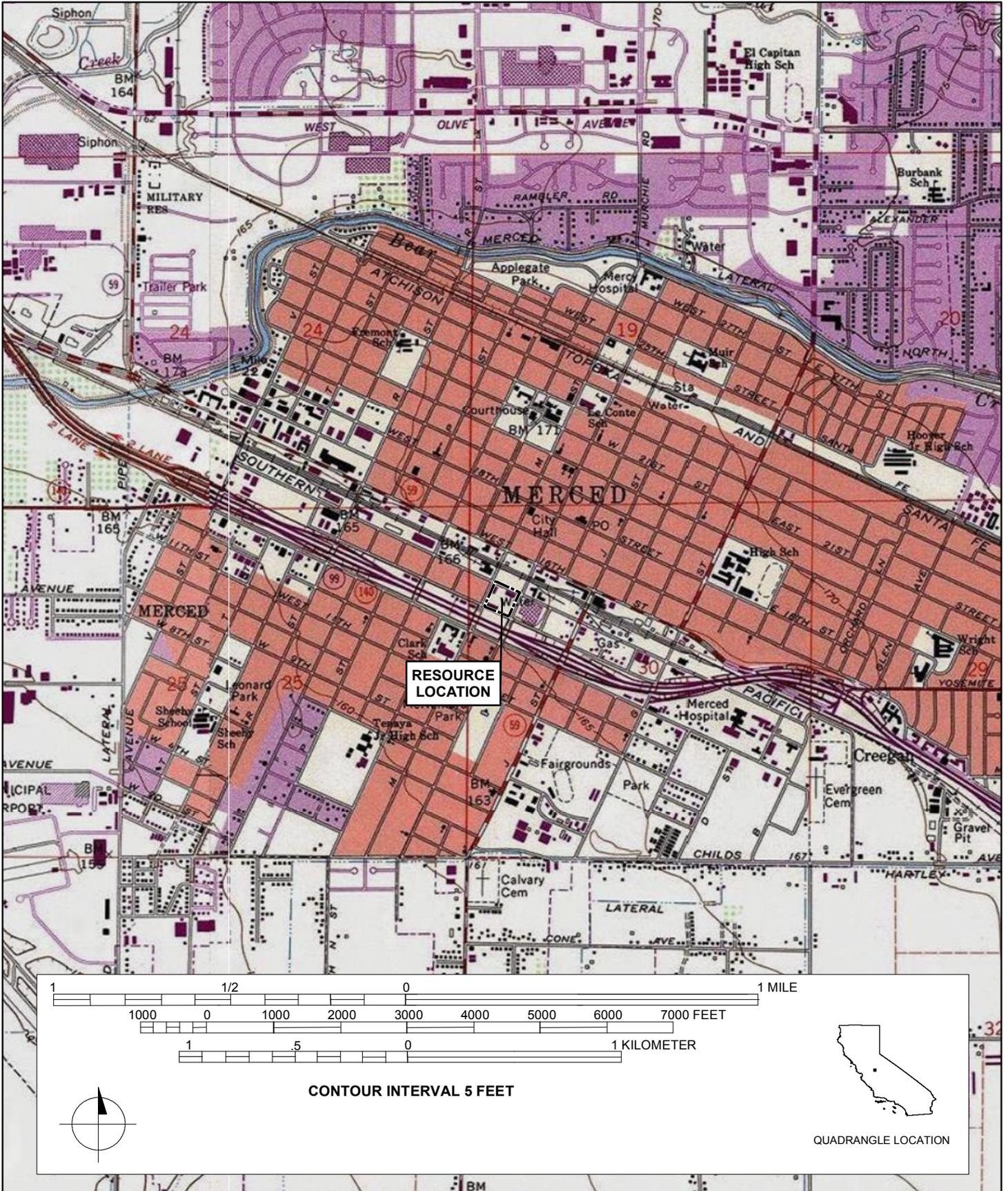
\*Resource Name or #: Assigned by recorder) \_\_\_\_\_ 031-231-005

\*Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: 1/21/2010     Continuation     Update

**Description (cont)**

Fenestration throughout the building consists of large metal-framed multi-light windows that contain a combination of eight-pane casements, fixed multi-pane units, and multi-pane awning units. A loading dock on the east elevation has a shed-roofed overhang supported by steel posts several bays with roll-up doors. A metal fence encloses a parking lot on the east side of the building. Young deciduous trees and manicured shrubs front the property line. The property also contains three, modern ancillary buildings. At the southwest corner of the parcel is a one-story, eight-bay maintenance building used for truck repair that appears to have been constructed in the 1980s-1990s. It has a low-pitched side-gable roof, walls clad in vertical aluminum siding, and overhead garage doors. On the east side of the parcel is a one-story shed with a flat roof and two large open bays on the north side. A third building is located at the northeast corner of the property and appears to date from the 1970s. It is a one-story building with a flat roof, wide, overhanging cornice, and ribbon, awning windows along the top of the wall. It also appears to date from the 1970s.



P-24-000922  
Ser. No. 5340-73  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/723000/4131000 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

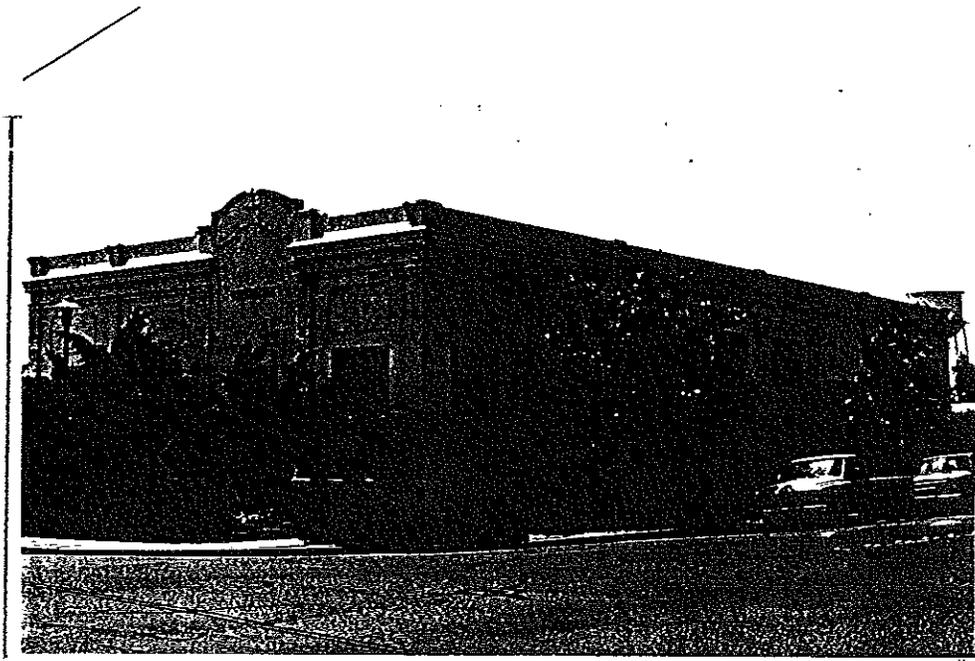
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Plant AM Merced 7.50
2. Historic name: San Joaquin Light and Power Corp. Merced Plant
3. Street or rural address: 560 W. 15th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Present Owner: Pacific Gas and Electric Company Address: 77 Beale Street  
City San Francisco Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Offices/Storage Original use: Generating Plant

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Spanish Colonial Revival
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This rectangular plan building is made of formed concrete and stucco. The parapet of the building is broken by an espadana-like projection decorated with floral scrolls in relief, and by extensions of the corner and strip pilasters which divide the lower facade into panels. Within these panels are shouldered rectangles delineated by their incuse edges. The cornice has dentil decoration. Natural lighting and ventilation are provided for by multipane windows.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1915 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 400 Depth 400  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
6/23/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good X Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land X Scattered buildings X Densely built-up \_\_\_  
Residential X Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial X Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known X Private development \_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNIFICANCE

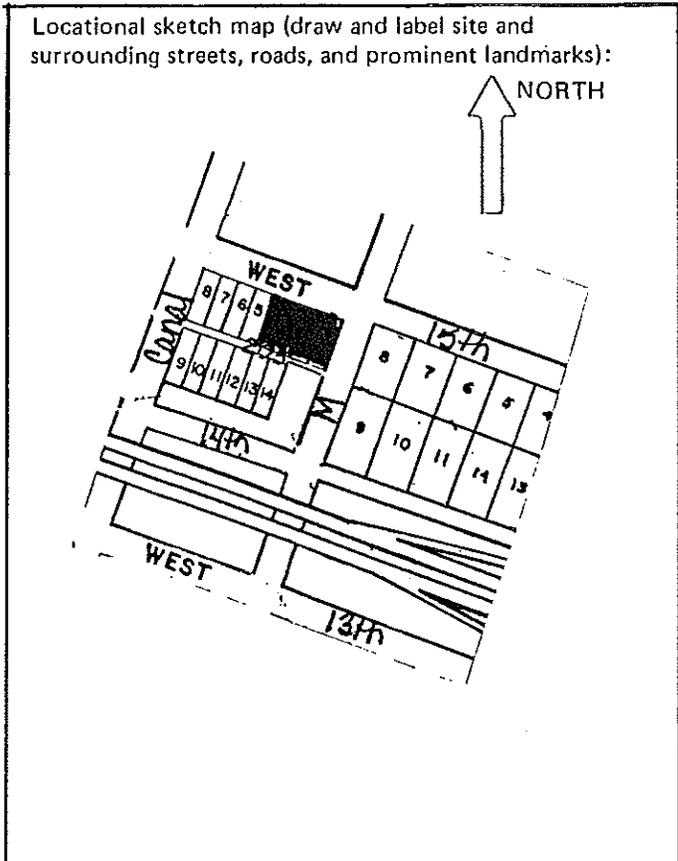
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This plant, once operated by the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, became a part of the Pacific Gas and Electric system in the 1930's. This is a good example of institutional Spanish Colonial Revival architecture.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 2 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial 1 Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates). Sanborn (1940);  
Polk's Merced Directory (1935);  
C. Radcliffe, History of Merced County (1940:409);  
Interview: Arthur Adams (8/18/85)

22. Date form prepared 8/18/85  
By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # P24-000920  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 6Z/52S  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-243-004

P1. Other Identifier: Merced Beverage and Supply Company

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 14E;      ¼ of Sec 30;      B.M.

c. Address 210 W 15th Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-243-003

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A rectangular metal building with an arched roof is located on parcel 031-243-003. The building is clad with corrugated metal and features large bays with top-rail sliding doors on the north and west elevations. Windows are metal-framed multi-light units. A chain-link fence with barbed wire closes off a parking area to the west and east and a wood fence runs along the rear of the parcel. A modern two-story, wood-frame residence with stucco siding and vinyl windows is also located to the rear of the parcel.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6 Commercial Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)

Photograph 1, camera facing SE,  
January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1924, Arguelles 1985b

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Ramirez Roland J Trustee  
1391 Christopher Dr  
Merced, CA

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  
 District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form  
DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 3

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z/52S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-243-004

B1. Historic Name: Merced Beverage and Supply Company

B2. Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_

B3. Original Use: Commercial B4. Present Use: Commercial

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) \_\_\_\_\_

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1924 Property Type Commercial Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The building on this parcel was constructed in 1924 and functioned as a beverage supply company from as early as 1928. In later years, it housed Merced Import Auto Repair. The building was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as a significant resource and given a status code of 3S (appears eligible for NR as an individual property). For the purposes of this project, the property was also evaluated for eligibility for listing in the NRHP or in the CRHR. The building does not appear to meet the standards for the NRHP as it is only a remnant of a much larger complex of buildings that no longer exist. The associated residence located to the rear has been removed since 1985. The building is not known to be associated with notable historic events or persons in the Merced area and thus does not appear to meet Criterion A or B of the NRHP or 1 and 2 or the CRHR. As a basic metal clad wood-frame warehouse it does not outwardly exhibit the unique architectural characteristics that would meet the NRHP under Criterion C or the CRHR under Criterion 3. The utilitarian construction style and materials are relatively common. Given the alterations to the building and surroundings (removal of residence, modernization of surrounding area, and location of Colony Lane Way adjacent), the integrity of setting, feeling, and association has been compromised.

In summary, the resource does not appear eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR. Because it was previously identified as a significant resource in a qualified local survey and retains integrity to that previous city survey and evaluation, it is considered a historic resource for the purposes of CEQA.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Arguelles, 1985, Historic Resources Inventory form.

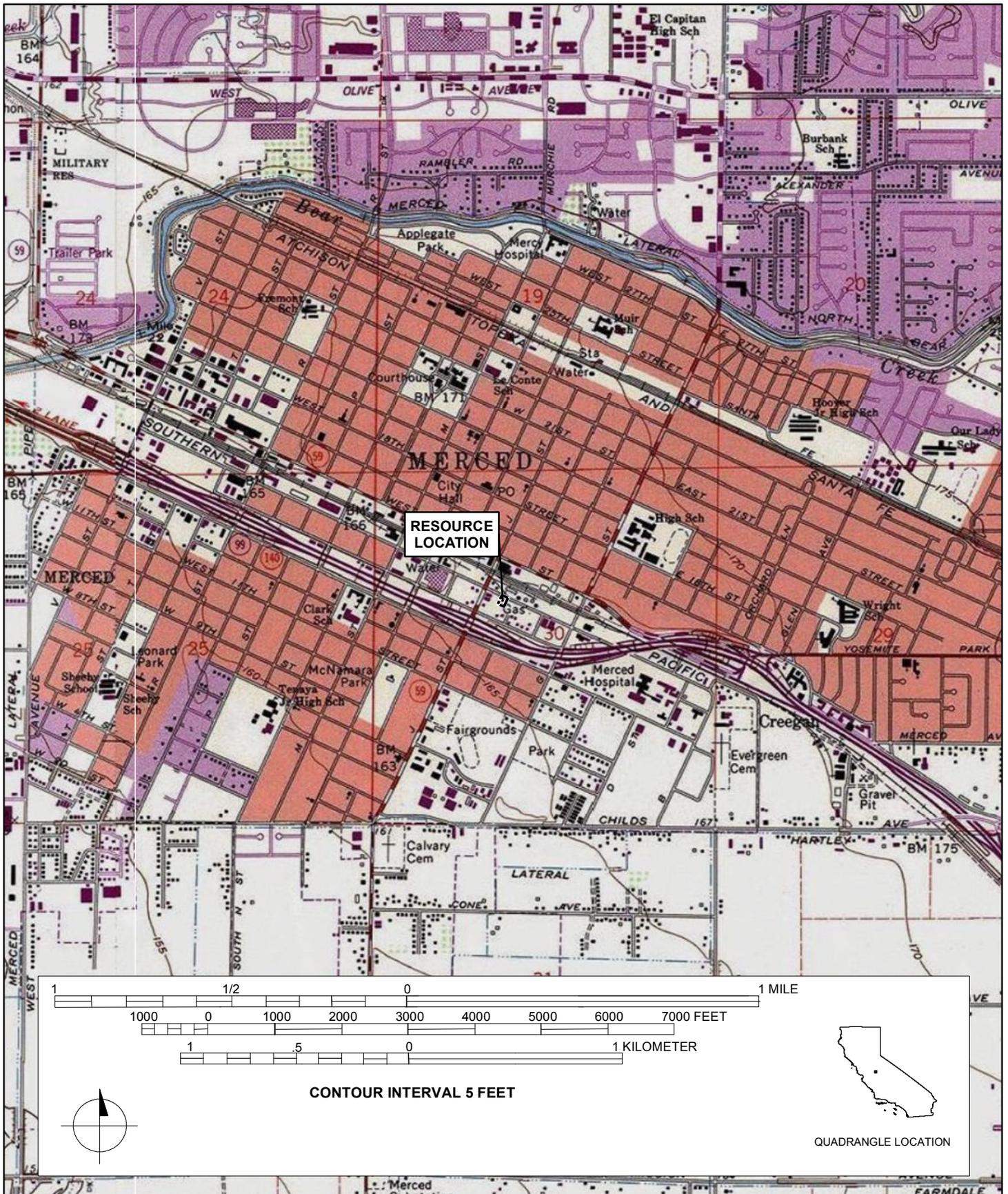
B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date of Evaluation: 7/12/11

(This space reserved for official comments.)





P-24-000920  
Ser. No. 5340-71  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/732410/4130650 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

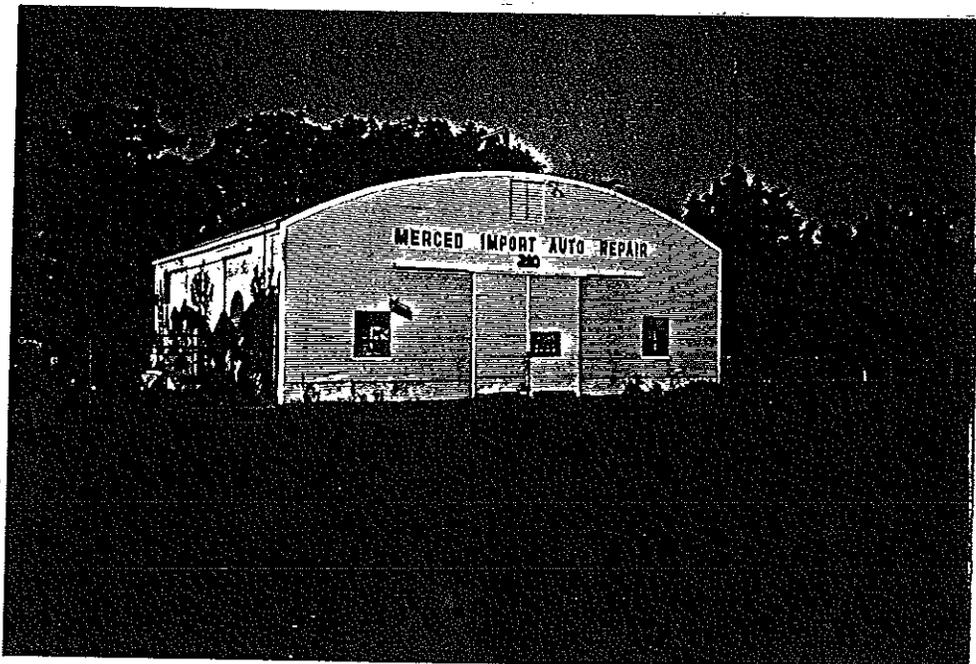
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Merced Import Auto Repair ANI MENLO 7-50
2. Historic name: Merced Beverage and Supply Company
3. Street or rural address: 210 W. 15th Street  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-243-03
5. Present Owner: Ernest W. and Dorothy Bizzini Address: P.O. Box 813  
City Atwater Zip 95301 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Automobile Repair Shop Original use: Beverage Distributing/Residence

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Metal Building
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This rectangular plan building has corrugated metal sheets covering its walls and arched roof. Large sliding doors provide access to the interior. A rectangular plan two story wood framed residence, located at the rear of the lot has side-facing gables and two small offset facing gables which have a balcony between them.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1924
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 100 Depth 150  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
6/23/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good \_\_\_ Fair X Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings X Densely built-up \_\_\_  
Residential X Industrial X Commercial \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known X Private development \_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: Residence

**SIGNIFICANCE**

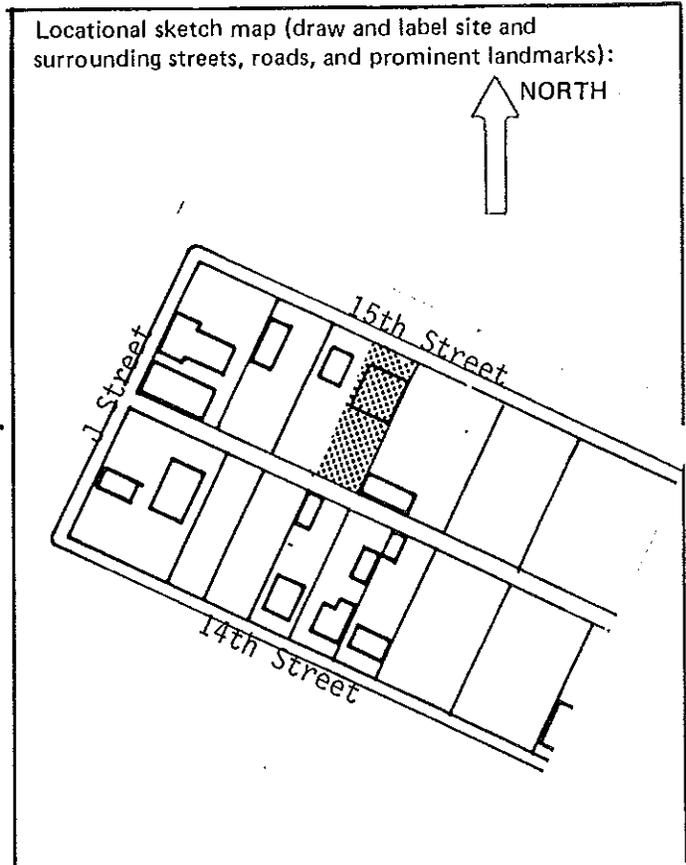
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Merced Beverage Supply Company was owned by J.S. Coelho who moved his business here between 1928 and 1930. This company distributed several brands of carbonated drinks from this location. The owner occupied the residence at the rear of the lot. While metal buildings of this type were a familiar sight in the 1930's this appears to be the only remaining example of this utilitarian style in Merced.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial 2 Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

- 21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
Sanborn (1940).  
Polks Merced Directory (1930, 1935, 1938).  
Interview: Jack Armas (1-16-85).

- 22. Date form prepared 3/10/85  
By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 209/385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000932

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3S

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-360-001 ~~031-360-001~~ ~~031-360-001~~

P1. Other Identifier: Southern Pacific Transportation Company

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 13E; \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 25; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 740 W 16th St City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 031-360-001 ~~031-360-001~~ ~~031-360-001~~

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The former Southern Pacific Company Railroad Station is a single story rectangular building with a hipped roof. The soffit features square panels with rosettes and plain rectangular panels. The frieze has dentils. The roof extends to form a porte cochere with a colonnade at the east and west elevations (the former passenger platform). The roof also extends out slightly on the northern elevation. The porte cocheres are accessed by covered walkways supported by colonnades. Walls of the building are wood frame with brick veneer. The main entrance is flanked by pilasters and features double doors with a fixed transom. Windows throughout the building are double hung style with some lower sashes divided into four panels. Relatively recent vegetation in the form of deciduous trees, palm trees, and shrubbery is planted in close vicinity to the building and provides a visual separation from the street. A similarly styled modern transit center building is located to the northeast of this depot building and is attached via a covered walkway. The station faces N Street, a palm-lined boulevard leading to the Courthouse, which is only a block away and faces the station.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP17. Railroad Depot

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing northwest, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1926/Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Merced  
678 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95340

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") AECOM. Draft. Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS, August 2011.

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985.

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 3S \_\_\_\_\_

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 031-360-001 ~~031-360-001~~

B1. Historic Name: Merced Southern Pacific Company Passenger Station

B2. Common Name: Unknown

B3. Original Use: Railroad Depot B4. Present Use: Administrative

\*B5. Architectural Style: Neo Classical

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) 1926

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Southern Pacific RR

\*B10. Significance: Theme Community Development, Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1926-1930 (A/1); 1926 (C/3) Property Type Railroad Depot Applicable Criteria A/1, C/3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Merced Southern Pacific Company Passenger Station was previously surveyed by Marcus Arguellas in 1985 as part of a city-wide survey in Merced, but was not evaluated using NRHP criteria. The railroad depot is significant under NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1 for its representation of the pinnacle of the Southern Pacific Company's growth in the region as well as the Southern Pacific's early 20<sup>th</sup> century influence on Merced. The railroad depot also appears to meet Criterion C/3 in the area of architecture, at the local level of significance.

The depot served the Southern Pacific Railroad and later the Union Pacific Railroad in some capacity for much of the 20th century. However, during this period, the railroad functioned as a major economic conduit for Merced transporting both passengers and freight. Many of the passengers were tourists seeking to view the beauty of Yosemite Park. The 1920s period during which the depot was constructed was a period of intense competition for the railroad by the automobile. By 1927, the over 15 million Ford Model T automobiles built in the US provided a more versatile alternative to the railroad for travelling passengers (Stover 1999: 56; Steinheimer 1991:28-29). Whereas many automobiles were in California, the Southern Pacific Company likely realized that it needed to upgrade passenger facilities particularly in those communities that were historically integrated with the railroad. (See Continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: Arguellas, Marcus  
1985a Historic Resources Inventory form for the  
Southern Pacific Railroad Merced Station. On file,  
CDPR, Sacramento, California; Stover, J. F. *The*  
*Routledge Historical Atlas of the American Railroads,*  
New York: Routledge, 1999.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

\*Date of Evaluation: July 18, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)



\*Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: 1/31/2010

Continuation  Update

### Significance (cont)

While these improvements were welcomed by passengers, the continued proliferation of the automobile and trucking traffic, along with the Great Depression of the 1930s, were substantial blows to the once indomitable railroad which never realized the same successes in these markets moving into the future. In this way the 1926 depot is a prominent local physical representation of the crescendo of Southern Pacific Railroad control over passenger travel and local shipping in Central Valley cities such as Merced. The attention to stylistic construction of the Southern Pacific station as well as its location (in direct alignment with the old City Hall down N Street) in Merced reaffirms that idea that this railroad played an important role in valley cities such as Merced through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The depot is also significant under Criterion C, as a fine example of an early 20th century Neo-Classical style passenger station. The building displays characteristic features of the style including a façade with symmetrically balanced windows and door and a full-height colonnaded porch (in this case the passenger platform) with classical columns. The depot was a representation of the rail line and served as a prominent symbol in the Central Valley town of Merced.

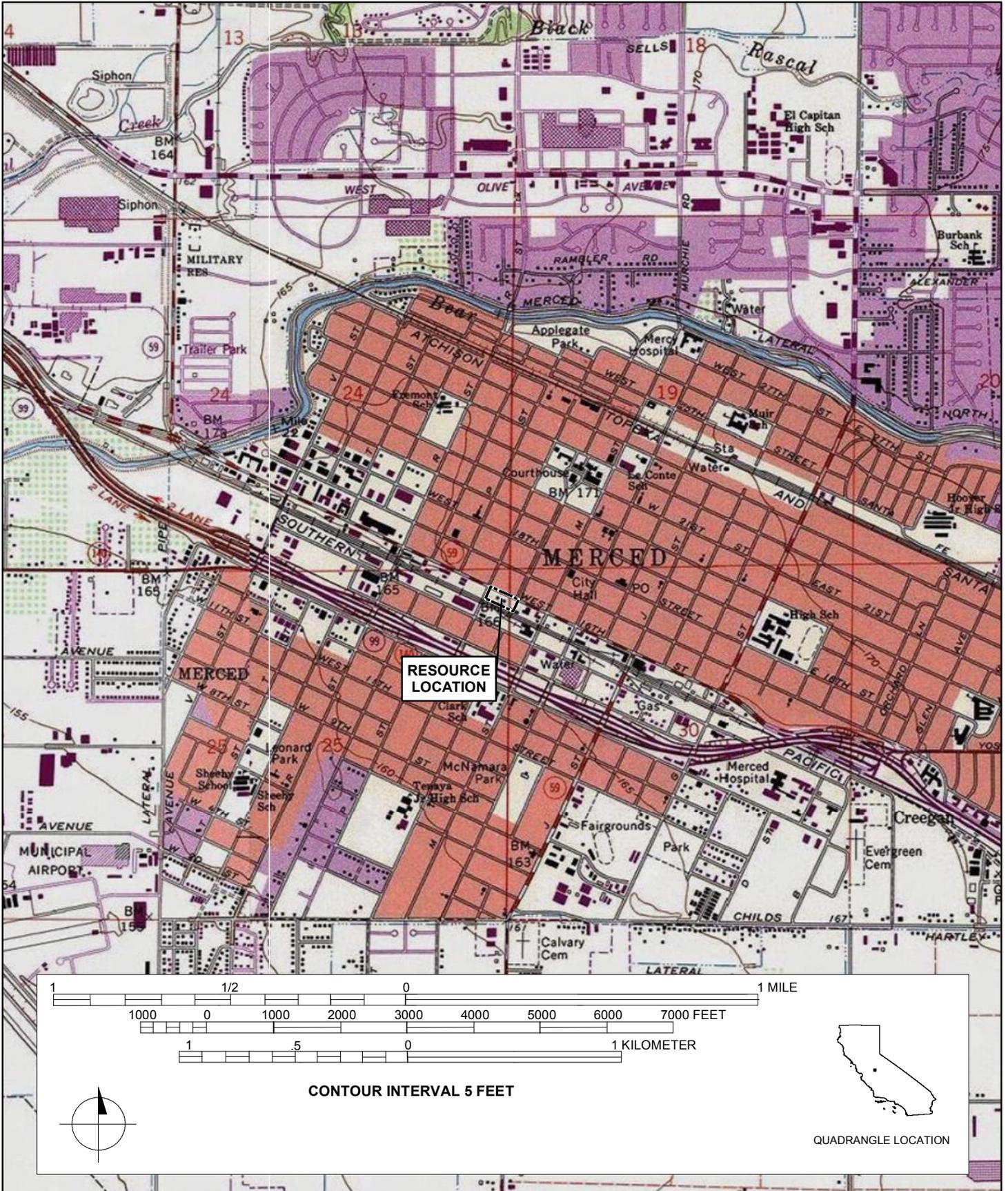
There is no indication that the building is associated with individuals important to the area and thus, does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

In addition to appearing historically and architecturally significant, the property retains integrity. Construction of the modern transit center (after 1985), which sits on the same parcel and is connected to the station via an enclosed walkway, and the modern landscaping to the north of the building and along N Street has resulted in a visual disconnect between the former station and the former City Hall building. However, the property retains its character-defining features as a Neo-Classical railroad station and retains all seven aspects of integrity in order to convey its historical and architectural significance.

In summary, the former depot appears eligible under NRHP Criteria A and C and CRHR Criteria 1 and 3 at the local level of significance and is considered an historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

### References (cont)

Steinheimer, Richard. *California State Railroad Museum: Railroading in California and the West*. California Department of Parks and Recreation. Sacramento, CA. 1991.



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

921-000932 Ser. No. 5300-81  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/722715/4131800B  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

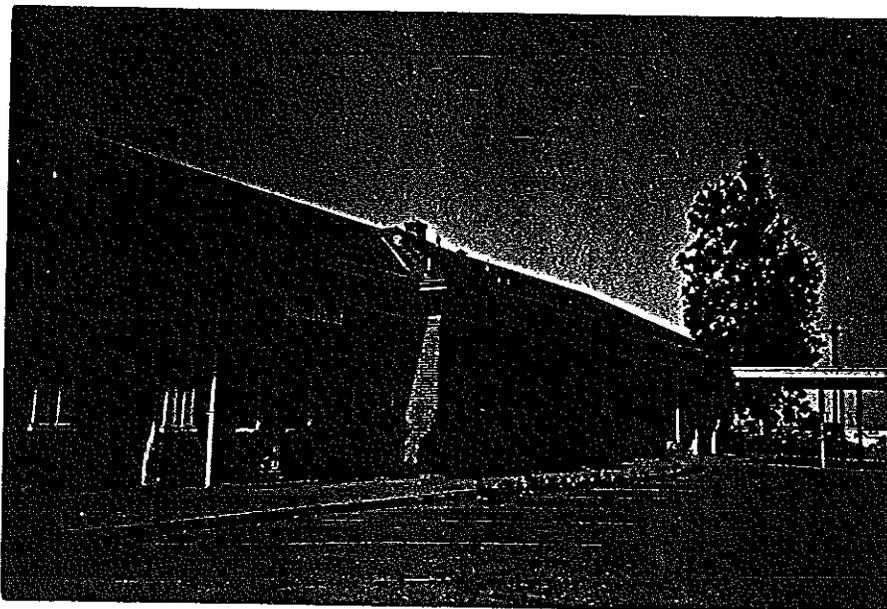
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Southern Pacific Transportation Company ARI MERCED 7-50
2. Historic name: Southern Pacific Company Passenger Station - Merced
3. Street or rural address: 16th and N Streets  
City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 31-170-52/53
5. Present Owner: Southern Pacific Transportation Co. Address: P.O. Box 3036  
City Bakersfield Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Vacant Original use: Railroad Station

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Neo-Classic
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This single story rectangular plan railroad station has a hip roof that extends over the passenger platform where it rests on a colonnade. Hip roofs also cover extensions of this platform on the eastern and western ends of the building, and a slight projection in the middle of the northern facade. The soffit has square panels with rosettes and plain rectangular panels, while the frieze has dentils and ancones with acanthus enrichment. The walls are wood framed with a veneer of multi-colored brick. The entrance, flanked by pairs of pilasters, has double doors and a fixed transom. The large windows providing light to the office and waiting rooms are double hung with the upper sash divided into three panels, while those for the bathroom are smaller and have mossglass. The windows on the baggage room have sash divided into three panels and are hinged on the bottom. Large sliding doors provide access to the baggage room.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1926
9. Architect M.W.D.
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 200 Depth 200  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
7/21/85

- 13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good X Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
- 14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land X Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up \_\_\_  
Residential \_\_\_ Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial X Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Threats to site: None known X Private development \_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
- 18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNIFICANCE**

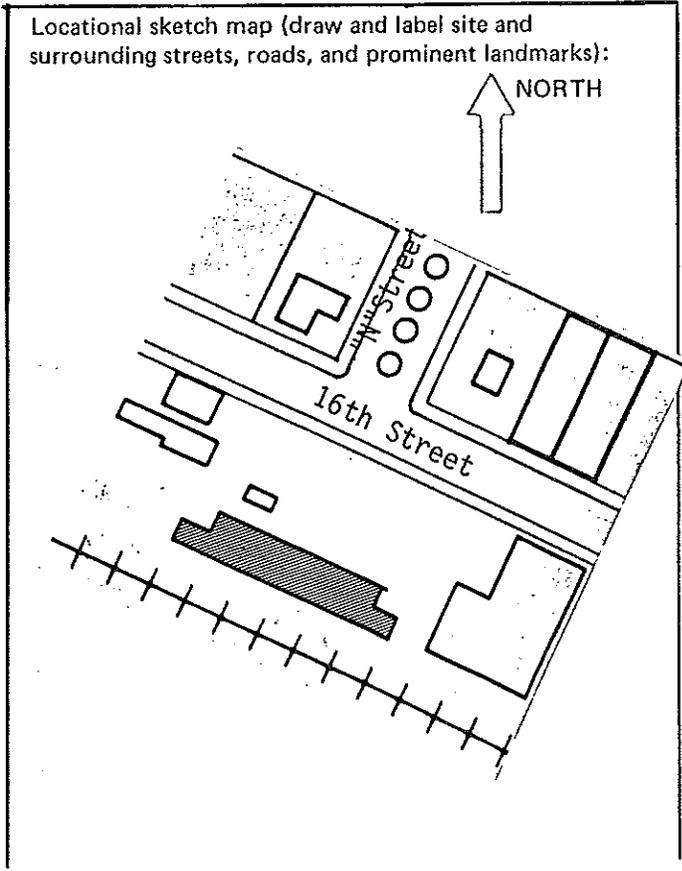
19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

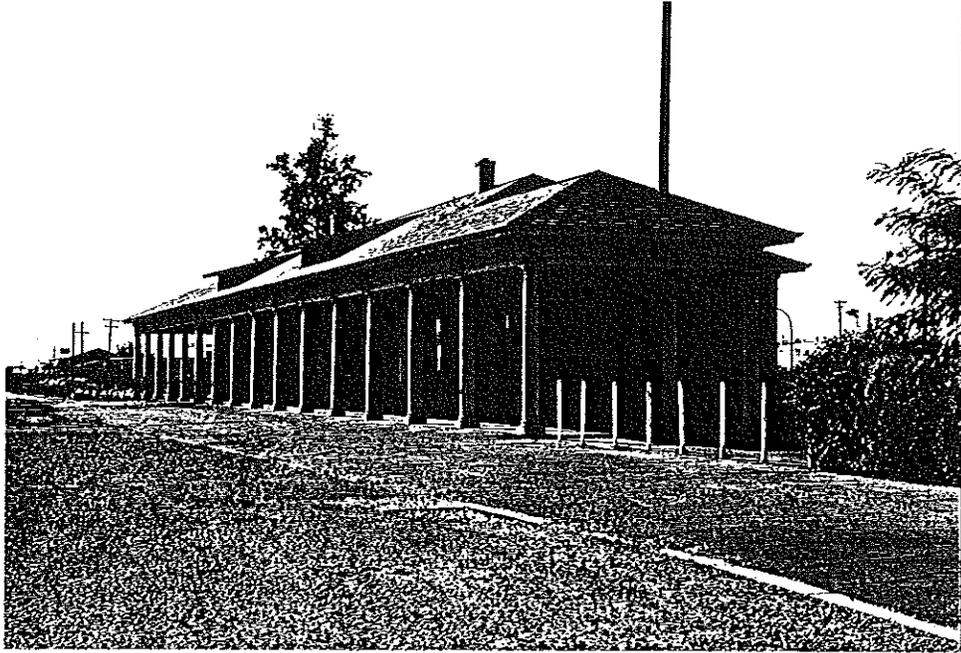
The Southern Pacific Passenger Station, the best example of Neo-Classic architecture in Merced, is an essential element of one of Merced's most impressive visual corridors. It is at the foot of a palm lined boulevard that passes the Hotel Tioga and terminates at the Old Court House, both of which are on the National Register. This station was an important factor in the economy of Merced in that tourists on their way to Yosemite would stop here overnight and patronize the City's principal hotels, the Tioga and El Capitan, and other local businesses. The Yosemite Valley Railroad, one of Merced's most important businesses, had a ticket office in this station.

- 20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
 Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_  
 Economic/Industrial 2 Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_  
 Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_  
 Religion \_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
 Plans on file at Merced Redevelopment Agency.

22. Date form prepared 5/29/85  
 By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
 Organization City of Merced  
 Address: 1730 M Street  
 City Merced Zip 95340  
 Phone: 209/385-6827





Southern Pacific Passenger Station - Northern Face

State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 24-000749  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3S  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or #(Assigned by recorder) 034-205-005

P1. Other Identifier: KAMB Building

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 14E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 30; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 90 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 034-205-005

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A single-story, wood-frame building with an irregular plan is located on this parcel. The building features smooth stucco siding and a gabled roof with clay tile. The roofline extends to shelter a porch on the east elevation. Square stucco-clad piers support log rafters and a tie-beam comprise the porch. A circular tower with a conical-tile roof is located on the south elevation. A round window with a star-shaped, molded-stucco frame mimicking the CHP badge is set within the tower. Windows throughout the building are metal-framed multi-light style. A flat-roofed addition is adjacent to the tower. Pine trees and shrubs grow in close proximity to the building. A modern (approx 100' high) radio antenna is located to the south of the building and a satellite dish is attached to the roof.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP14. Government Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing west, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca. 1933/Historic Resources Inventory Form

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Central Valley Broadcasting Co., Inc.  
90 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95340

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Copy of Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 3S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 034-205-005

B1. Historic Name: California Highway Patrol Building

B2. Common Name: KAMB

B3. Original Use: Civic - CHP B4. Present Use: Radio Station

\*B5. Architectural Style: Spanish Colonial Revival

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) ca. 1933

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1933 Property Type CHP Building Applicable Criteria C/3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This property appears eligible at the local level of significance under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3. The building is currently occupied by KAMB radio station. It was constructed ca. 1933 as a California Highway Patrol (CHP) building. Sited near Highway 99, it proved an ideal location for the Merced CHP, which was previously housed in a former high school.

Although the building served a vital function as a CHP building and later as a radio station, it is not known to be associated with events significant to the city or region, overall. Therefore it does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1. It is also not known to be directly associated with individuals important to the area and thus does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. Under NRHP Criterion C/CRHR Criterion 3, the building was designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, a style which gained prominence in the early twentieth century. Spanish Colonial Revival architecture was influenced by the opening of the Panama Canal and the 1915 Panama California Exposition. Characterized by smooth stucco walls, low-pitched, clay-tile roofs and stucco or terra-cotta ornamentation, the style was commonly used in residential and small commercial buildings and less frequently found in civic buildings. The former CHP building retains a high degree of integrity from its 1930s construction date and is unique in the City of Merced as a civic building designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Therefore, the building appears to meet NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 at a local level. It does not appear likely to yield information important to history under NRHP Criterion D and CRHR Criterion 4.

In summary, this property appears architecturally significant at the local level and retains integrity to convey that significance. Therefore, this property appears to qualify for listing in the NRHP and CRHR and is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: California Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

\*Date of Evaluation: July 18, 2011



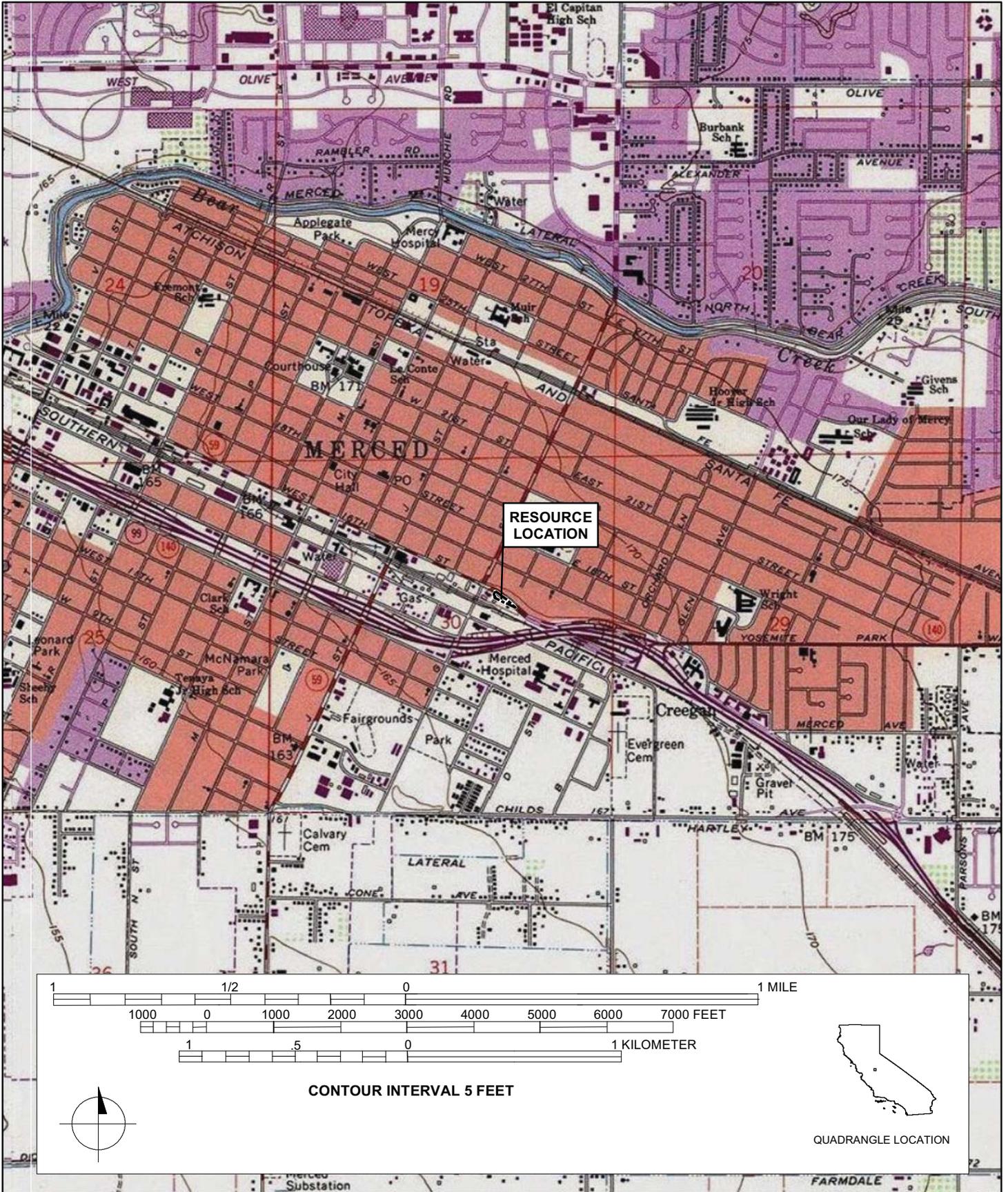
Photographs (cont)



**Photograph 2.** Historic photo, date unknown.  
Available at the Merced County Historical Society Archives



**Photograph 3.** Rear elevation, 1954.  
Available at the Merced County Historical Society Archives



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

P-24-000749 Ser. No. 5240-104  
 HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NB 3 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
 UTM: A 10/723870/4130580 B \_\_\_\_\_  
 C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

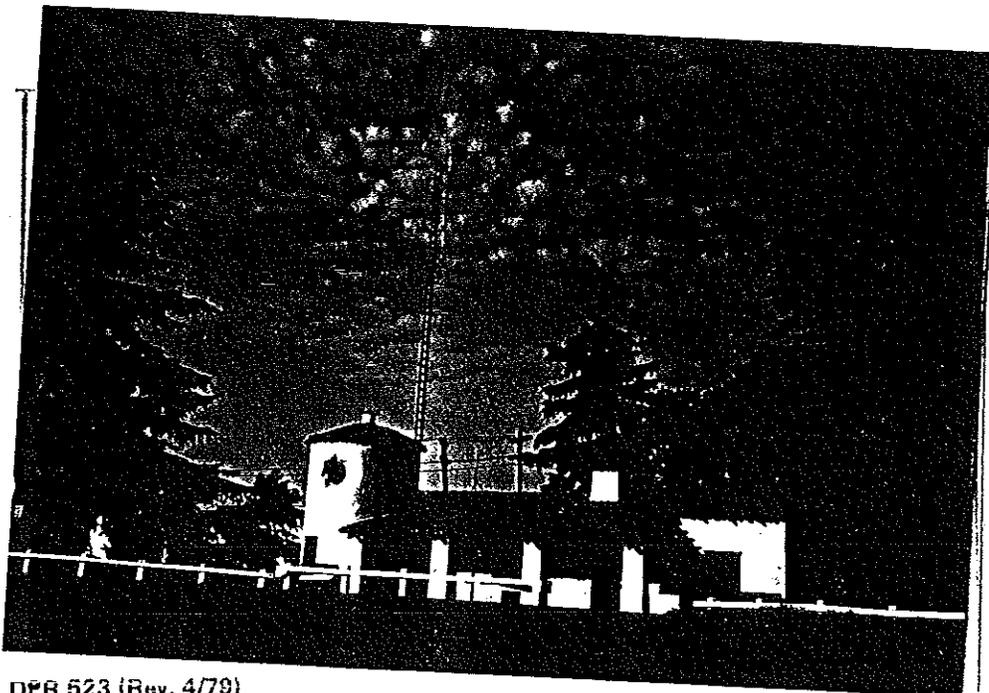
IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: KAMB HRI MERCED 7-50
2. Historic name: California Highway Patrol
3. Street or rural address: 90 East 16th Street
- City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: 34-205-05
5. Present Owner: Central Valley Broadcasting Co., Inc. Address: 90 E. 16th
- City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Radio Station Original use: Highway Patrol Office

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Spanish Colonial Revival
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This single story stucco sided wood framed building has an irregular rectilinear plan. One of its most distinctive features is the circular tower with a conical tile roof and a round window set in a star shaped molded stucco frame. The tile on the gabled roof extends over an open porch that has massive square stucco piers supporting log rafters on a tie beam. The building stands on a triangular lot amid mature pine trees along side Old Highway 99 (W. 16th Street).



8. Construction date:  
Estimated 1933 Factual \_\_\_\_\_
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage 475 Depth 75  
or approx. acreage \_\_\_\_\_
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
6/23/85

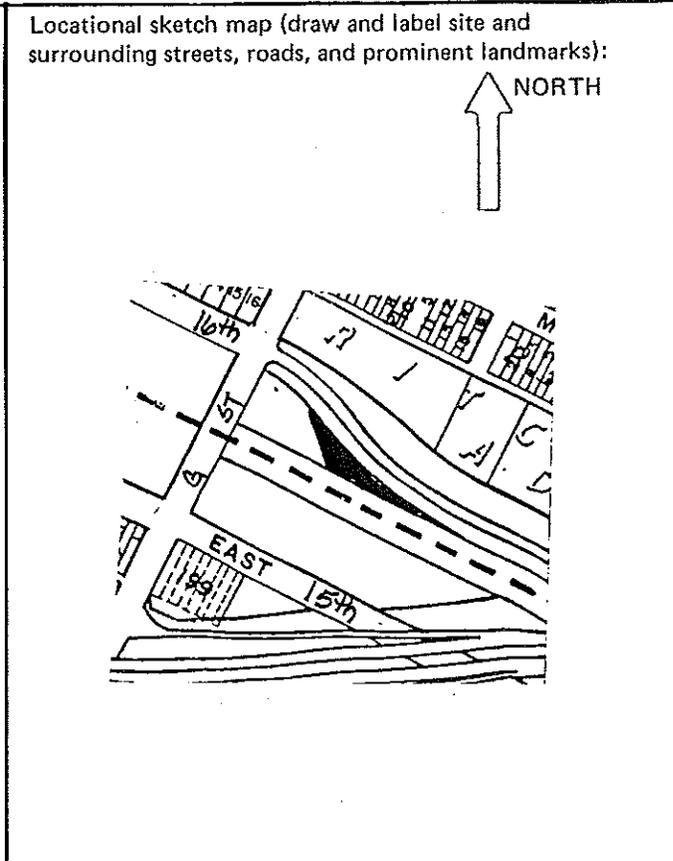
13. Condition: Excellent  Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_\_\_
14. Alterations: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_\_\_ Scattered buildings  Densely built-up   
Residential \_\_\_\_\_ Industrial \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial  Other: Highway
16. Threats to site: None known  Private development \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
17. Is the structure: On its original site?  Moved? \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

This building, with its tower, rustic porch and restricted sylvian setting, is one of the more visually attractive and distinctive buildings in Merced. The California Highway Patrol moved from their offices in the old high school in the early 1930's to this building which had a much better location for their duties by virtue of its proximity to Highway 99, the major traffic artery of the San Joaquin Valley.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_\_\_  
Economic/Industrial \_\_\_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
Government 2 Military \_\_\_\_\_  
Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
Sanborn (1940).  
Polks Merced Directory (1935,1938).
22. Date form prepared 6/11/85  
By (name) Marcus Arguelles  
Organization City of Merced  
Address: 1730 M Street  
City Merced Zip 95340  
Phone: 209/385-6827



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # P-24-000737  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 6Z / 5S2  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 035-160-010

P1. Other Identifier: De Long Memorial Park

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Merced  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Merced Date 1961 (R 1987) T 7S; R 14E;      ¼ of Sec 29, 30;      B.M.

c. Address 1480 B Street City Merced Zip 95340

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 035-160-010

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The De Long Memorial Park is located on parcel 035-160-010. The memorial park consists of two mausoleums, crematory, and cemetery. The main mausoleum is a concrete irregularly shaped building with a central section and wings on the north and south elevations. A large addition is located on the west elevation. The arched entrance and niches on the western elevation of the mausoleum are blocked from view by the addition; however a decorative frieze and strip pilasters are still evident. The second mausoleum is located south of the main structure. Lettering on the building façade reads, "Evergreen Funeral Home & Memorial Park: 1480 B Street." The cemetery features a lawn with graves marked by headstones or concrete slabs and a scattering of trees and shrubs. The perimeter of the cemetery is lined with recently planted Cyprus trees and based upon the dates of the headstones, the eastern portion of the grounds feature a portion of the most recent interments.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP40. Cemetery

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)

Camera facing south, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1873/1929-39, Historic Resources Inventory form

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Diversified Loan Services  
257 E Campbell Ave  
Campbell, CA 95008

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS, AECOM 2011.

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z / 5S2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 035-160-010

B1. Historic Name: De Long Memorial Park

B2. Common Name: Evergreen Funeral Home and Memorial Park

B3. Original Use: Mausoleum/Cemetery B4. Present Use: Mausoleum/Cemetery

\*B5. Architectural Style: Neo-Classical

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) 1873, driveways, lawns added 1914. Mausoleums constructed 1929, 1933. Crematory 1939

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Merced

Period of Significance 1873-1939 Property Type Cemetery Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This property does not appear to meet the criteria of the NRHP or the CRHR. The cemetery on this parcel was originally established in 1873 by Chester Welch, who operated the Welch and Griffin Funeral Home. Over the years, the site was improved with one mausoleum element constructed in 1929 and a second unit in 1942. Delong assumed ownership of the property in 1933 and constructed the crematory in 1939. In the latter 20th century, an addition was constructed on the mausoleum..

This cemetery was established in 1873, and Merced already had the Merced City, IOOF and Masonic cemeteries which were established in the early and mid-1860s (City of Merced 1985). It does not appear to have played a significant role in the history of Merced; therefore, it does not appear eligible under NHRP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1. Although Welch may have been a prominent citizen in Merced, it does not appear that he gained importance within in his profession and the cemetery does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion B and CRHR Criterion 2. Architecturally, the mausoleum is a modest example of the Neo-Classical style, which was compromised with its large addition. The property as a whole does not embody distinctive characteristics, possess high artistic qualities and does not represent the work of a master and does not appear to meet NRHP Criterion C or CRHR Criterion 3. Under NRHP Criterion D and CRHR Criterion 4, the property does not appear likely to yield information important to history.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

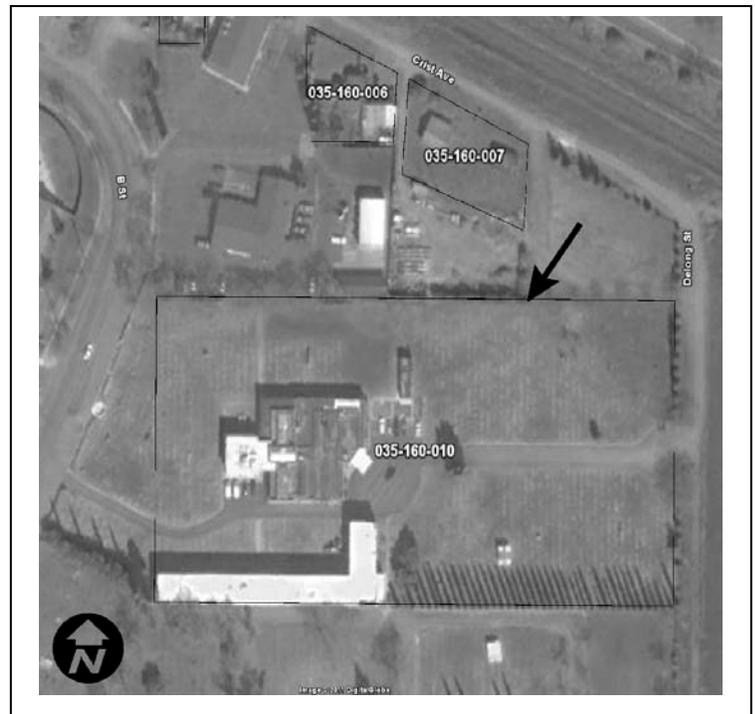
\*B12. References: Outcalt, J., City of Merced, California Department of Parks and Recreation Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985 (P-24-00737); City of Merced Redevelopment Agency, City of Merced Historic Building Survey Final Report, 1985.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher

\*Date of Evaluation: July 14, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)

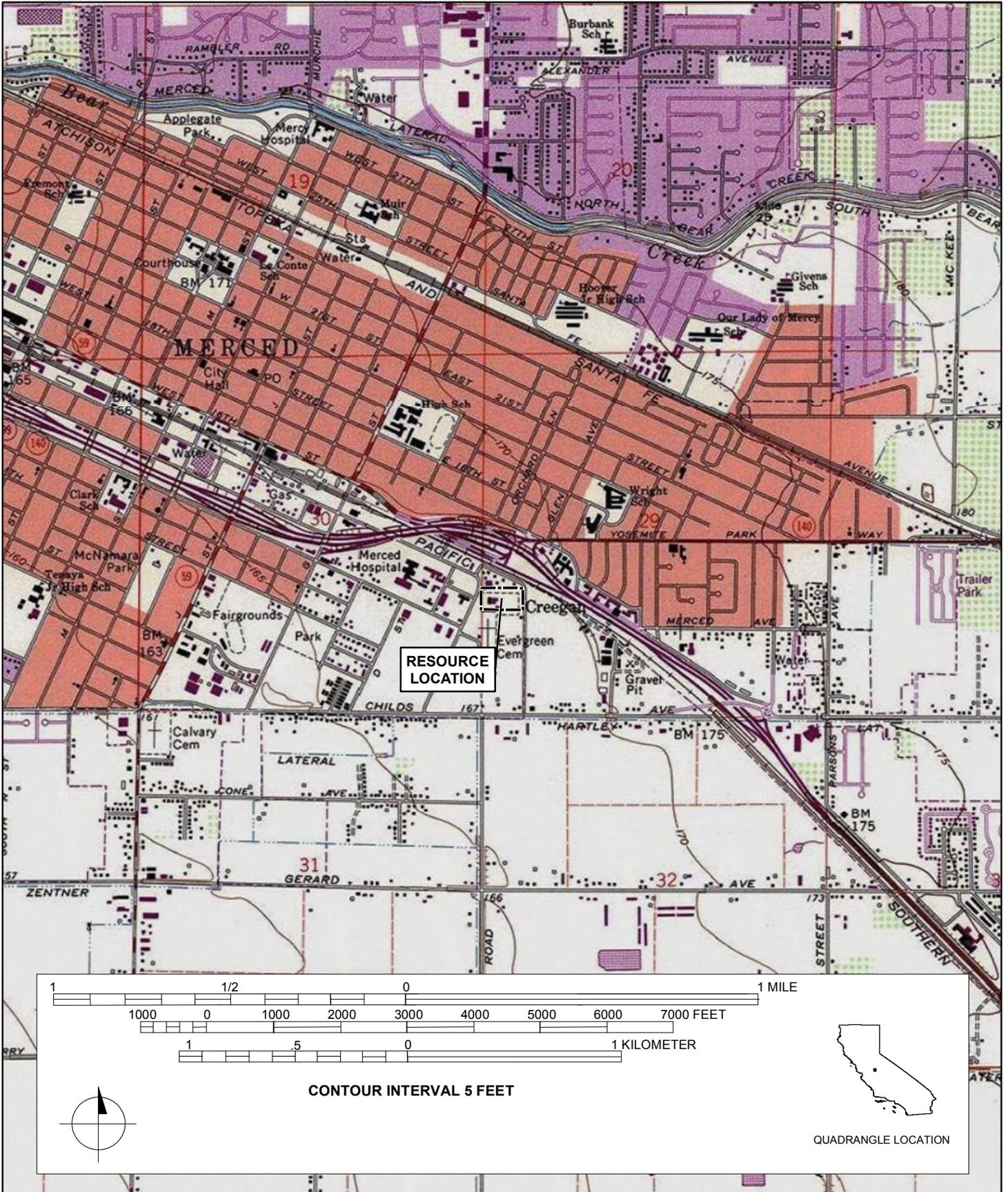


**Significance (cont)**

In addition to appearing not to meet any of the four NRHP and CRHR criteria, the cemetery is evaluated against NRHP Criteria Consideration D. The property does not appear to meet this consideration because: a) it does not meet NRHP Criteria A – D; b) while some prominent citizens are buried in this cemetery, it does not contain the graves of persons of transcendent importance; c) it is not of great age for Merced; d) it does not express distinctive design features; and e) it is not associated with historic events that illustrate broad patterns.

Although this property does not appear eligible for the NRHP or the CRHR, the mausoleum was identified in the 1985 Merced City Survey as a significant resource and given a status code of 5S2 (individual property that is eligible for local listing or designation). The mausoleum is essentially unchanged since it was last recorded in 1985. Because it retains integrity and is listed in the City survey, it is considered a historic resource for the purposes of CEQA. While providing a cemetery setting, the continuous use and upgrades to the grounds mean that they do not contribute to the significance of the subject buildings.

In summary, while this property does not appear historically or architecturally significant for the NRHP or the CRHR, it is still considered a resource for the purposes of CEQA for the reasons stated above.



P-24-000737 Ser. No. 5340-155  
HABS \_\_\_\_\_ HAER \_\_\_\_\_ NR 32 SHL \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM: A 10/724500/4130175 B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_

### HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

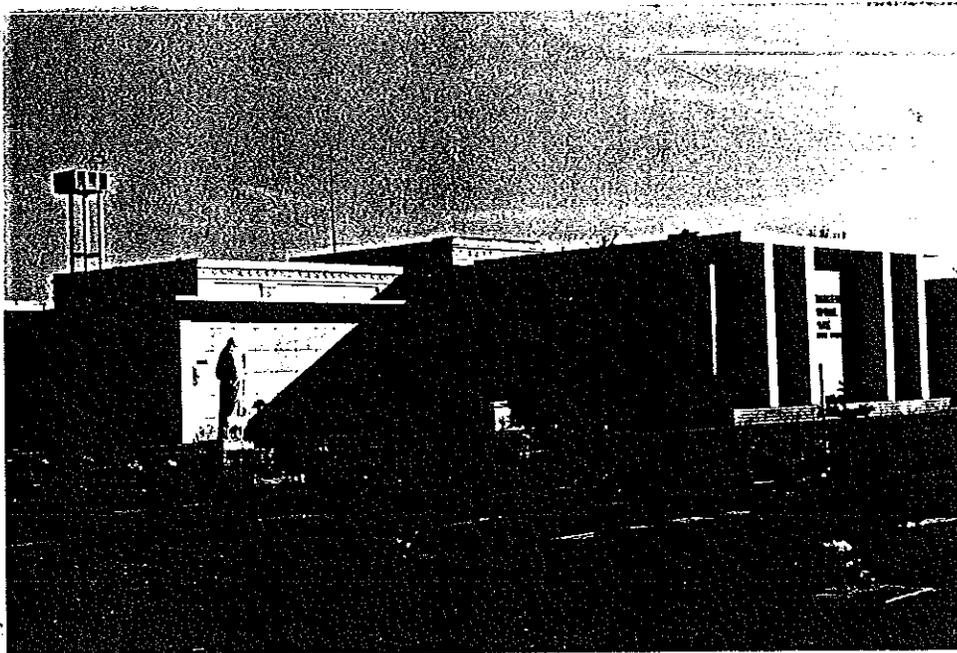
#### IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Evergreen Memorial Park HM MENCIO 7-5Q
2. Historic name: De Long Memorial Park
3. Street or rural address: 1480 B Street
- City Merced Zip 95340 County Merced
4. Parcel number: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Present Owner: Evergreen Memorial Park Association Address: 1480 B Street
- City Merced Zip 95340 Ownership is: Public \_\_\_\_\_ Private X
6. Present Use: Cemetery Original use: Cemetery

#### DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Neo-Classic
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The original portion of the formed concrete mausoleum consists of a central section with wings to the north and south. Recent additions mask the arched entrance and niches on the western face of the building but the decorated frieze and the tops of strip pilasters are still visible. The acroteria which decorated the corners of the parapet have been removed. There is a second mausoleum to the south of the older structure. The graves surrounding the mausoleum are marked by concrete slabs.



8. Construction date:  
Estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Factual 1873
9. Architect Unknown
10. Builder Unknown
11. Approx. property size (in feet)  
Frontage \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_  
or approx. acreage 5
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)  
8/15/85

13. Condition: Excellent \_\_\_ Good  Fair \_\_\_ Deteriorated \_\_\_ No longer in existence \_\_\_
14. Alterations: Extensive
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land \_\_\_ Scattered buildings \_\_\_ Densely built-up \_\_\_  
Residential \_\_\_ Industrial \_\_\_ Commercial  Other: \_\_\_\_\_
16. Threats to site: None known  Private development \_\_\_ Zoning \_\_\_ Vandalism \_\_\_  
Public Works project \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
17. Is the structure: On its original site?  Moved? \_\_\_ Unknown? \_\_\_
18. Related features: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNIFICANCE**

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Evergreen Memorial Park, a private cemetery, was founded in 1873 by Chester Welch of the Welch and Griffin Funeral Home. The site was improved with driveways and lawns in 1914. In 1929 Chester De Long started construction of the first of two mausoleum units. The second unit was completed in 1942. De Long, who acquired ownership of the cemetery in 1933, designed and patented the crematory which was built by the Pacific Foundry Company (San Francisco) in 1939. The remains of many of Merced's prominent citizens lie within this cemetery. Although the architectural integrity of the mausoleum has been impaired by later additions, it is one of the few examples of Neo-Classic styling in Merced.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)  
 Architecture 1 Arts & Leisure \_\_\_\_\_  
 Economic/Industrial \_\_\_ Exploration/Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
 Government \_\_\_ Military \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religion 2 Social/Education \_\_\_\_\_
21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).  
J. Outcalt History of Merced County, California (1925:728-9);  
Interview: Lucille Stone, General Mgr. (1-30-85); Photograph of mausoleum (ca. 1930) at Evergreen Memorial Park.
22. Date form prepared 1/30/85  
 By (name) Susan Arguelles  
 Organization City of Merced  
 Address: 1730 M Street  
 City Merced Zip 95340  
 Phone: 385-6827

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):

↑ NORTH

*no map*

State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3C  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 026-233-011

P1. Other Identifier: 24302 Road 15

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*a. County Madera

b. USGS 7.5' Quad Chowchilla Date 1960 (R 1976) T9S; R 15E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 36; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 24302 Road 15 City Chowchilla Zip \_\_\_\_\_

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 026-233-011

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

This parcel contains a single-family residence designed in the Colonial Revival style, demonstrated by its square plan, pyramidal hipped roof with medium eaves, clapboard siding, gabled dormer, the symmetry of the fenestration, and the use of paired one-over-one, multi-light wood-frame windows. The house is in plan, two stories and the roof is covered with rolled composition shingles. (**Photograph 1**). . On the south elevation is small addition (**Photograph 2**).

The landscaping includes manicured lawns, mature trees, and bushes. A modern gazebo is also located behind the residence.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP2. Single Family Residence

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Photograph 1, camera facing west, January 26, 2011

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca. 1920 / Visual Inspection

\*P7. Owner and Address:

Janice Quinn  
24302 Road 15  
Chowchilla, CA 93610

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 26, 2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  
 District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  
 Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 3C

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 026-233-011

B1. Historic Name: Unknown

B2. Common Name: Unknown

B3. Original Use: Residence B4. Present Use: Residence

\*B5. Architectural Style: Colonial Revival

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) ca. 1920

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Chowchilla

Period of Significance 1920 Property Type Residence Applicable Criteria C

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This property appears to meet NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3, at the local level of significance with a period of significance of 1920, its estimated year of construction. Orlando Alison Robertson, the president of the Union Colonization Company in 1912, purchased the Chowchilla Ranch that included approximately 15,000 acres in Madera County. Robertson quickly laid out the town and began selling lots, as well as farmland surrounding the town. As part of his advertising campaign to attract settlers to Chowchilla, Robertson arranged for the planting of ornamental shade trees along the main road through downtown, which was already graded and named Robertson Boulevard. The planting and the road improvements was completed in 1913 and opened with much fanfare. The 11-mile tree row help attract settlers to Chowchilla and the town and surrounding area grew rapidly. By 1914 there were six subdivisions, churches, schools, and civic and social institutions. Over the next several decades Chowchilla, which incorporated in 1923, and the farmland surrounding Chowchilla and Robertson Boulevard continued to develop. Into the next decade the farmland immediately surrounding Chowchilla continued to be sold and subdivided into small farms (Point of Historical Interest Application 1989; Chowchilla Historical Society 1987:2/27; Clough 1968:92-93).

This property was one of several developed around the city limits of Chowchilla and did not play a significant role in the area's history; therefore it does not appear eligible under NRHP Criterion A or CRHR Criterion 1. The property also does not appear directly associated with persons significant in our past as required under NRHP Criterion B or CRHR Criterion 2. (See Continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: California Department of Parks and Recreation Point of Historical Interest documentation 1989; Chowchilla Historical Society. *Yesterdays of Chowchilla*, 1987; Clough, Charles W. *Madera: The Rich, Colorful and Exciting Historical Heritage of That Area Known as Madera County, California*. Madera: Madera County Historical Society, 1968; Gebhard, David. "The American Colonial Revival in the 1930s." *Winterthur Portfolio* Vol. 22, No. 2/3 [Summer/Autumn 1987]: 109-148; Sierra Valley Cultural Planning. *Chowchilla Historical Resources Reconnaissance Survey – Final Report*. Prepared by C. Kristina Roper, Jon Brady, and Philip Vallejo, April 2007.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher

\*Date of Evaluation: March 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)



**Significance (cont)**

The property does, however, appear eligible at the local level of significance, under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 because it embodies elements of a Colonial Revival style residence applied to a rural residence. Chowchilla proper is dominated by basically modest examples of Craftsman, Mission Revival, Art Moderne, Minimal Traditional and Ranch style residences (Sierra Valley Cultural Planning 2007:7). These same styles are also prevalent on the small farms and dairies of the rural area surrounding Chowchilla. In the 1920s, when this residence was constructed, there was an interest in Colonial architecture of the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The style was widely publicized in architectural journals with the intent to "...not replicate historic images of the past; rather the obligation was to use historic images as a point of departure for the creation of new variations on an existing theme" (Gebhard 1987:110-111). While early examples were heavily influenced by these historical images, in rural areas where master architects were not hired to design buildings builders often mimicked popular styles and applied some of that detailing to their residences. The functional need of the period, the location, and availability of materials influenced simpler detailing on these residences (Gebhard 1987:110). This particular example exhibits simple Colonial Revival detailing in its hipped roof, rectangular shaped, double-hung, paired windows, symmetrical façade, pediment above the entrance, and wood clapboard siding. This is an example of a two-story, simple Colonial Revival that is not well-represented in the rural area surrounding Chowchilla.

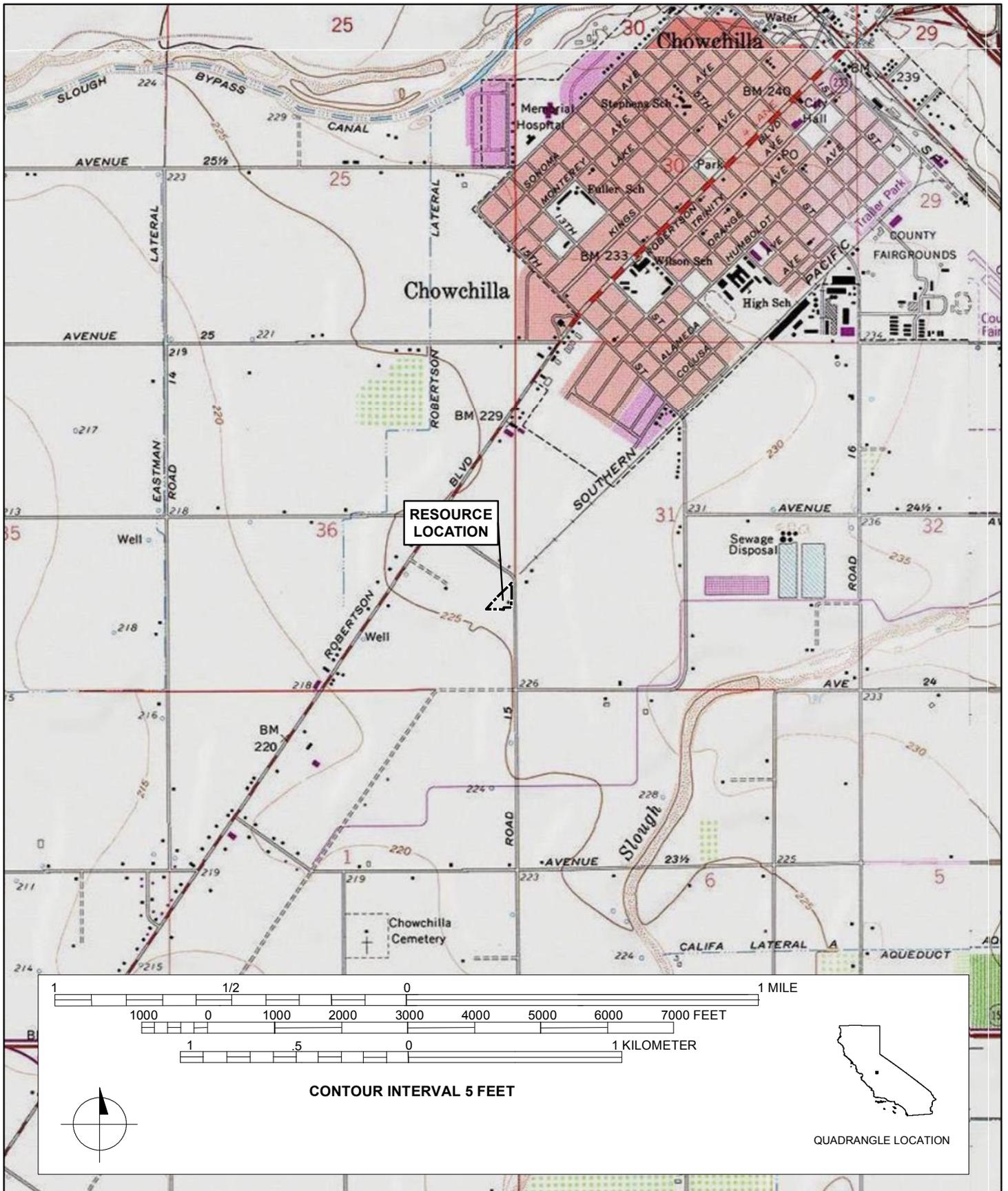
Under NRHP Criterion D and CHRR Criterion 4, this property does not appear likely to yield information important to history.

In summary, the residence on parcel 026-233-011 appears architecturally significant and retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The setting of the property is slightly damaged by the intrusion of the modern gazebo and shed to the rear of the residence, and the construction of modern residences east and south of the parcel. Overall, the property appears to meet NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 at the local level of significance with a period of significance of 1920, its year of construction.

**Photographs (cont)**



**Photograph 2.** North and east elevations, camera facing southwest



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # 20-002519

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3S

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_

Review Code \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 6

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Robertson Boulevard Tree Row

P1. Other Identifier: Robertson Boulevard Tree Row

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Madera

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Chowchilla Date 1960 (R 1976) T \_\_\_\_\_; R \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ of Sec \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address Robertson Boulevard City Chowchilla Zip 93610

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: N/A

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The Robertson Boulevard Tree Row is a row of tall Canary Island Palm trees alternating with short Mexican Fan Palms and oleanders that line both sides of an 11-miles stretch of Robertson Boulevard (SR 233) in Chowchilla. Robertson Boulevard is a 100-foot wide, paved roadway.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/Vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing north, January 31, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1912-13 / California Point of Historical Interest documentation

\*P7. Owner and Address:

City of Chowchilla  
130 S Second Street  
Chowchilla, CA 93610

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

Mark Bowen  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: January 31, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") AECOM. Draft. Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS, August 2011.

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Copy of California Point of Historical Interest documentation, 1989

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 6

\*NRHP Status Code 3S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Robertson Boulevard Tree Row

B1. Historic Name: Robertson Boulevard Tree Row

B2. Common Name: Robertson Boulevard Tree Row

B3. Original Use: Street Beautification B4. Present Use: Street Beautification

\*B5. Architectural Style: N/A

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) planted 1912-13

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: None

B9. Architect: NA b. Builder: NA

\*B10. Significance: Theme Community Development / Landscape Architecture Area Madera

Period of Significance 1912-13 Property Type Landscape Applicable Criteria A and C / 1 and 3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

This tree row appears eligible for the NRHP and the CRHR at the local level of significance under NRHP Criterion A and CRHR Criterion 1 in the area of community development and under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 in the area of landscape architecture. The period of significance is 1912-1913, the year the tree row was planted. In addition to appearing eligible, this tree row is also a California Point of Historical Interest and was designated as such in 1989.

Orlando Alison Robertson, the president of the Union Colonization Company in 1912, purchased the Chowchilla Ranch that included approximately 15,000 acres in Madera County. Robertson quickly laid out the town and began selling lots, as well as farmland surrounding the town. As part of his advertising campaign to attract settlers to Chowchilla, Robertson arranged for the planting of ornamental shade trees along the main road through downtown, which was already graded and named Robertson Boulevard. The planting and the road improvements was completed in 1913 and opened with much fanfare. The 11-mile tree row help attract settlers to Chowchilla and the town and surrounding area grew rapidly. By 1914 there were six subdivisions, churches, schools, and civic and social institutions. Robertson Boulevard, also known as Highway 233, serves as the main street of Chowchilla and is a main thoroughfare connecting State Highway 99 to 152 (Point of Historical Interest Application 1989; Chowchilla Historical Society 1987:2/27; Clough 1968:92-93). (See Continuation Sheet)

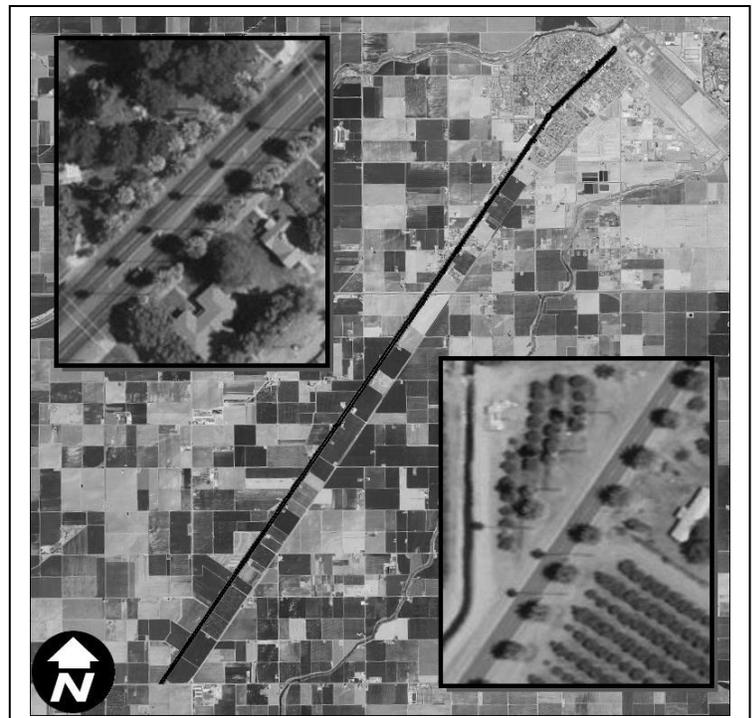
B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: California Department of Parks and Recreation Point of Historical Interest documentation 1989; Chowchilla Historical Society. *Yesterdays of Chowchilla*, 1987; Clough, Charles W. *Madera: The Rich, Colorful and Exciting Historical Heritage of That Area Known as Madera County, California*. Madera: Madera County Historical Society, 1968.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher.

\*Date of Evaluation: July 4, 2011



### Significance (cont)

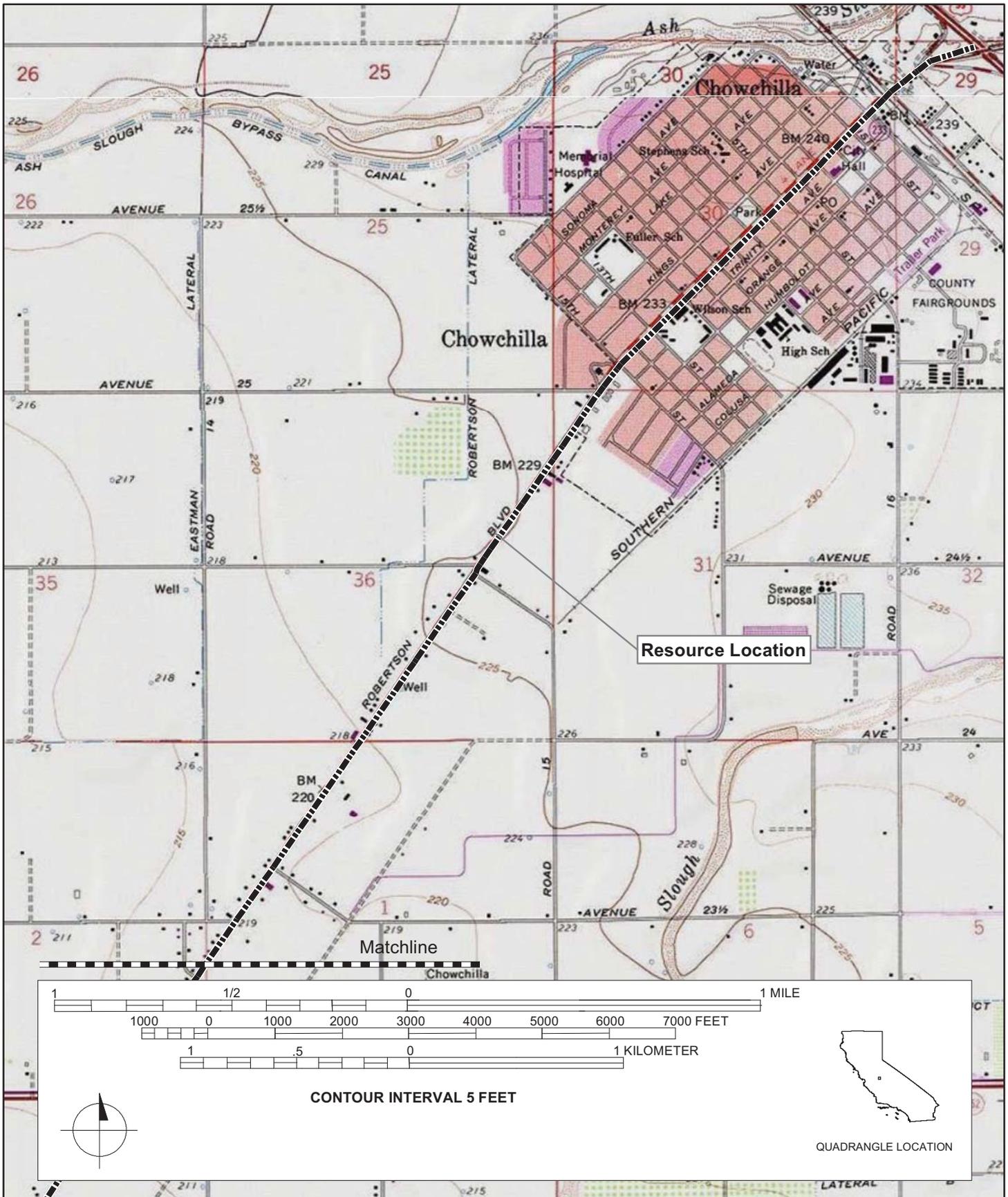
The Robertson Boulevard Tree Row appears eligible under NRHP Criterion A and CRHR Criterion 1, at the local level of significance, during the 1912 and 1913 period. The trees were planted as part of the marketing efforts to attract settlers to Chowchilla and the surrounding farmlands Robertson marketed to mid-west farmers. The row of trees is a recognizable landmark and has a direct association with the initial development of Chowchilla.

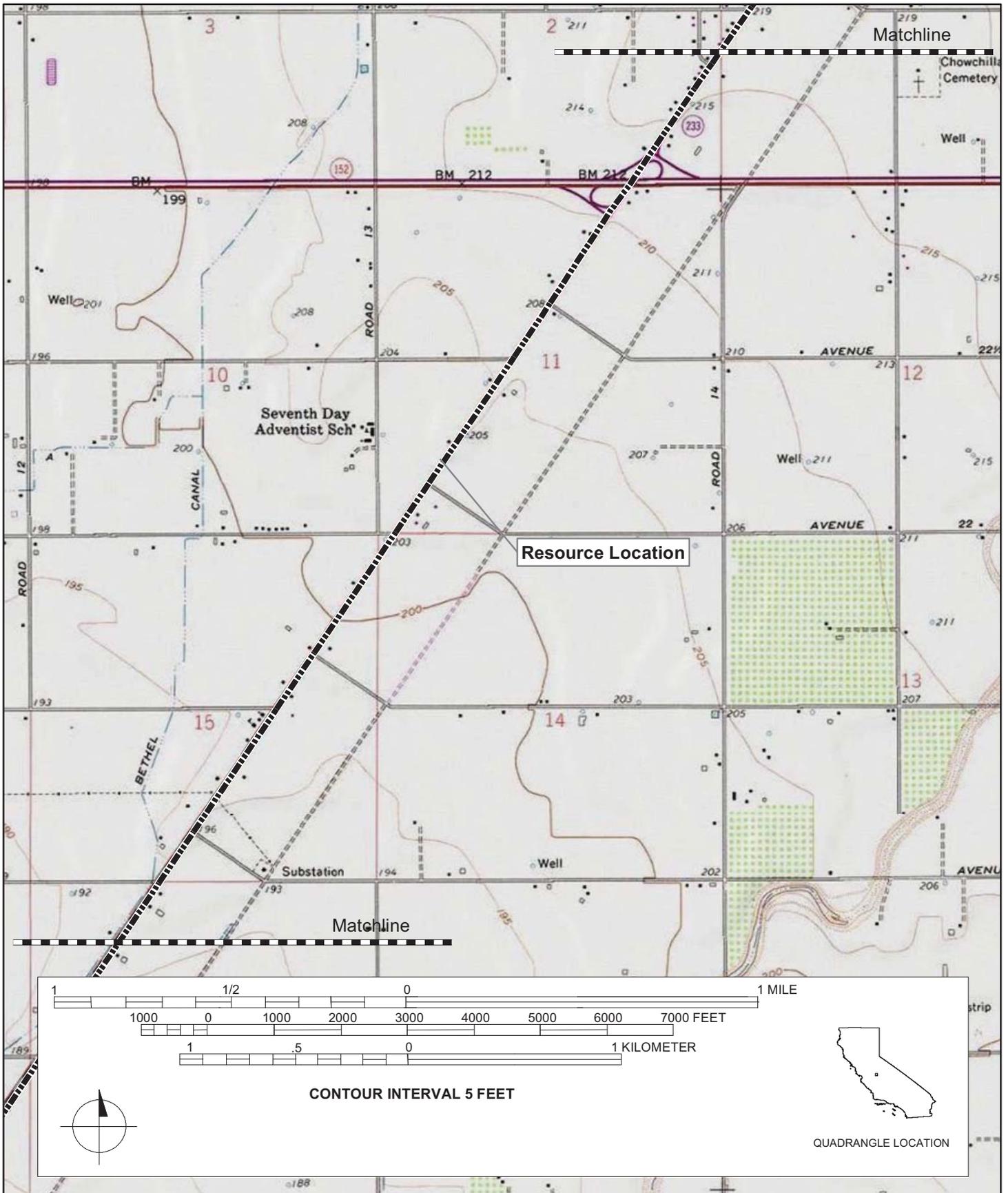
Under NRHP Criterion B and CRHR Criterion C, the tree row does not appear eligible. While the types of trees were selected by Robertson, his potential significance is better represented by other properties associated with his work as a land developer. Therefore, the property does not appear to meet this criterion.

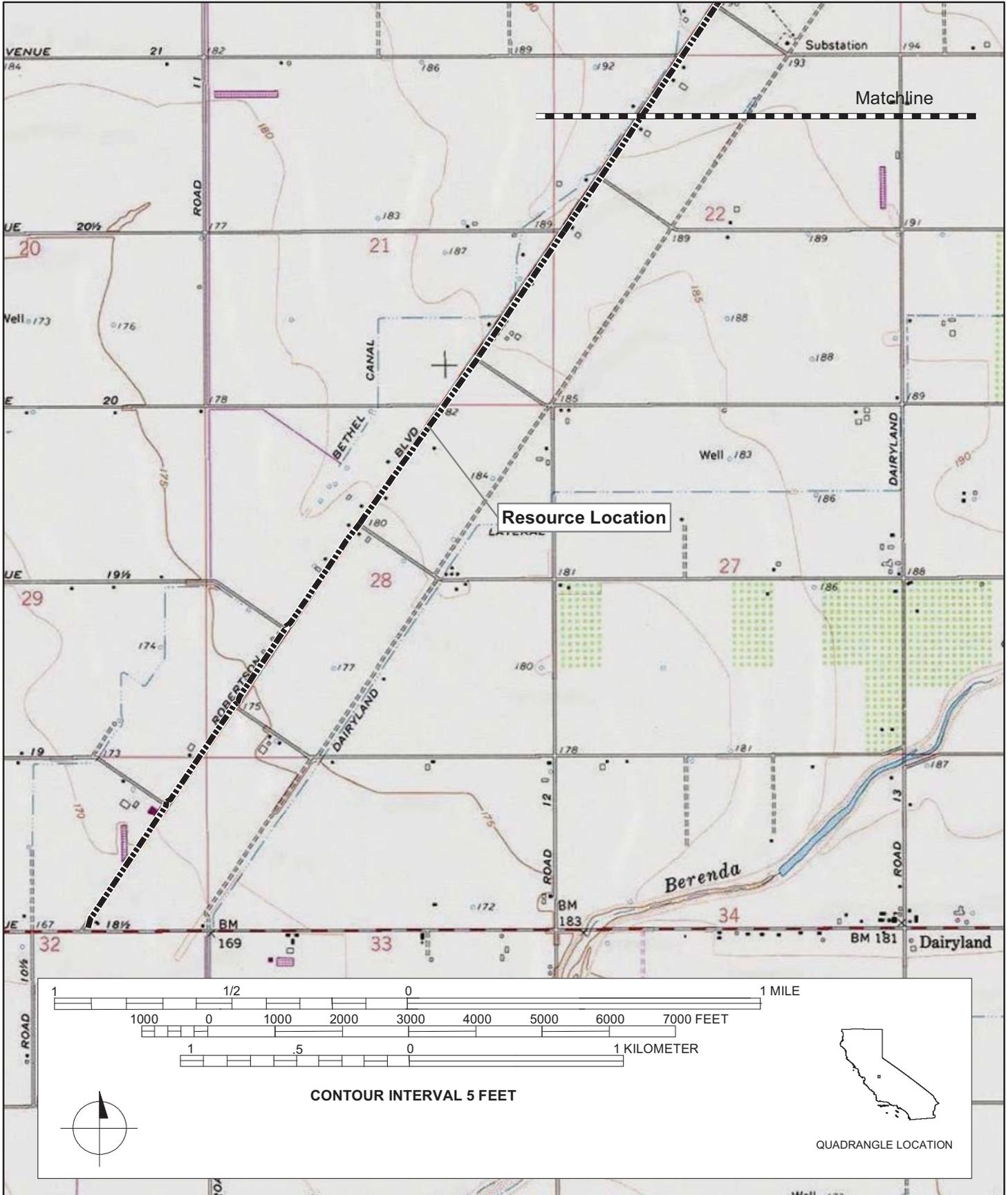
In addition to appearing to meet NRHP Criterion A and CRHR Criterion 1, the tree row also appears to meet NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3, at the local level of significance as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape feature. The trees were planted as ornamental shade trees and were evenly spaced along the 11 miles of road and the alternating Mexican Fan Palms and the Canary Island Palms provide a distinctive and picturesque landscape in Chowchilla that is visible for miles. Both species of trees were a popular landscape feature for cities throughout California during this time period.

The tree row does not appear likely to yield information important to history as required under NRHP Criterion D and CRHR Criterion 4.

In summary, the tree row appears to meet NRHP Criteria A and C and CRHR Criterion C and 3 at the local level of significance during the years 1912 and 1913. In addition to meeting the criteria the tree row also retains sufficient integrity to convey that significance. Although several of the trees have been removed in places, the majority of the tree row is intact and is visible for miles. It provides a strong sense of place and time and retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.







STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

POST OFFICE BOX 942896  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 94296-0001  
(916) 445-8006

Governor's Commission for California's  
Quincentenary Commemoration of the  
Discovery of America.



- Paula Boghosian
- Patricia Cologne
- Milford Wayne Donaldson, AIA
- Karana Hattersley-Drayton
- Robert L. Hoover, Ph.D
- John H. Kemble, Ph.D
- Michael J. Moratto, Ph.D
- Robert H. Power
- Helen Skripkin

CHOWCHILLA ✓  
Robertson Dr.

December 4, 1989

Ms. Robin G. Alcalá, Deputy Clerk  
Board of Supervisors  
Madera County  
Madera County Government Center  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

Dear Ms. Alcalá:

The State Historical Resources Commission, meeting in regular session on November 3, 1989, in Riverside, approved the application for the registration of the following Point of Historical Interest in your county:

Mad-005 Robertson Boulevard

Thank you for your continued interest in California's cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Sandra J. Elder  
Assistant Executive Secretary

enclosure

cc: Ivelyn Blanton  
P. O. Box 173  
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Robertson Boulevard Palm Trees  
Chowchilla

Staff Evaluation

The Robertson Boulevard Palm Trees in Chowchilla were planted in the years 1912 to 1913 by the founder and developer of that community, Orlando Alison Robertson. The tall Stately Mexican Fan Palms which alternate with short Canary Island Date Palms and oleander were planted along a stretch of eleven miles down the main street of town to provide a distinct and picturesque avenue of beauty which would draw people to the new community.

The trees, which have grown tall today, can be seen from several miles outside of town. They are a dramatic visual reminder of the origins of Chowchilla. Staff recommends listing as a Point of Historical Interest.

Cynthia Howse  
October 17, 1989

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST**

Reg. No. 11-20-89  
 Date 11-20-89  
 By sjc

P 20 002513

County <u>Madras</u>	Name <u>Robertson Boulevard</u>
Location <u>Main Street of Chowchilla. Also known as State Hwy. 233k</u>	

Historical Significance:

Robertson Blvd. was graded and built by the founder of Chowchilla, O. A. Robertson and his business, The U. S. Land Company. It was started in 1912, finished in 1913 at the cost of \$80,000. It is 100 feet in width. Made then so a 4 horse team and wagon had enough room to turn around in. It was lined with Canary Island Palm and Ornamental Shade trees for beauty and when completed it was to have few equals in the State. It is the main street of Chowchilla, also State Hwy. 233 serving as a main Artery connecting State Hys. 99 to 152 and crossing over, running approximately 11 miles in length.

THIS POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST IS NOT A STATE REGISTERED HISTORICAL LANDMARK.

RECOMMENDED: <i>[Signature]</i> Signature—Chairman, County Board of Supervisors	APPROVED: <i>[Signature]</i> Signature—Chairman, State Historical Resources Commission
Date <u>January 3, 1989</u>	Date <u>November 3, 1989</u>

## ORLANDO ALISON ROBERTSON

Orlando Alison Robertson, founder of Chowchilla and Robertson Blvd. was born in Prosperity, Pa. August 18, 1858.

He was raised on a farm near his place of birth. He managed an education with graduation from the California Normal School at California, PA.

Shortly after graduation he married Frances Mackey of Pittsburg, where later a son Earl M. Robertson was born. Moving to Campbell Minnesota he taught public school and also engaged in real estate. Later a 2nd marriage was to a Helen Eppler of St. Paul Minnesota occurring in 1899, where two more children were born to them, Paul Chandler Robertson and Anice Margaret Robertson.

He became interested in land development in Calif. about 1910 and organized the United States Land Office establishing a general office in Sacramento, undertaking the development of large tracks of land. The city of North Sacramento is located on this property. Del Paso Park is one of his numerous gifts to the people of Sacramento.

At this time he became interested in Chowchilla area, feeling it was ready for development in transforming it into prosperous farms and building of a town of model proportions, putting all of his estimated worth of four million dollars into it.

On May 12, 1912 he became president of the union colonization company where he purchased the Chowchilla Ranch of 108,000 acres with all but about 15,000 being located in Madera County. He later added 26,000 acres of the Bliss Cattle Ranch, making a total of 134,000 acres. This property except the Bliss part was purchased by a company in Scotland. Being used as a cattle ranch it had never been scared by a plow.

Mr. Robertson plans soon began. Surveys were completed. Maps were made of streets and town sites and about 300 miles of country rds. were opened and the 11 mile Robertson Blvd. Hotel and office buildings were erected, street lighted and the town water system installed. Later 12 miles of railroad connecting with Southern Pacific was built to expedite colonization for use of settlers. Construction of stores, churches and schools soon followed with the opening of the 1st grammar school, classes held on Sept. 11, 1913 in the First Presbyterian church built on land donated by Mr. Robertson. The grammar school was completed 4 months later and the high school was opened in 1915.

By 1914 the company had created 6 sub-divisions or school districts which included Ashview, Alamo, Bethel, Chowchilla, Central and Dairyland.

Oct. 15, 1912 was the date set for the grand opening of the colonization project. Some 4000 people responded to look over the land, see the rodeo and partake of the free barbecue lunch at noon. On Oct. 23, 1912 the Chowchilla post office was opened.

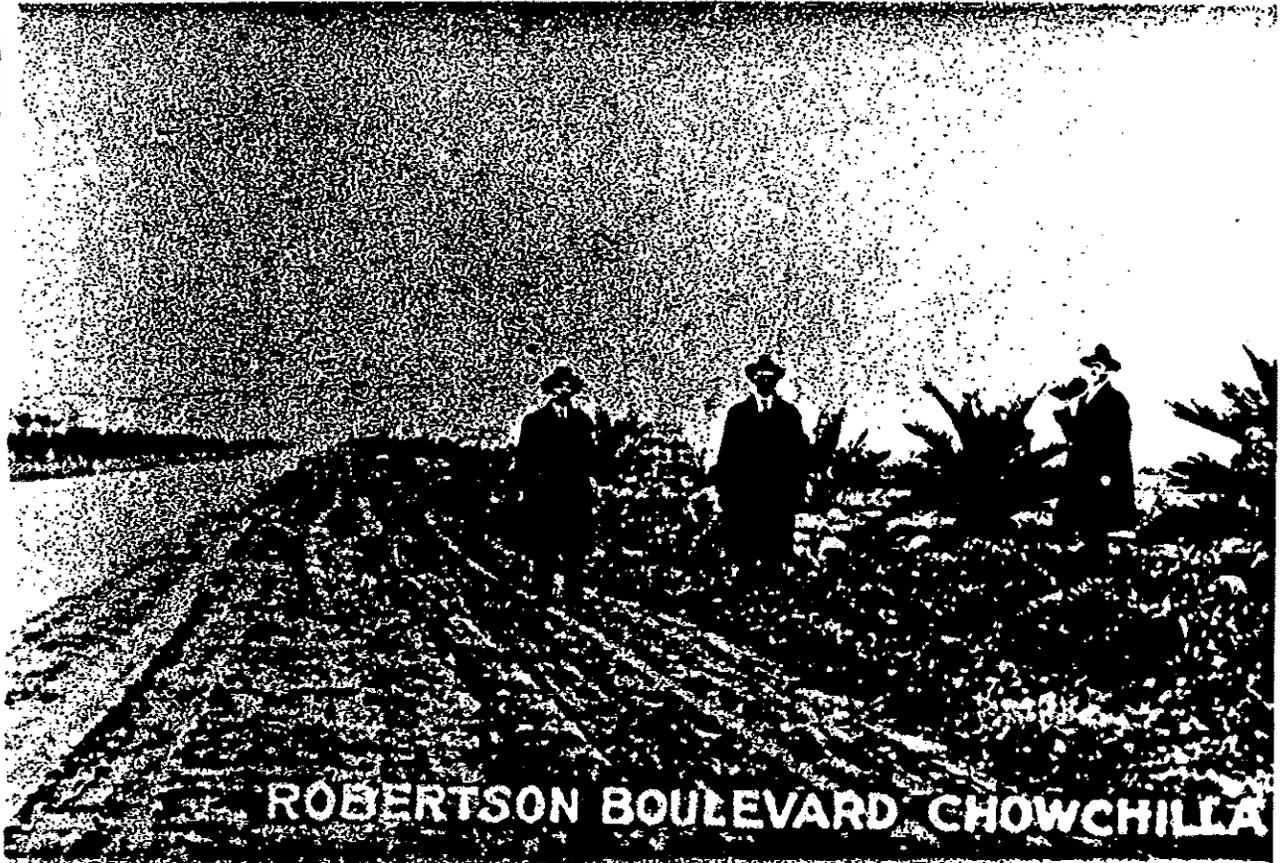
Mr. Robertson advertising program was followed by a sales campaign in the middle west, encouraging farmers to move west to chowchilla offering the land of \$250.00 an acre with a promise of a refund if buyer was not happy with their purchase.

He had much of his money tied up in his extensive land ventures and when the country began the experience the recession of the late 20's early 30's he became more pressed for funds. When Mr. Robertson passed away on May 23, 1933, he had lost his vast fortune and died practically penniless, but the dream of a growing progressive town that was a vision of Mr. Robertson had become a reality at last.

ROBERTSON BOULEVARD-  
1912



ROBERTSON BOULEVARD  
During Construction



ROBERTSON BOULEVARD  
1950's



ROBERTSON BOULEVARD  
September 26, 1989



9 th St. looking east towards city  
Photo by: Glenn Sell

ORLANDO ALISON ROBERISON

"Founder of Chowchilla"

And

ROBERISON BOULEVARD



**CHOWCHILLA****DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Dedicated To Preserving The Past

P.O. Box 611 Chowchilla, CA 93610

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Chowchilla District Historical Society is interested in having Robertson Boulevard at Chowchilla, designated as a "Historical Point of Interest".

Orlando A. Robertson, along with the U.S. Land Company built said boulevard in 1912. The one-hundred (100) foot wide road traveling in a South-Westernly direction, was finished in 1913 at a cost of \$80,000.00

Cannery Island Palm Trees line both sides of the eleven mile stretch of paved highway, to beautify the country side and serve as a beacon to the town of Chowchilla, Also preserve the history of the man that had such great foresight for our heritage.

Robertson Boulevard--presently State Highway 233--is a main artery connecting and crossing over State Highway 152--travels to Interstate 5 and the Coastal Area and State Highway 99 -- traveling to Sacramento, the Bay Area and Southern Calif.

Historical Site Chairman, Evelyn Blanton *Evelyn Blanton*  
 President, Jess Ozcoide *Jess Ozcoide*  
 Past President, James Armistead *James Armistead*  
 Secretary, Doris Ovler *Doris Ovler*  
 Treasurer John DeGroot *John DeGroot*  
 Director, Evelyn Sell *Evelyn Sell*  
 Director, Harold Balmat *Harold Balmat*

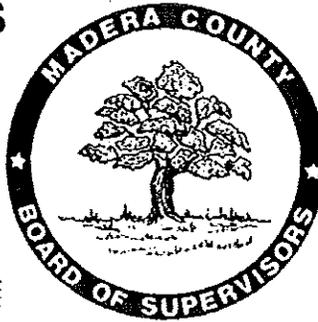
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

P 20

002519

MADERA COUNTY

RICK JENSEN, District 1  
ALFRED GINSBURG, District 2  
GAIL HANHART McINTYRE, District 3  
JESS LOPEZ, District 4  
HARRY H. BAKER, JR., District 5



WANDA BRADLEY, Clerk of the Board  
MADERA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
209 WEST YOSEMITE AVENUE  
MADERA, CALIFORNIA 93637  
(209) 675-7700

February 22, 1989

State of California  
Historical Resources Commission  
P.O. Box 2390  
Sacramento, California 95811

75  
10 2 109  
QWP

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed is a packet of materials regarding Robertson Boulevard in Chowchilla, California. On January 3, 1989, the Madera County Board of Supervisors approved the submission of State Form DPR-147 to have Robertson Boulevard designated as a Point of Historical Interest.

The form was sent without these materials which, apparently, are needed as documentation for this application. Please accept these materials to accompany the application and excuse the delay in sending them to your office.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

*Robin G. Alcala*  
Robin G. Alcala  
Deputy Clerk

Enclosures



# "LISTEN TO WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT CHOWCHILLA"

## Labor Force

Both city and county government are pro-business and pro-growth. And the Industrial Development Corp. helps cut through the red tape for new development."

Excellent, high quality employees who care about their jobs were a major consideration in locating our new manufacturing plant. There is a good availability of skilled and semi-skilled workers as well as office workers at any skill level."

Bob Salstrand-Certaineed Corp.

## Schools

Our employees are very well satisfied with the Chowchilla School System. The schools here receive more community support than any other area I know."

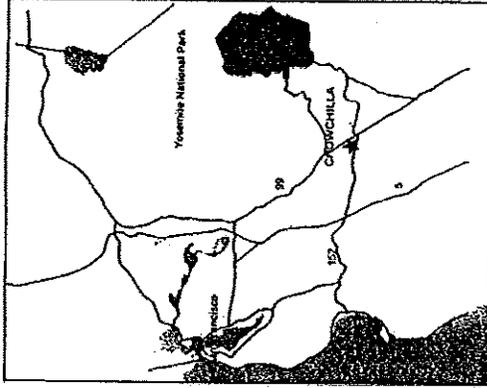
There is a great school, community and business relationship. School sports are very well organized and supported."

Bob Meyer-American Augers

## Quality of Life

"Fantastic. You can't beat the weather. The recreation possibilities are unlimited."

Ken Pury-Fosters Freeze



## Housing

"Excellent housing is available in price ranges our employees can afford. It is among the best in the state at reasonable prices."

Mike Houss-APCO

## Government Cooperation

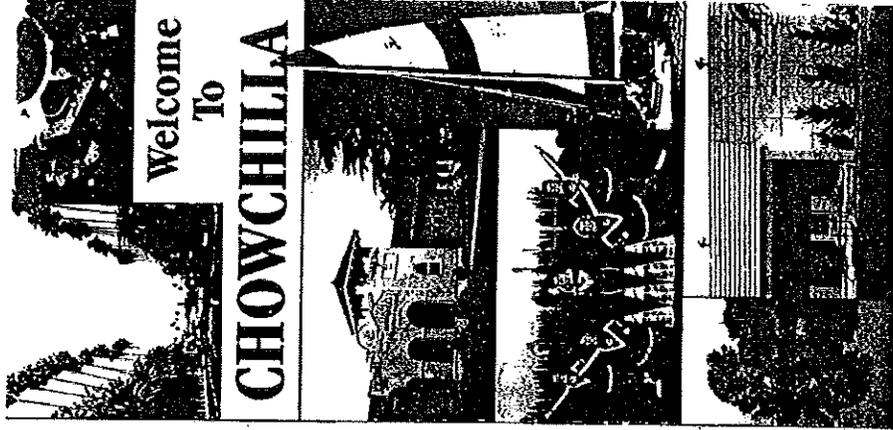
"One factor that strongly influenced us to come to Chowchilla was the enthusiasm and spirit of cooperation of city and county officials."

Bill Cook-T.L. Robak Construction

## Land Costs

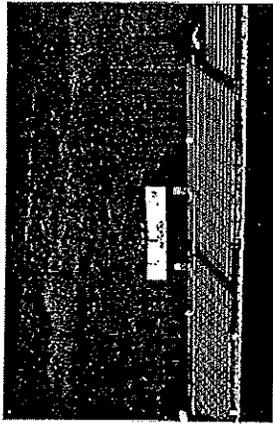
"Reasonable land cost in the Chowchilla Industrial Park influenced our decision to come to Chowchilla. It's tough to beat the prices of industrial sites in Chowchilla."

Robert Baird-Chowchilla Pizachio



A Quality Of Its Own!

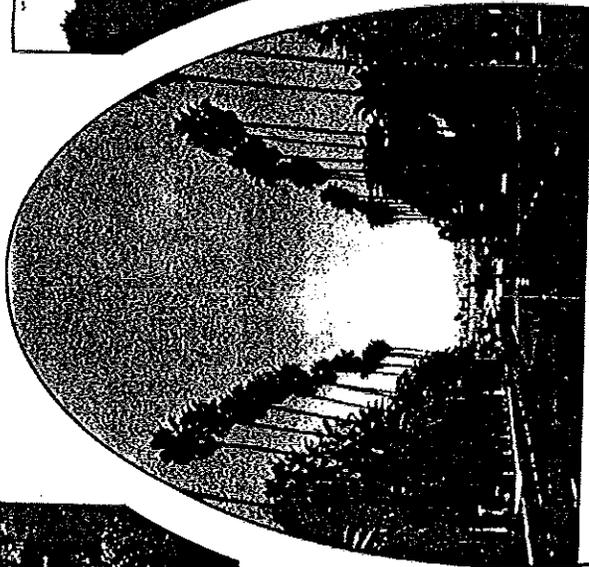
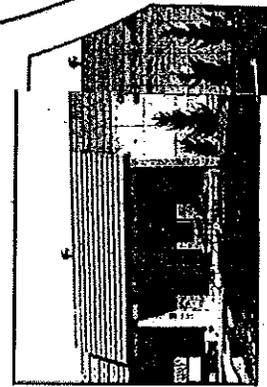
002519





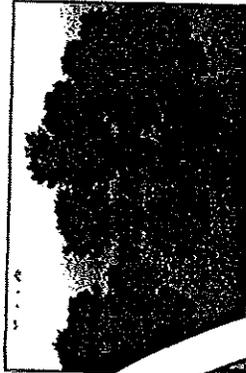
Situated in the heart of the greatest agricultural region in the world, Chowchilla's economy is greatly enhanced by farming and farm-related industry. Cotton, nuts, raisins, hay, grain, dairy products and poultry are only a few of the agricultural commodities that play an important role in Chowchilla's economy. Cotton ginning, nut hulling and packing and hay and grain processing help make up the industrial side of the area's agricultural economy.

Chowchilla's schools reflect the pride and caring of its citizens. Chowchilla High's ag education program is nationally recognized and serves as a focal point of an excellent academic program. Solid basic curriculum and fine teachers are the basis of an excellent "kids come first" program at the elementary schools. Chowchilla is part of the Merced Community College District. Located only eighteen miles from Chowchilla, this college provides degree programs in many fields as well as a low cost start for the state college and university student.



Situated sixteen miles from its nearest urban neighbor gives Chowchilla a unique sense of community.

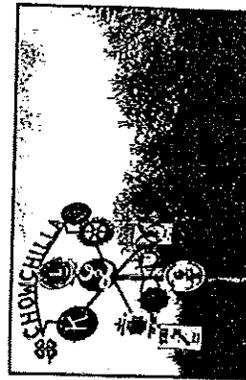
Chowchilla is a community of "get involved" citizens. Service clubs, fraternal organizations and other interest groups have long been an important part of life in Chowchilla. Non-profit events such as dances, dinners, breakfasts, and boutiques are numerous and an important part of local socializing and community benefit.

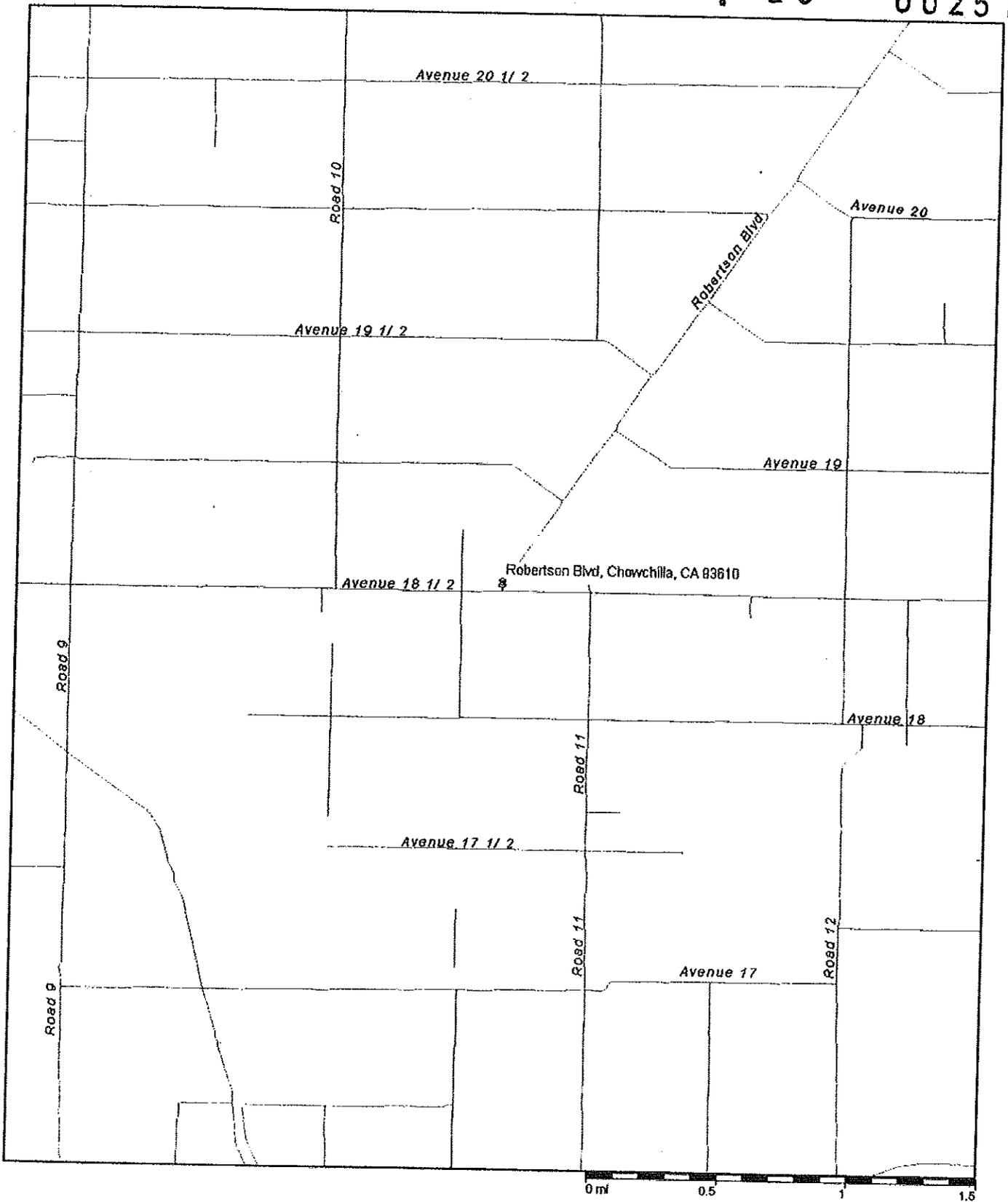


Small town people like to celebrate. Chowchillians are no exception. Here you will find many local activities throughout the year. The Chowchilla-Madera County Fair is held in Chowchilla; an event where many of the works of local people are displayed. The Western Stampede is one of several local roping competitions. Three hundred longhorn steers are driven down the town's main street to start this colorful activity. The Berenda Reservoir, located only three miles from Chowchilla is one of the best speed boating lakes in California and the site of drag boat and other boat racing every summer.

If you like small town living, then take a look at Chowchilla... a small town on the way up!

Chowchilla's centralized location gives local residents many options for leisure time fun. Within three hours' drive are the wharves of San Francisco and the shops of Carmel. Less than two hours away Yosemite, the High Sierra and the water wonderland of the San Joaquin Delta. More than a half dozen local lakes provide fishing and boating activities less than an hour from town.





MICROSOFT AUTOMAP  
**Streets Plus**

Robertson Boulevard  
Chowchilla, 93610

State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3S

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-016

P1. Other Identifier: Madera Southern Pacific Railroad Station

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Madera

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Madera Date 1963 (R 1981) T 11S; R 17E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 120 N E Street City Madera Zip 93637

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 007-101-016

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

A former SPRR station is located on this parcel. The building is a single-story rectangular structure with a hipped roof. The frieze features egg and dart ornamentation and rosettes. The roof extends to form a *port cochere* supported by cast-iron columns on the north and south elevations. A colonnade travels along the south elevation connecting the two extensions. The building walls are sided with brick veneer. The main entrance is located on the east elevation and features double doors with a fixed transom flanked by pilasters. This elevation also features a concrete platform with decorative tiles and metal rails that is accessed by concrete stairs. Fenestration throughout the building consists of narrow rectangular and square double hung style windows. Various shrubs and trees are planted near the building.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP17. Railroad Depot

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing south, June 1, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1927/ Building Plans

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Madera  
205 W Fourth Street  
Madera, CA, 93637

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: June 1, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS, AECOM 2011.

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  
 District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  
 Other (list) Historic Resources Inventory Form, 1985.

DPR 523A(1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 4

\*NRHP Status Code 3S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-016

B1. Historic Name: Madera Southern Pacific Railroad Station

B2. Common Name: Unknown

B3. Original Use: Railroad Depot B4. Present Use: Administration

\*B5. Architectural Style: Neo Classical

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) 1927

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Southern Pacific RR

\*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture Area Madera

Period of Significance 1927-1930 (A/1); 1927 (C/3) Property Type Railroad Depot Applicable Criteria A/1, C/3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The railroad depot appears to meet the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1 for its representation of the pinnacle of the Southern Pacific Company's growth in the region as well as the Southern Pacific's early 20<sup>th</sup> century influence on Madera. It is also significant under Criterion C/3 in the area of architecture for the City of Madera, at the local level of significance.

During the 1920s, the Southern Pacific railroad continued as a major transportation conduit for Madera conveying both local passengers and local freight and the company was hitting its peak in terms of revenues for these markets as well as in terms of the railroads influence overall on Central Valley Cities such as Madera. Constructed in 1927, the Madera depot was a prominent landmark to advertise provision of these passenger and local freight services. Built to a standardized plan, the station was designed to efficiently handle both freight and passenger service out of a single building. The 1920s was a period of intense competition for the railroad by the automobiles and later trucks and airplanes. By 1927, the over 15 million Ford Model T automobiles built in the US provided a more versatile alternative to the railroad for travelling passengers (Stover 1999: 56; Steinheimer 1991:28-29). Whereas many automobiles were in California, the Southern Pacific Company likely realized that it needed to upgrade passenger facilities particularly in those communities that were historically integrated with the railroad. (See Continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: As-builts on file at California State Railroad Museum, Sacramento, CA; Stover, J. F. *The Routledge Historical Atlas of the American Railroads*, New York: Routledge, 1999.

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

\*Date of Evaluation: July 18, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments)



**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-016

Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: June 1, 2010     Continuation     Update

**Significance (cont)**

While these improvements were welcomed by passengers, the continued proliferation of the automobile and trucking traffic, along with the Great Depression of the 1930s, were substantial blows to the once indomitable railroad which never realized the same successes in these markets moving into the future. In this way the 1927 depot is a prominent local physical representation of the crescendo of Southern Pacific Railroad control over passenger travel and local shipping in Central Valley cities such as Madera. The attention to stylistic construction of the Southern Pacific station as well as its location (centralized downtown) in Madera reaffirms that idea that this railroad played an important role in valley cities such as Madera through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Under NRHP Criterion B/CRHR Criterion 2, the depot is not known to be directly associated with persons significant to the region, overall.

Under Criterion C, the depot is a fine example of an early-20<sup>th</sup>-century depot station built in the Neo-Classical style, displaying elements typical of the design including a façade with symmetrically balanced windows and door and classical columns on a colonnaded porch. Since it was situated in a county seat, the station may also perhaps be a bit more elaborate than the strictly utilitarian depots commonly found in smaller and more rural towns. The depot was a representation of the rail line and served as a prominent symbol in the Central Valley town of Madera.

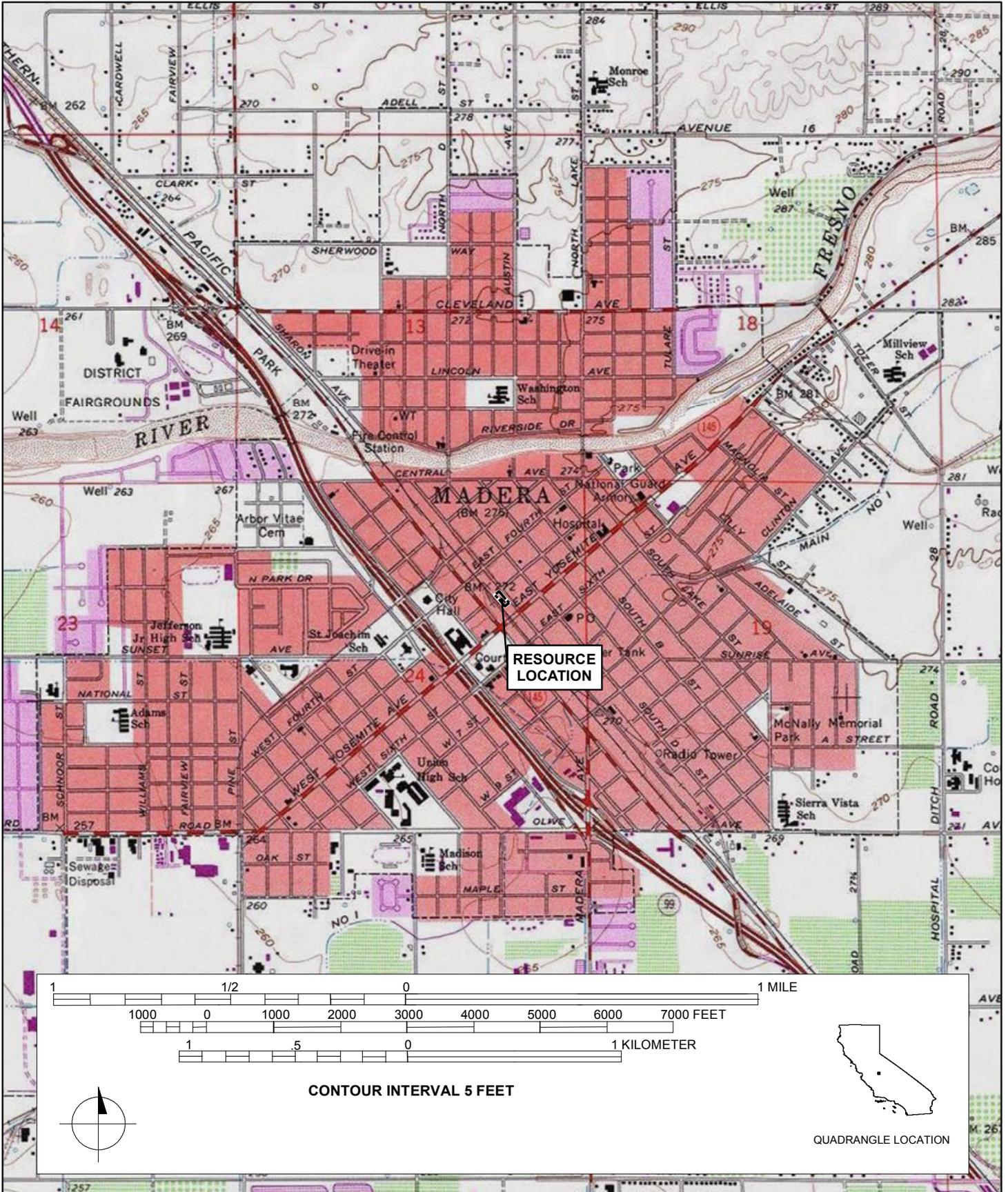
The property does not, nor is likely to, yield information pertaining to history or prehistory that would make it significant under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

In addition to being historically and architecturally significant, the property retains integrity to convey that significance. In summary, the SPRR depot building appears to meet the criteria for listing at the local level under NRHP Criteria A/C and CRHR 1/3 and is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

**References (cont)**

Steinheimer, Richard. *California State Railroad Museum: Railroading in California and the West*. California Department of Parks and Recreation. Sacramento, CA. 1991.

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_



State of California – The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_ 3C  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 11

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

P1. Other Identifier: Valley Feed & Fuel Company

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Madera  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Madera Date 1963 (R 1981) T 11S; R 17E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 24; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: 121 N Gateway Dr City Madera Zip 93637

d. UTM (give more than one for large and/or linear resources): Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate):

APN: 007-101-020; the Valley Feed & Fuel Company grain elevator and retail store is located on the east side of Gateway Drive, formerly "F" Street, between 5th Street and Yosemite Avenue.

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The Valley Feed & Fuel Company complex (**Photograph 1**) has three distinct sections: a grain mill (pictured at left), a grain elevator and silo (center), and a retail supply warehouse (right). The three-and-a-half-story (60-foot-tall) grain mill is a steel frame building sheathed in corrugated metal sheets. It has a medium-pitched front gable roof with exposed eaves and rafter tails that is sheathed in corrugated metal. It has regularly-spaced one-over-one wood sash windows in three delineated stories, and an attic vent opening in the gable. Two large ventilation exhaust stacks extend up from the north slope of the roof.

(See Continuation Sheet.)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6. Commercial building/HP8. Industrial building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)



\*P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing east, April 13, 2011

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
ca.1926/City Directory

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
Bonnie Stoetzl  
18202 Island Dr  
Madera, CA 93636

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
1420 Kettner Blvd., Suite 500  
San Diego, CA 92101

\*P9. Date Recorded: 04/13/2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  
 District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  
 Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 10

\*NRHP Status Code 3C

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

B1. Historic Name: Valley Feed & Fuel Company, Inc.

B2. Common Name: Valley Feed

B3. Original Use: Granary and retail supply

B4. Present Use: Commercial

\*B5. Architectural Style: Industrial

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) Built ca.1926; warehouse addition built 1930s-40s

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: \_\_\_\_\_

B9. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

\*B10. Significance: Theme Commercial/Industrial Development Area Madera

Period of Significance 1920s Property Type Commercial/Industrial Applicable Criteria NRHP A,C; CRHR 1,3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Valley Feed & Fuel Company facility appears eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A and the CRHR under Criterion 1 for its locally significant role as a center for agricultural trade contributing to Madera's overall development as a regional center of agricultural commerce. The granary facility appears eligible under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 as a locally significant late example of a 2x4 crib construction granary dating from the early 20th century, which is a diminishing type in California and across the United States.

(See Continuation Sheet.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B14. Evaluator: M. K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date of Evaluation: 07/21/2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)



Page 3 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

**\*P3a. Description: continued**

The grain elevator and silo (**Photograph 2**) is a two-and-a-half-story building with a rectangular plan that is 2-bays-wide by 4-bays-deep, and exterior walls built of 2x4 crib construction above a concrete foundation. The construction consists of 2x4 dimensional lumber stacked horizontally as stretchers with interlocking corners. The roof is a medium-pitched front gable covered with corrugated metal with exposed overhanging eaves and rafter tails. The gable is also sheathed in corrugated metal with a centered, louvered attic vent. There is no other fenestration in this building. The grain elevator and silo has a capacity to hold 1,300,400 lbs of grain, but is not currently in use.



**Photograph 2.** The Valley Feed grain elevator and silo.

The vaulted two-story warehouse (**Photograph 3**) has two parallel warehouse bays facing west, covered with parallel front-gabled, steel-trussed roofs that are obscured with a false front parapet at the façade. The southern bay was a later addition, built identically to the northern bay. Below the parapet, there is a single multi-pane metal-framed window in each warehouse bay. Below the windows, a full-length awning, covered in corrugated metal and supported by 12 angled tie-rods, extends over an elevated loading dock and entrance. Four sliding metal utility door panels are evenly spaced across the loading dock and are painted with advertisements. Between the middle doors at the center of the façade, signage featuring a rooster and the company name are affixed to the wall (**Photograph 4**). A single, multi-pane metal-framed casement window is located at the far-right of the façade.

The south side of the complex faces a parking lot. The wall contains a boarded door frame, a multi-pane metal-framed casement window and two sliding metal utility doors that are painted with advertisements.

The eastern wall (not pictured) faces the railroad tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad, formerly the Southern Pacific Railroad. The wall has various utility doors and metal-framed industrial-type windows.



**Photograph 3.** Retail warehouse portion of the Valley Feed complex.



**Photograph 4.** Valley Feed & Fuel Company signage at storefront.

Page 5 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

**\*B10. Significance: continued**

The Valley Feed & Fuel Company facility is associated with agricultural development, industries and commerce in Madera, as well as Ralph E. and Ralph L. Stoetzel, and the development of granary facilities in the early 20th century.

Agriculture has been the predominant industry in Madera County since its early settlement. Until the arrival of American settlers in the 1840s, the area was primarily a cattle range. Settlers began to successfully farm wheat in the valley despite dry conditions. Wheat was the first widespread crop, developing rapidly in the 1860s with new farming technologies (Madera County Historical Society 1968:25). Major agricultural developments occurred in the late 19th century with access to the railroad and construction of widespread irrigation systems. The arrival of the Central Pacific Railroad in 1872 led to the creation of new communities and relocation of smaller communities along the major transportation network. The railroad significantly affected agricultural development, as well as commercial development, as the agricultural industry grew to meet the demands of distant markets. Increasing demands also spurred the need to adequately divert water to expanding farmlands (Office of County Superintendent of Schools 1955:11). Widespread irrigation in the 1880s rapidly changed the agricultural harvest from dry farmed grains to more diversified crops of fruits, nuts and vegetables. Alfalfa became the most important and profitable field crop, supplying the cattle industry and the burgeoning dairy industry.

Advances in technology in the late 19th century spurred the growth of the dairy industry. Large-scale dairy farming was a new concept in the 1880s, with the popularity of milk rising after the development of pasteurization methods and the standardized production of butterfat with the invention of the cream separator (Madera County Historical Society 1968:30). From the turn of the 20th century, dairy farming grew rapidly in Madera. Dairy farmers delivered milk and butterfat to local creameries for processing and distribution. Madera had a creamery established at the beginning of the century, processing the majority of dairy products in the region (Madera County Historical Society 1968:30).

In addition to the development of dairy farming, cotton and poultry were new agricultural trends in Madera into the early 20th century. By 1930, the cotton industry was well underway, with a cotton oil mill and four cotton gins in Madera. Poultry farming became an important industry in the 1930s. During the Great Depression, the demand for many agricultural products plummeted. Compared to cattle and other livestock, poultry was seen as an inexpensive alternative for many small farmers. Advancements in technology and breeding allowed for better efficiency in poultry production starting in the 1930s (Smith and Daniel 1975:260-282). Because poultry could be raised in smaller areas at a relatively less cost, a plethora of smaller poultry farms raising chickens or turkeys, and producing eggs, were established throughout Madera County.

To support the array of livestock in Madera, several commercial feed centers were established in the late 19th century, particularly in the center of town on Yosemite Avenue and along the railroad alignment on "E" and "F" streets. Feed stores, mills, grain processors and distributors became more numerous in the early 20th century as farming activities increased with new settlers and diversified products. By 1888, the Madera Flume and Trading Company had a grain and wool warehouse along the railroad on "E" Street in Madera (Sanborn 1888:Sheet 2). J. W. Mace operated the Yosemite Livery, Feed and Sale Stables by 1891 (Sanborn 1891:Sheet 4). In 1922, there were four advertised grain dealers in Madera, including Davis and Frey, Morgan and Miller, Saunders Brothers, and the Valley Feed Store located at 319 E. Yosemite Avenue (Polk 1922).

The Valley Feed Store was established circa 1919, and by 1926, the company expanded as the Valley Feed & Fuel Company, with a new grain mill, elevator, and warehouse in the Southern Pacific Railroad's right-of-way at the corner of Yosemite and F Street (now Gateway Drive) (Polk 1926). By 1928, the company had an additional operation in nearby Chowchilla, and several warehouses scattered throughout Madera (Polk 1928; Sanborn 1929:Sheets 8 and 16).

(continued)

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\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

**\*B10. Significance: continued**

Early grain elevators and granaries during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were rectangular and constructed of wood, often stabilized with steel rods. Crib construction, or 2x4 construction, was apparently a common method of building a grain elevator by 1918 (Wilson 1918:14). In a 1918 Special Bulletin of the Agricultural Division, the method is explained for the construction of a silo as using 2x4 or 2x6 dimensional lumber, “cut 2, 3, or 4 feet long, laid up in the same manner as in building an elevator...,” “these pieces are laid flatwise, one on top of the other and spiked together. Each course laps over the course below in such a way as to make a good joint and give the silo strength. Such a silo can be built without hoops for reinforcing.” Crib construction was frequently lined with plaster or boards to create a better seal for grain storage. By the 1920s, many grain elevators were constructed of reinforced concrete (Baird 1992:60), or brick, sheet metal, or hollow tile blocks. Traditional grain elevator design enclosed the majority of grain handling equipment, such as conveyers, legs, scales, and cleaners, inside a single building with a system to transport grain to separate silos or storage bins (EPA 1995).

Different types of grain elevators had different functions depending on their relationship to the transportation system and their role in agricultural processing, including country, terminal, and processing elevators. Country elevators were used as storage and distribution centers for grain from local farmers (Baird 1992:60; Selyem and Selyem 2000). Country grain elevators were also used for cleaning, drying, and blending grain that could be transferred onto railroad cars en route to larger milling facilities and markets. Terminal elevators were generally massive facilities located in major ports that received grain from country elevators for distribution to more distant markets. Processing elevators milled grain into finished products such as flour and feed (Baird 1992:60). Grain elevators were also managed in different ways, either by individual operators, cooperative farmers’ organizations, or corporations who were often tied to the railroads and shipping (Baird 1992:60). Farming communities generally had at least one grain elevator, or a line of multiple elevators.

After World War II and into the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, innovations in farming technology and support from federal programs allowed for the continued expansion of agriculture throughout the region, with a trend towards consolidated corporate farms (Liebman 1983; CA Department of Agriculture 1961). Construction methods improved, and the traditional wood grain elevator became obsolete. In addition, traditional grain elevators posed potential hazards. Fine grain dust in grain elevators is extremely flammable and can cause explosions. Several safety measures for grain handling were enacted, and around 1980, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) closed down the Valley Feed & Fuel Company’s mill and grain elevator because the system could not adequately contain the dust so as to reduce the hazard of fire and explosion (Buckley 2011). Modern grain elevators, developed mostly after 1980, have handling equipment located outside of the building to reduce the risk (EPA 1995). Through the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, grain elevators declined in use and would continue to lose much of their economic significance and importance (Baird 1992:60; Selyem and Selyem 2000).

The Valley Feed & Fuel Company was founded circa 1919 and operated as a corporation until 1950. Around that time, the mill was run by Louie Gomes, and Valley Feed ground and mixed grains to make their own feed for sale to customers who were primarily dairy farmers (Nordine 2004). After 1950, the corporation changed to a partnership between three couples: Walter and Anna Betters, William and Cora Frey, and Ralph E. and Rolline Stoetzel. Walter Betters, William Frey, and Ralph E. Stoetzel managed the company jointly, until the Freys’ shares were bought out by the other two couples in 1957. Two years later, Walter Betters died, leaving Ralph E. Stoetzel with the sole management of the partnership (Busick 1968). Ralph E. Stoetzel successfully managed the partnership, which had also established the Valley Wholesale Building Materials Company. The Stoetzels’ son, Ralph L. Stoetzel, purchased shares from his parents to enter the partnership in the 1960s (Busick 1968).

(continued)

Ralph Emerson Stoetzel was born in 1901 in Kansas (International Genealogical Index 2011). It appears that he was involved with the founding of Valley Feed (Emo 2011). In 1938, Stoetzel filed for and received Patent No. 2,181,795 for a loading device with the principal object being "to elevate chaff or similar material into a storage receptacle or vehicle as the device is moving over the ground" (USPTO 1939). His son, Ralph Leland Stoetzel, was born in 1931 (Anonymous 2003). The Stoetzels, who were the persons most closely associated with Valley Feed & Fuel Company until the 1990s, were benefactors to several Madera charities, and to organizations including the Elks Club and 4-H. In 1975, the Stoetzels donated 17 acres of land, called "Stoetzel Island," to the City of Madera. Although the land was named and intended to be "Stoetzel Island Park," it remains undeveloped (Emo 2007). Ralph E. died in 1975 and Rolline died in 1995, and Ralph L. continued to manage the company. He is quoted as having said, "If you take care of your community, they will take care of you" (Anonymous 2003), and is remembered fondly by the community (Emo 2011). The 4-H Livestock Pavilion at the Madera Fair Grounds was named for him (Anonymous 2003). Bonnie Stoetzel, Ralph L. Stoetzel's wife, still owns the property, although new management has owned and operated the company since the 1990s.

Today, the Valley Feed & Fuel Company's mill and grain elevator remain intact and functional, but are not permitted to operate. Despite this and the regional decline in smaller dairy operations, the company still draws customers to buy grains, alfalfa, straw and salt blocks for animals, although the retail inventory has expanded to meet other needs and to attract new customers (Nordine 2004).

#### NRHP and CRHR Criteria Evaluation

Built circa 1926, the Valley Feed & Fuel Company facility located at 121 N. Gateway Drive in Madera is associated with the development of agricultural commerce in Madera in the early 20th century. As a response to expanding markets in the region, the company constructed a mill and grain elevator to serve as an outlet and exchange for local farmers. Grain and processed feed were an important factor in the development of the dairy and poultry industries, and Valley Feed served as one of the region's largest agricultural processing and retail centers. This facility was a vital link between local farmers and the marketplace. The Valley Feed business directly supported local dairy farmers and poultry farmers, during a period when small dairy and poultry farms were developing rapidly. From the 1920s through the 1970s, Valley Feed processed grain from local farmers and mixed feed to supply to local farmers. Although it was not the only grain and feed dealer in Madera, it is historically significant at the local level for its contribution to agricultural commerce in Madera, and as the oldest remaining company linked to the once thriving grain industry in downtown Madera. The property appears eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A and eligible for the CRHR under Criterion 1 for its local significance.

The Valley Feed & Fuel Company was established as a corporation with shareholders, but its most evident association is with father and son, Ralph E. Stoetzel and Ralph L. Stoetzel, who were involved in managing the company for over six decades between them. Although both Stoetzels were dedicated and generously contributed to the Madera community as local benefactors, there is no apparent evidence that either Stoetzel had a significant role in local, state, or national history to set them apart as more significant than other local, successful businessmen. The property does not appear eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B or the CRHR under Criterion 2.

Architecturally, the Valley Feed & Fuel Company facility includes a utilitarian three-and-a-half story mill, a late example of a wood grain elevator, and a warehouse portion dating to the early 20th century, with a sympathetic and fairly indiscernible addition dating to the 1930s or 1940s. The property is a distinctive example of an early 20th century mill, country grain elevator and supply warehouse complex, particularly emphasized by its location in downtown Madera on Gateway Drive, formerly "F" Street, adjacent to the railroad. The complex as a whole embodies the utilitarian construction of buildings related to agricultural industries from the period, and the grain elevator specifically embodies the method of 2x4 crib construction for grain elevators that went into decline after 1920. It is unknown how many similar structures were built in Madera during that period, but it is the only remaining grain elevator of its type in downtown Madera, which was once a regional center for grain industries. The property appears to be significant under NRHP Criterion C and CRHR Criterion 3 for its method of construction and the local rarity of an intact 2x4 crib construction grain elevator.

The property does not, nor is likely to, yield important information relating to history or prehistory under NRHP Criterion D or CRHR Criterion 4.

Page 8 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

\*B10. Significance: continued

Integrity Assessment

Built circa 1926, the mill and grain elevator portions of the Valley Feed & Fuel Company facility appear unaltered. The mill retains its original windows, and it appears to have its original siding. The grain elevator also appears to be unaltered, with the exception of new signage applied around the first story. Both the mill and grain elevator were closed circa 1980 by the EPA, and have been left intact with no major alterations since that time. The warehouse portion, built circa 1926, was doubled in size in the 1930s or 1940s. The addition was sympathetic, and this portion of the building retains integrity of the utilitarian design and materials. The entire complex has undergone few physical alterations and retains its original design, materials, and workmanship. The location and setting of the complex along a major thoroughfare in Madera is intact. The property retains its association with its original establishment, Valley Feed & Fuel Company, which has been in continuous business on site since circa 1926. Although the mill and grain elevator no longer operate, they have never been dismantled, and in theory, remain fully intact and functional. The noise, vibrations, and activities of the mill and grain elevator no longer contribute to the feeling of the complex, but the complex retains ample feeling in the retail portion of the complex where wares are displayed and transactions are made under the original truss roof and out the sliding doors. The Valley Fuel & Feed Company complex retains sufficient integrity to be eligible for the NRHP and CRHR.

Summary

The property appears eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C and for the CRHR under Criteria 1 and 3 at the local level of significance. It retains sufficient integrity for listing. It is considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

\*B12. References:

Anonymous

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2011 Personal communication in person at the Valley Feed & Fuel Company store with M.K. Meiser, 15 June 2011.

Busick v. Stoetzel (Busick)

1968 Appellate Case 264 Cal. App. 2d 736. Available at [www.lawlink.com](http://www.lawlink.com); accessed 19 July 2011.

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1961 *The Farmer and the Consumer: Economic Report No. 1*. Sacramento: Office of the Director California Department of Agriculture.

City of Madera Permits

Application and Permit, Engineering Department, No. 2373, 16 September 1957  
Building Permit, Engineering Department, No. 3232, 18 November 1971  
Building Permit, Engineering Department, No. 2890, 14 April 1972  
Building Permit, Engineering Department, No. 3241, 26 November 1972  
Certificate of Occupancy, Building Department, No. 731, 01 June 1983  
Demolition Permit No. 20042448, 07 December 2004

(continued)

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\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

\*B12. References: continued

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Madera County Historical Society

1968 *Madera: The Rich, Colorful and Exciting Historical Heritage of that Area Now Known as Madera County, California*. Madera, CA: Madera County Historical Society.

Nordine, Annette

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1926 *Merced-Madera and Chowchilla, California, Directory: 1926-27*. San Francisco: R.L. Polk and Co., of California Publishers.

1928 *Merced-Madera and Chowchilla, California, Directory: 1928-29*. San Francisco: R.L. Polk and Co., of California Publishers.

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Sanborn Map Company

1888 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

1891 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

1898 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

1912 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

1929 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

1929-1950 *Madera*, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Selyem, Barbara and Bruce Selyem

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(continued)

Page 10 of 11

\*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) APN: 007-101-020

\*Recorded by: M.K. Meiser, AECOM

\*Date: 04/13/2011     Continuation     Update

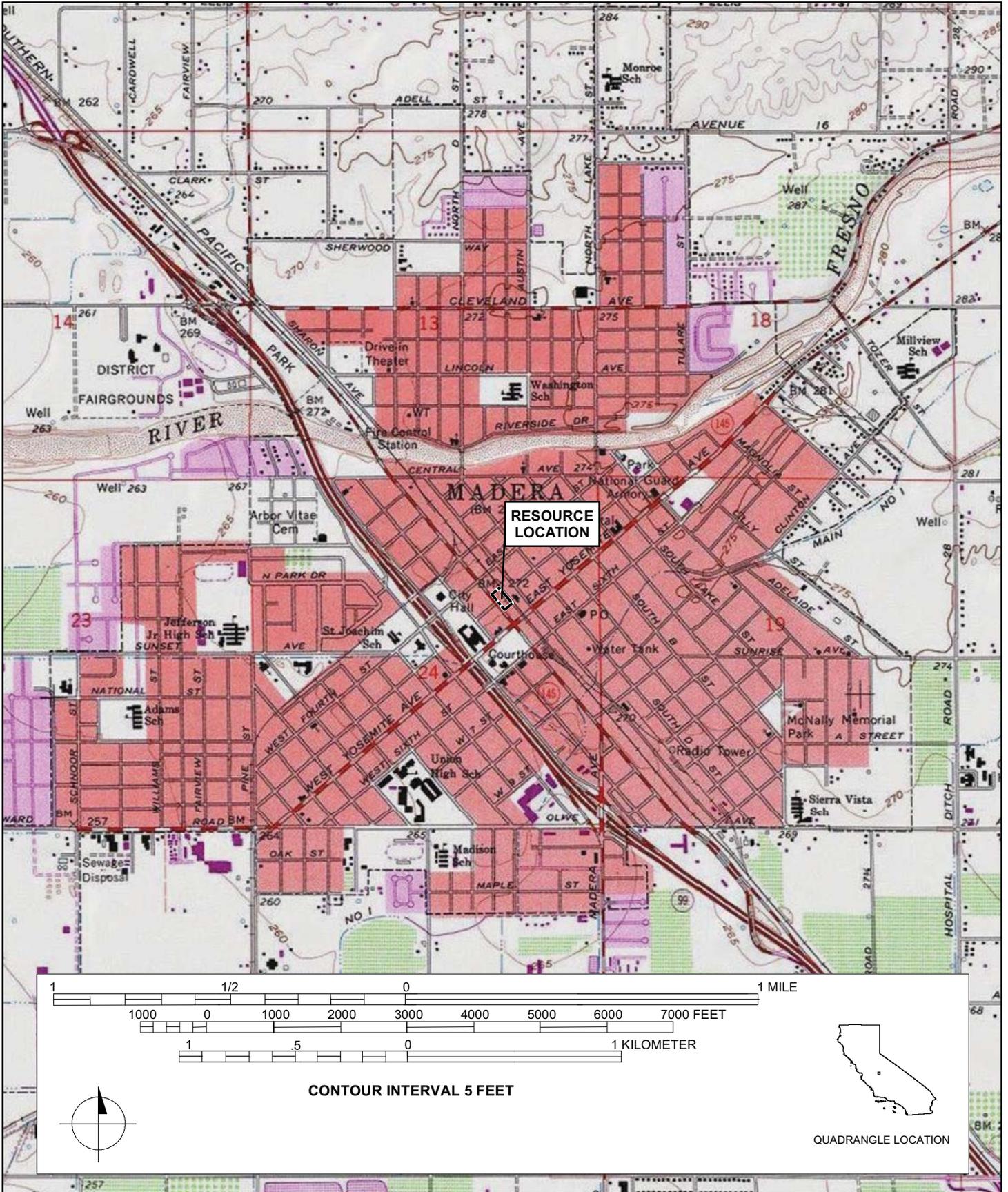
\*B12. References: continued

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1975    *The Chicken Book*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
1995    *Compilation of Air Pollutant Emissions Factors, Volume 1: Stationary Point and Area Resources*. Research Triangle Park, NC: Office of Air Quality Planning and Standard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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1939    Patent No. 2,181,795. Available at <http://patft.uspto.gov>; accessed on 20 July 2011.

Wilson, A.D.  
1918    "Silos," *Special Bulletin No. 43*, The University of Minnesota, College of Agriculture, Agricultural Extension Division, pp 1-16.



Page 1 of 2

\*Recorded by P. Ambacher/AECOM

Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 450-02-008  
\*Date August 19, 2010  Continuation  Update

NRHP Status Code 3D

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County Fresno  
(P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Fresno North Date 1965 (R 1961) T 13S; R 20E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 32; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address 890 West Belmont Avenue City Fresno Zip 93728

d. UTM: (give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

APN: 450-02-008

\*\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP39, Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing northwest, August 19, 2010

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1904 / The Fresno Bee

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
Patricia Ambacher  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: August 19, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2012

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list) DPR 523 Form Roeding Park Historic District, 2009, Page & Turnbull.

#### Significance

In July 2009, Roeding Park was inventoried and evaluated as a historic district by Page & Turnbull as part of the *Roeding Park and Fresno Chaffee Zoo Facility Master Plans Draft Environmental Impact Report SCH No. 2008031002*. In the evaluation, Roeding Park was identified as meeting National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria A and C and California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) Criteria 1 and 3 in the areas of Entertainment/Recreation, Community Planning & Development, and Landscape Architecture. Page & Turnbull determined the district contained 25 contributing resources and the period of significance was 1903-1953. The 2009 evaluation of Roeding Park was conducted by a qualified Architectural Historian who meets the Secretary of Interior Professional Qualification Standards for that discipline.

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Recorded by P. Ambacher/AECOM

Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 450-02-008

\*Date August 19, 2010  Continuation  Update

As part of the *Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS* (2012) an AECOM architectural historian, who meets the Secretary of Interior Standards, conducted a site visit of Roeding Park (APN 450-02-008) on August 18, 2010. Roeding Park features picnic areas, mature trees and landscaping, memorial monuments, water features, tennis courts, various buildings and structures, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, Rotary Storyland and Playland. There are also various vehicular and pedestrian circulation paths throughout the Park. The park is surrounded by a low stone wall. Portions of the wall were constructed in 1938 as part of a WPA project, but the majority of the wall was constructed in the 1960s when chain link fencing was added to the top of the wall (*The Fresno Bee* 1938:1B; Patillo 2010:4). The wall serves as a boundary, but does not retain sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing resource to the district. The park appears unchanged since it was recorded by Page & Turnbull in 2009.

This update concurs with Page & Turnbull's findings that Roeding Park Historic District appears to meet NRHP/CRHR Criteria A/1 and C/3 and therefore, the district and its 25 contributing resources are also considered historical resources for the purposes of CEQA.

This update also includes the two picnic shelters located in Palm Point and Pine groves as contributing structures as well as the Rotary Playland and Rotary Storyland as two contributing sites to the district. This brings the total number of contributing resources to 29. Within the context of entertainment/recreation, these four resources contribute to the district's historic character. The shelters resemble the street car shelter and are picnic amenities used by visitors. Both Playland and Storyland are early examples of amusement parks specifically geared towards children. Playland was one of the first such parks in California.

This update defines the period of significance for the district as beginning in 1903; the year construction at the park began, and ends in 1962, the year Rotary Storyland was constructed.

**\*B12. References**

Patillo, Chris. Historic American Landscape Survey Roeding Park. September 24, 2010.

"Rustic Stone Structure Hides Unsightly Bank." *The Fresno Bee*. November 26, 1938.

<b>State of California &amp; The Resources Agency</b>	<b>Primary #</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION</b>	<b>HRI #</b>
<b>DISTRICT RECORD</b>	<b>Trinomial</b>

Page 1 of 68 \*NRHP Status Code 3S

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

D1. Historic Name Roeding Park

D2. Common Name: Roeding Park

**\*D3. Detailed Description** (Discuss overall coherence of the district, its setting, visual characteristics, and minor features. List all elements of district.): The Roeding Park Historic District (Roeding Park) is located at 890 – 894 West Belmont Avenue in the northwest portion of Fresno, California directly west of the Tower District. Roeding Park is generally bounded by West Belmont Avenue to the south, North Motel Drive to the east, West Olive Avenue to the north, and Highway 99 to the west. Roeding Park includes a total of 148 acres. (See Continuation Sheet, p. 2)

**\*D4. Boundary Description** (Describe limits of district and attach map showing boundary and district elements.):

The boundaries of the Roeding Park Historic District in Fresno, California commence at the southwest corner of West Olive Avenue and North Motel Drive. The boundary runs southeast along North Motel Drive, following the North Motel Drive inlet to the Belmont Traffic Circle and continuing along the outlet to West Belmont Avenue. The traffic circle itself is excluded from the district boundaries. The boundary then runs west along West Belmont Avenue to the northbound Highway 99 on ramp, where it turns and runs northwest along Highway 99 and the northbound Highway 99 off ramp. (See Continuation Sheet, p. 8)

**\*D5. Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the Roeding Park Historic District are defined by the relative extent of the historic park boundary. The boundary accounts for all land acquired for the park during its initial period of development between 1903 and 1924, as well as changes to the southwestern boundary of the site made in 1954 due to the incorporation of State Highway 99, which resulted in the truncation of Lake Washington's western shoreline. The historic district boundary excludes the Municipal Rose Garden along the northwestern edge of the site, as this area was added to the site after the end date of the period of significance and does not contribute to the character of the historic district. The boundary excludes the Belmont Traffic Circle, which was constructed in 1932, as well as the small residential development at the northwest corner of the site; these two areas are outside the historic district boundaries and do not contribute to the character of the historic district.

<b>D6. Significance: Themes</b>	Entertainment/Recreation, Community Planning & Development	<b>Area</b>	Fresno, California
	<b>Period of Significance</b>		1903-1953

(Discuss district's importance in terms of its historical context as defined by theme, period of significance, and geographic scope. Also address the integrity of the district as a whole.)

The Roeding Park Historic District consists of a group of features that possesses a significant concentration, linkage and continuity of sites, buildings, structures and objects united historically by the plan and physical development of Roeding Park. The historic district contains forty-seven features within the boundaries of the historic district that are forty-five years of age or older (constructed before 1964). Twenty-five of these features contribute to the historic district and the remaining are non-contributing features. (See Continuation Sheet, p. 11)

**\*D7. References** (Give full citations including the names and addresses of any informants, where possible.) (See Continuation Sheet, p. 32)

**\*D8. Evaluator:** Gretchen A. Hilyard **Date:** July 31, 2009

**Affiliation and Address:** Page & Turnbull, Inc., 724 Pine Street, San Francisco, CA 94108

**CONTINUATION SHEET****D3. Detailed Description (continued)**

The park in general features picnic areas, landscaped open space, monuments, tennis courts, water features, and various buildings and structures. Distinct programmed areas within Roeding Park include the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, Storyland and Playland.

The terrain of the area is generally level, and vegetation primarily consists of grassy lawns and large trees, with some smaller garden areas. The park is generally diamond-shaped, but excludes a portion of residential land at the northwest corner, which is bounded by North West Avenue, West Olive Avenue and Highway 99. Roeding Park is organized into distinct zones, including: the Fresno Chaffee Zoo at the center; Lake Washington, Storyland and Playland near the southwest corner; ponds at the southeast corner; and tennis courts and picnic areas on the north side of the park.

Streets within Roeding Park are paved and wind throughout the site, providing access to all areas of the park. The main vehicular entrance is located on the park's south side, off Belmont Avenue, and provides access to the main road that circumnavigates the park. This road consists of two lanes that are divided by medians featuring trees, curbing, and diagonal parking spaces. The main road forms a loop that roughly bounds the Fresno Chaffee Zoo and the City Maintenance Yard, which is also located in the center of the Park to the north of the zoo and serves as a facility for the city-wide parks and recreation department. Secondary single-lane roads branch off of the main road and provide access primarily to the northern and eastern portions of the park. A secondary vehicular entrance is located on the north side of the park, off West Olive Avenue. Pedestrian circulation is provided via a system of paved pathways within the Zoo, Storyland and Playland and intermittently throughout the greater park, where pedestrian circulation is not otherwise provided by vehicular roads.

The Roeding Park Historic District is characterized by recreational use and consists of forty-five features constructed within the period of significance that spans from 1903 to 1953. Twenty-seven of these features contribute to the historic district based upon evidence of sufficient historic integrity and the remaining features do not contribute to the historic district.

**DESCRIPTION BY AREA*****Park***

Originally designed in 1903, Roeding Park encompasses a total of 148 acres, including park open space and improvements (118 acres), the Fresno Chaffee Zoo (18 acres), a City Maintenance Yard (5 acres), Playland (3.65 acres) and Storyland (3.35 acres). The park is diamond shaped with parallel sides bounded by the major roadways that form its boundaries. The park's perimeter is marked by a low stone wall, topped with chain-link fencing in some areas. Areas within the park, including the zoo, city maintenance yard, Storyland and Playland are individually fenced. The park features paved roads, water features, monuments, and an abundance of large trees, as well as a variety of contributing built and landscape features. Contributing and non-contributing features within the greater park area are outlined in the tables on pages 5-7.

***Fresno Chaffee Zoo***

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo was established in 1908 as an informal paddock for donated animals within Roeding Park. Today, the Zoo is operated by the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation on 18 acres of land leased from the City of Fresno. The Zoo occupies a site in the center of Roeding Park and has approximately 125 species of animals, housed in a variety of enclosures, pens, cages and structures. Prominent buildings and structures within the zoo include the Lisenby Bandstand and Reptile House to the north, the Tropical Rainforest to the south, and the Asian Elephant exhibit and main entrance to the west. Individual contributing and non-contributing features within the zoo are outlined on pages 5-7.

**CONTINUATION SHEET*****Rotary Playland***

Rotary Playland was established in 1955 and includes 3.65 acres at the southwest corner of Roeding Park, just southeast of Lake Washington. Playland is operated by the Rotary Club as a non-profit amusement park with historic and modern rides and amenities. The features within Playland are small in scale and are typically covered by metal canopies. Playland features amusement rides such as a miniature roller coaster, tilt-a-whirl, carousel (manufactured by Aero Development) and site furnishings including plaster sculptures and water fountains. Playland does not contain any individual features that contribute to the historic district, nor does it contribute to the historic district as a site. Individual features within Playland are outlined in the table below.

Feature	Area	Year Built
Roller Coaster	Playland	Recent replacement
Pedal Boats	Playland	Recent replacement
Train Ride	Playland	Recent replacement
Train Station	Playland	Recent replacement
Lady Bugs	Playland	Unknown
Carousel	Playland	1955
Midge-o-Racers	Playland	1955
Helicopters	Playland	1955
Big Rocko	Playland	1955
Little Rocko	Playland	1955
Plaster sculpture and water fountains	Playland	1955
Train Tunnel/Office	Playland	ca. 1961
Teacups	Playland	ca. 1969
Octopus Ride	Playland	ca. 2002
Tilt-A-Whirl	Playland	2008
Splash Park	Playland	2008
Metal pavilions	Playland	ca. 1990
Ticket booth/ Concession Stand	Playland	ca. 1990
Restrooms	Playland	Unknown
Activity Stage	Playland	Unknown

***Rotary Storyland***

Rotary Storyland was established in 1962 and includes 3.35 acres at the western boundary of Roeding Park, just north of Lake Washington. Storyland is operated by the Rotary Club and is a non-profit children's attraction that promotes literacy through a variety of children's storybook exhibits. The buildings at Storyland are designed in vernacular or mimetic styles similar to those typically found at amusement parks or roadside attractions. The wood-frame Storyland buildings were constructed in 1962 (some were later altered), are clad in stucco or wood, and incorporate whimsical details, playground features, and children's activities into their architecture. The exhibits were designed by a local Fresno artist, Patricia Hopper, who was influential in advocating for the construction of Storyland in Fresno's Roeding Park. Plaster and wood sculptures depicting characters from children's literature are found throughout Storyland, and were also constructed in 1962. Storyland does not contain any individual features that contribute to the historic district, nor does it contribute to the historic district as a site. Individual features within Storyland are outlined in the table below.

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Feature	Area	Year Built
Children's Chapel	Storyland	1962
Restrooms	Storyland	1962
Gypsy Wagon/Concession Stand	Storyland	1962
Caterpillar sculpture	Storyland	1962
3 Little Pigs sculpture	Storyland	1962
Pinocchio's Theatre	Storyland	1962
Alice's Maze sculpture	Storyland	1962
Old Lady's Shoe	Storyland	1962
White Rabbit sculpture	Storyland	1962
Alice's Court sculpture	Storyland	1962
Red's House	Storyland	1962
Gulliver's Ship	Storyland	1962
Jack & Jill sculpture	Storyland	1962
Three Bears	Storyland	1962
King Arthur's Castle	Storyland	1962
Crooked Mile sculpture	Storyland	1962
Ginger Bread Man	Storyland	1962
Winnie the Pooh sculpture	Storyland	1962
Simple Simon sculpture	Storyland	1962
McGregor's Garden sculpture	Storyland	1962
Mother Goose sculpture	Storyland	1962
Frog Prince sculpture	Storyland	1962
Little Boy Blue sculpture	Storyland	1962
Train Station	Storyland	1962
Little Miss Muffet sculpture	Storyland	1962
Entrance	Storyland	ca. 1980
Train Ride	Storyland	Recent replacement

***City Maintenance Yard***

Directly north of the Zoo is the 5-acre City Maintenance Yard, which is run by the City of Fresno Parks and Recreation Department. The maintenance yard features a large paved parking area, unpaved work yard, six large utilitarian buildings and a number of smaller shed structures. The maintenance yard is enclosed by chain link fence that is approximately 8' high. The City Maintenance Yard does not appear to contain any individual contributing features, nor does it contribute to the historic district as a site.

**State of California & The Resources Agency**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 5 of 68

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation  Update

***Contributing/Non-Contributing Features***

The following list includes all contributing resources in the Roeding Park Historic District that are forty-five years of age or older:

Feature	Area	Contributing?	Year Built	Type	CHRS Code
Pond A*	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP22. Lake/River/Reservoir	3D
Pond B*	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP22. Lake/River/Reservoir	3D
Pond C*	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP22. Lake/River/Reservoir	3D
Pond D*	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP22. Lake/River/Reservoir	3D
Eucalyptus Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP39. Other	3D
Maple Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP39. Other	3D
Pine Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP39. Other	3D
Umbrella Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1907	HP39. Other	3D
Pergola	Park	Y	1912	HP29. Landscape Architecture	3D
Street Car Shelter	Park	Y	1912	HP17. Railroad Depot	3D
Historic Concrete Benches*	Park	Y	1913	HP28. Street Furniture	3D
Tennis Courts*	Park	Y	ca. 1913, ca. 1935	HP39. Other	3D
Zookeeper's House	Zoo	Y	ca. 1920	HP2. Single Family Property	3D
Lisenby Bandstand	Zoo	Y	1923	HP 12. Civic Auditorium	3D
George C. Roeding Monument	Park	Y	1929	HP26. Monument	3D
George Washington Memorial	Park	Y	1932	HP26. Monument	3D
Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office	Park	Y	ca. 1935	HP6. 1-3 Story Commercial Building	3D
Lake Washington	Park	Y	1936	HP35. WPA Project, HP22. Lake/River/Reservoir	3D
Frederick and Marianne Roeding Monument	Park	Y	1939	HP26. Monument	3D
Palm Point Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1946	HP39. Other	3D
Cedar Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1948	HP39. Other	3D
Redwood Grove	Park	Y	ca. 1950	HP39. Other	3D
Japanese-American World War II Memorial	Park	Y	1950	HP26. Monument	3D
Folk Dance Platform #1*	Park	Y	1950	HP39. Other	3D

State of California & The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation  Update

Feature	Area	Contributing?	Year Built	Type	CHRS Code
Folk Dance Platform #2*	Park	Y	1950	HP39. Other	3D

Landscape characteristics that are considered contributing features of the Roeding Park Historic District include the overall spatial organization/site plan of the park, historic roads and paths, and lawns.

\* Note: Groups of similar features were compiled on single DPR 523A forms.

**State of California & The Resources Agency**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 7 of 68

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation  Update

The following list includes all non-contributing resources in the Roeding Park Historic District that are forty-five years of age or older:

Feature	Area	Contributing?	Year Built	Type	CHRS Code
City Maintenance Yard**	Maintenance	N	Unknown	HP4. Ancillary Building	6Z
Lion House	Zoo	N	1936	HP35. WPA Property	6Z
Elephant House	Zoo	N	1949	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Seal Pool	Zoo	N	1952	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Monkey Island	Zoo	N	1953	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Giraffe Barn	Zoo	N	1954	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Amphitheater	Zoo	N	1954	HP39. Other	6Z
Bear Grottoes	Zoo	N	1955	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Playland	Playland	N	1955	HP25. Amusement park	6Z
Locomotive**	Park	N	1956	HP18. Train	6Z
Palm Point Picnic Shelter	Park	N	ca. 1960	HP39. Other	6Z
Pine Grove Picnic Shelter	Park	N	ca. 1960	HP39. Other	6Z
Walk-Through Aviary	Zoo	N	1960	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Ape Grottoes	Zoo	N	1961	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Horseshoe Arena	Park	N	Before 1961	HP39. Other	6Z
Pump Houses #1*	Park	N	1961	HP9. Public Utility Building	6Z
Pump House #2*	Park	N	1961	HP9. Public Utility Building	6Z
Storyland	Storyland	N	1962	HP25. Amusement park	6Z
Hippo Exhibit	Zoo	N	1963	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Rhino Exhibit	Zoo	N	1963	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Fennec Fox Cage	Zoo	N	1964	HP25. Amusement Park	6Z
Tennis Courts*	Park	N	ca. 1980	HP39. Other	6Z

Additional features that are included within the park boundary but do not contribute to the significance of the Roeding Park Historic District, because they were constructed after the end of the period of significance (1953) include: playgrounds (2), walking path around the Umbrella Grove, road around the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, Olive Avenue entrance, Belmont Avenue entrance, flag monument, contemporary restrooms, and parking areas.

\* Note: Groups of similar features were compiled on single DPR 523A forms.

\*\* Note: DPR 523A forms were not completed for these features.

**CONTINUATION SHEET****D4. Boundary Description (Continued)**

At a point along the off ramp, parallel to the southern end of North West Avenue, the boundary turns to run east and connect to the southern end of the North West Avenue cul-de-sac. Here it turns to run north along North West Avenue to West Olive Avenue. The boundary continues east along West Olive Avenue to the point of beginning, at the intersection of West Olive Avenue and North Motel Drive.

**ROEDING PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP**

(see fold out map on page 10)

***Description of Map Key Fields****Contributing Feature*

Contributing features identified on the historic district boundary map indicate those features that were constructed within the period of significance, contribute to the historic character of the Roeding Park Historic District, and retain sufficient historic integrity to convey the property's significance. Twenty seven contributing features were evaluated on DPR 523 A forms (groups of similar features were compiled on single A forms), which accompany the report.

*Contributing Circulation*

Contributing circulation identified on the historic district boundary map indicate vehicular and pedestrian roads and paths that were constructed during the period of significance, contribute to the historic character of the Roeding Park Historic District, and retain sufficient historic integrity to convey the property's significance. The contributing circulation of Roeding Park is considered one of the general landscape characteristics of the site and was not separately evaluated on DPR 523A forms according to the guidelines described in the California Office of Historic Preservation publication, *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources*. Contributing circulation was called out separately on the historic district boundary map to distinguish these features from the individual contributing features described on DPR 523A forms.

*Contributing Landscape Area*

Contributing landscape areas identified on the historic district boundary map indicate general landscape characteristics (excluding circulation) that were constructed during the period of significance, contribute to the historic character of the Roeding Park Historic District, and retain sufficient historic integrity to convey the property's significance. The contributing landscape areas of Roeding Park are considered general landscape characteristics of the site and were not separately evaluated on DPR 523A forms according to the guidelines described in the California Office of Historic Preservation publication, *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources*. The majority of the contributing landscape areas are lawns and plantings. These features were called out separately on the historic district boundary map to distinguish these features from the individual contributing features described on DPR 523A forms.

*Non-Contributing Feature*

Non-contributing features identified on the historic district boundary map indicate individual features that were either constructed after the end date of the period of significance (1953), do not contribute to the historic character of the property, and/or are historic features that do not retain sufficient historic integrity to convey their significance. All non-contributing features that were constructed during the period of significance and appeared to retain historic integrity were documented on DPR 523A forms, twenty-two features were determined to be non-contributing based on the evaluation

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of the property detailed in the DPR 523D form.

*Non-Contributing Circulation*

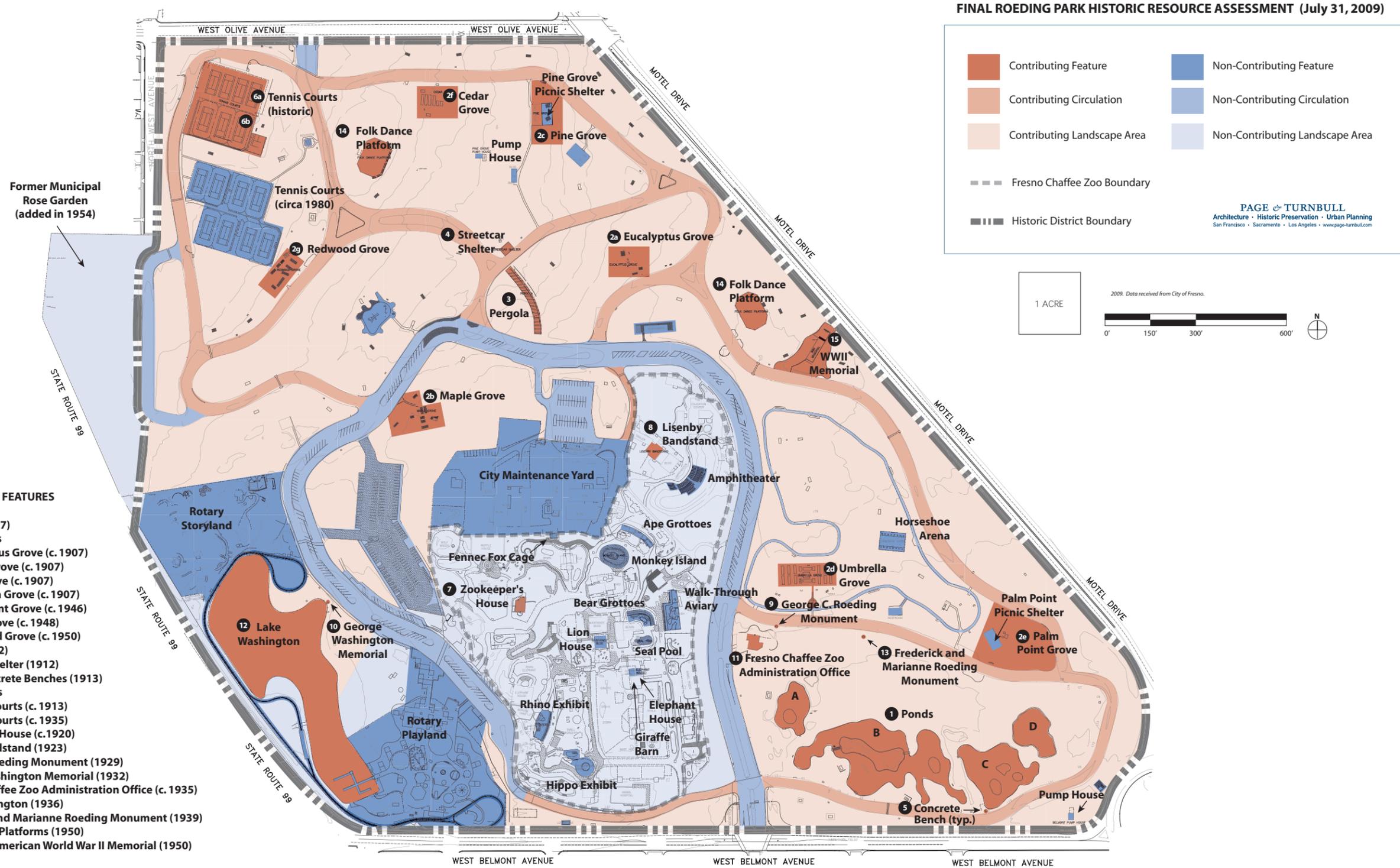
Non-Contributing circulation identified on the historic district boundary map indicate vehicular and pedestrian roads and paths that were either constructed after the period of significance, do not contribute to the historic character of the Roeding Park Historic District, and/or are historic features that do not retain sufficient historic integrity to convey the property's significance.

*Non-Contributing Landscape Area*

Non-Contributing landscape areas identified on the historic district boundary map indicate general landscape characteristics (excluding circulation) that were either constructed after the period of significance, do not contribute to the historic character of the Roeding Park Historic District, and/or are historic features that do not retain sufficient historic integrity to convey the property's significance.



# HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY MAP





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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page &amp; Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

 Continuation  Update**D6. Significance (Continued)**

Contributing features to the Roeding Park Historic District include buildings, structures, objects, and landscape features that were established within the park during its period of significance, are associated with the parks' historic significance, and retain integrity to the historic period. The period of significance for the historic district begins in 1903, the year that construction began on the park, and ends in 1953, when focus began to shift from development of the park as a whole towards development of the Roeding Park Zoo and other amusement areas within the park. The construction of State Highway 99 at the western edge of the park in 1954, marked a physical transition away from the picturesque period of the park's original design and development. After 1953, the zoo became the main attraction within Roeding Park and newspapers from the era declared it one of the three most notable zoos in California (along with the San Francisco and San Diego Zoos). Within the established period of significance, the most pronounced periods of development occurred from 1903 to 1923, 1924 to 1939, and 1940 to 1953.

**HISTORIC CONTEXT***Early Development of Roeding Park (1897 to 1911)*

The Roeding family made a significant contribution to the early development of the San Joaquin Valley. Frederick C. Roeding was an early California pioneer and established the San Joaquin Valley Land Association with a group of German businessmen in 1868. This group purchased 80,000 acres of land between the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers in Fresno county, making Roeding and his colleagues influential land holders in the valley. Roeding established the Fancher Creek Nursery on his share of the land in 1883.<sup>1</sup>

The history of the development of Roeding Park began in 1897, when Frederick C. Roeding and August Weihe first offered to donate 270 acres of land to the City of Fresno for the creation of a public park.<sup>2</sup> Fresno had been incorporated in 1885, and due to a variety of factors including the City's hesitation to provide the \$5,000 funding required annually for improvements as a condition of the offer, Roeding and Weihe's donation was refused. At the end of the nineteenth century, the debate over the creation of the city's first public park became an important issue in Fresno. By the early twentieth century "the city population had grown substantially and the need arose for wholesome recreational facilities within city reach."<sup>3</sup>

In 1903, under Fresno's first mayor, L.O. Stephens, Frederick and Marianne Roeding donated a 71.76 acre parcel of land to the City of Fresno, "for the purpose of laying out, construction, cultivating, maintaining and improving, as a public park or boulevard for said City of Fresno."<sup>4</sup> This land was part of Roeding's former San Joaquin Valley Land Association land holdings and was called Roeding's Villa Colony. Landscape architect Johannes Reimers was retained in September of 1903 to provide specifications and drawings for the design of the park.<sup>5</sup>

By 1905, a newspaper article remarked that about half of the acreage was planted and the trees had grown two to three feet since planting. The remaining acreage was to be planted the following season.<sup>6</sup> In 1908, recognizing that the original gift of 71.76 acres was not adequate for the execution of Reimer and Roeding's plans, the Roeding family donated an additional

<sup>1</sup> Wanda Podgorski Russell, "Roeding Park: A Community Center" *Fresno Past and Present* (Spring 1984): 2.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Roeding Park deed, May 2, 1903.

<sup>5</sup> Russell, "Roeding Park: A Community Center," 3.

<sup>6</sup> "Trees Grow Fast: Roeding Park Woods Go Up Two and Three Feet a Season" *Fresno Morning Republican* (October 12, 1905).

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46.64 acres to the City of Fresno to incorporate into the existing park.<sup>7</sup>

In 1906, Johannes Reimers was commissioned to design a Japanese style entrance along Belmont Avenue, which was constructed of wood and included a “colonnade 100 feet long forming a wisteria covered and grown archway.”<sup>8</sup> This early pergola was featured in newspaper articles as the type of feature the City wished to encourage in the park to make it an attraction. By 1907 the park was described as having numerous eucalyptus and acacia trees, as well as pine, elm, maple, umbrella, citrus, and palm trees, and a variety of shrubs. The park featured four main picnic groves (Umbrella, Eucalyptus, Maple and Pine), ponds, walks and drives lined with flowering shrubs, a forested area, and an area to the north reserved to cultivate and experiment with new species of plants that would then be introduced into the park.

In 1908, the Roeding Park Zoo was established as an informal menagerie with the donation of two bears and approximately fifty birds by a local citizen.<sup>9</sup> The zoo quickly became a popular attraction in the park and accepted an increasing number of animals each year, which led to the construction of cages and animal enclosures as the need for more permanent facilities arose. The establishment of a zoo in Roeding Park marked the City’s earliest moves in making the park more than just the scenic pleasure ground envisioned by Roeding and Reimers. It also made the park an accessible recreational attraction for Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley.

Frederick C. Roeding died in 1910, and at that time his son, George C. Roeding, took charge of overseeing the execution of his father’s public park project and played a pivotal role in the cultivation of the trees and landscape for which the park become known. In 1897, George C. Roeding, had hand cultivated the Smyrna Fig and made a name for himself as a nurseryman. He was largely responsible for the success of the Fancher Creek Nursery as an important San Joaquin Valley institution and the expansion of its influence nationwide. In 1895, the nursery was considered one of the largest and best tended in the country at 1,280 acres.<sup>10</sup> In 1903, George Roeding published *The Smyrna Fig: At Home and Abroad* and in 1909 he published *Roeding’s Practical Planter’s Guide: The Result of Thirty Years Experience in California Horticulture*, a comprehensive guide for fruit growers. George Roeding was responsible for the great number and variety of trees planted in the park, and employed his skills as a nurseryman to cultivate the early vegetation of the park.

By 1910, the overall layout of the park was complete, but there were still large areas of unplanted land and few attractions within the park to embellish the landscape. In subsequent periods, the City moved away from the picturesquely planted park and focused instead making the park a recreational attraction for visitors and the citizens of Fresno. An article from 1910 describes the important role Roeding Park was beginning to play as a community resource to Fresno:

It is the desire of the present board of park commissioners to make Roeding park the real show place of Fresno. Its close proximity to the city makes it easy to reach and there is every indication that within a year we will have an electric car link, making it even more accessible.<sup>11</sup>

The early involvement of Frederick and George Roeding in the development of Roeding Park insured the creation of an adequate base layout and framework of vegetation for the park. The influence of the Roeding’s and landscape architect Johannes Reimers created a solid foundation for the park, which was then reconfigured in subsequent periods by the City of Fresno to meet the ever-changing needs of the public and their desire for a park with many attractions.

<sup>7</sup> Roeding Park deed, April 7, 1908.

<sup>8</sup> “Roeding Park is Called Boston Common of Fresno” *Fresno Morning Republican* (December 8, 1907). It is unclear if this early entrance/pergola and the current pergola near the streetcar shelter are the same feature.

<sup>9</sup> “Roeding Park Zoo Is Classed Among Best in Country” *Fresno Bee* (November 11, 1936).

<sup>10</sup> “Fruit and Flowers: A Visit to Roeding’s Fancher Creek Nursery” *Fresno Morning Republican* (January 15, 1895).

<sup>11</sup> “Roeding Park is Already Bringing Fame to Fresno as a Beauty Spot” *Fresno Morning Republican* (January 1, 1910).

**CONTINUATION SHEET***Early Improvements: Establishing the Park (1912 to 1923)*

In 1912 electric streetcar lines were extended from downtown Fresno to Roeding Park and provided much needed public access to the park. Fresno's electric streetcar system was established in 1902 by the Fresno City Railway Company, which later was operated by the Fresno Traction Company. The establishment of streetcar service to the park marked the importance of the park as an asset to the City and the desire for all classes of citizens to access and utilize the park. The Fulton Line was laid on West Olive Avenue and cut diagonally west through the park and terminated at rural Mountain View Cemetery beyond the southwestern boundary of the park.<sup>12</sup> The stone streetcar shelter and wisteria-covered pergola, which featured a stairway leading to the shelter, are located near the center of the park and were constructed at this time to serve the streetcar line.

In an article from 1913, Park Superintendent W.C. Claybaugh assessed Johannes Reimers' design and layout for the park, saying:

“...I must say that he has striven for too much forest park growth at the expense of landscape effects. Roeding Park is not laid out exactly according to the best modern landscape ideas...[the park has] no specialized features to attract the visitor from the beaten track of travel on these principal walks and drives, yet with possibilities offering themselves at every turn, and which the magic hand of the landscapist can develop into artistic effects.”<sup>13</sup>

Roeding Park was founded upon the principles of nineteenth-century park planning, which were promoted by designers such as Frederick Law Olmsted and focused on the creation of pleasure grounds that provided an area of respite from city life and encouraged an appreciation of nature. As Superintendent Claybaugh's remarks indicate, the City of Fresno was interested in creating a park that would become an area for recreation and enjoyment, which needed to be balanced with the park's founding as a scenic pleasure ground.

In 1915, physical improvements were made to the park, including the widening of many of the roads. Landscape painter Stephen Child was called to Fresno in 1915 to assess the changes to Roeding Park during this first period of alterations. Child discussed the original concept of the park as a scenic landscape for the enjoyment of the citizens of Fresno, and the potential that subsequent additions would spoil the natural and scenic beauty of the park. Child published his findings in the Fresno Morning Republican, where he stated: “to meet the varying needs and tastes, such a park must have other features, recreational, athletic and so on. As far as area and funds allow, these should be provided, but never permitted to interfere with the central purpose.”<sup>14</sup> Child's report went on to describe that such parks should have units for a variety of activities including the enjoyment of water, a paddock for animals, areas for athletics, carefully designed roads, and simple park structures. Child emphasized that all of these units should be unobtrusive and not interfere with the overall character of the park's “natural” setting.

Other improvements to the park during this period included 16,000 feet of new pedestrian pathways, 100 new concrete benches, rustic bridges over the ponds, and the addition of tennis courts in 1913.<sup>15</sup> A new permanent pressure water system was installed in 1914. A children's playground was developed within the Umbrella Grove sometime in the 1920s. Physical improvements were undertaken in the early 1920s to give the zoo a more permanent presence within the park.<sup>16</sup> In 1921, the City purchased 40 acres at the southwest portion of the park from the Roeding family to expand the park's

<sup>12</sup> Charles W. Clough, et al. “Fresno County in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: From 1900 to the 1980s” volume 2 (Fresno, CA: Panorama West Books, 1986): 450.

<sup>13</sup> “Embellishment Work Proposed at Roeding Park Contemplates a \$50,000 Bonded Indebtedness” *Fresno Morning Republican* (July 20, 1913).

<sup>14</sup> “Report of Stephen Child on Roeding Park Received by Local Park Commission” *Fresno Morning Republican* (April 11, 1915).

<sup>15</sup> “Much Work Done at Roeding Park” *Fresno Morning Republican* (December 21, 1913).

<sup>16</sup> “Roeding Park Zoo” *Fresno Magazine* vol.4 (2) (September 29, 1976): 22.

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

total size to 148 acres. Mr. and Mrs. A.V. Lisenby donated a bandstand to the park in 1923, which was one of the first permanent buildings in the park.<sup>17</sup> Located to the northeast of the zoo, the bandstand became a center of community activity and hosted weekly concerts by the Fresno Military Band, Fresno Concert Band and others. In 1923 an auto tourist camp, which provided free camping in the park for tourists at an unknown location within the park, was closed after it was taken over by individuals who were living in the camp.<sup>18</sup>

The year 1923 marks the first official reference to the Roeding Park Zoo in City records, with acknowledgement of the donation of two brown bears to the zoo.<sup>19</sup> The zoo was featured in an illustrated article in the Fresno Morning Republican that same year, and was described as a “miniature zoo” with monkeys, deer, ducks, turtles, birds, rabbits, elk and a variety of other animals.<sup>20</sup> By this time, the Roeding Park Zoo already had an established presence in the Fresno community and the pace of its growth was quickening.

In 1923, George C. Roeding resigned from the City Parks Commission after an argument over Roeding Park.<sup>21</sup> Roeding’s resignation in 1923 clearly marks the beginning of the end of his family’s official association with the park. Roeding’s resignation marked the beginning of the shift from the early period of park development under the influence of the Roeding family to a new period of City-initiated development of the park, under which most of the “built” features and monuments were added to the landscape.

#### *Memorial Period and WPA Era Improvements (1924 to 1939)*

The City purchased another forty acres from the Roeding family in 1924 to extend the park to the northwest. By 1925, many improvements had been made including new cages and improvements within the zoo to “provide dry, sanitary and artistic quarters” for the animals, as well as infrastructure improvements to provide parking, water, and lighting throughout the park.<sup>22</sup> Nurseryman P.M. Rasmussen was hired around this time and took leadership in improving the health of the parks abundant trees and other vegetation. In 1926, Rasmussen proudly boasted that “the park was composed of thousands of varieties of the finest trees in the world, besides the 112 acres of lawn.”<sup>23</sup> Prior to Rasmussen’s tenure, George Roeding had acted as the park’s nurseryman, tending the trees and landscape in the park donated by his family. George Roeding died in 1928, and after that time management of the park became more formalized. A stone memorial was dedicated to the park in memory of George Roeding in 1929 (called the George C. Roeding Monument).

Park development continued slowly through the Great Depression of 1929, and around this time the City first began to focus on making the park a recreational destination for the middle class. A Japanese Tea Garden was erected in the park in 1930 and featured a 20’ by 20’ pagoda, over 1,000 plants, three fountains and two ponds.<sup>24</sup> The tea garden was located at the southwest corner of the park, and was a scenic feature of the park with rustic architectural elements. Other major improvements completed in the early 1930s included new quarters for bear, raccoons and monkeys constructed in the zoo (1931), the dedication of the George Washington Memorial bust and tree grove located in the southwest portion of the park (1932), the establishment and cultivation of a nursery in the park (1934), and the enlargement of the Lisenby Bandstand to accommodate an organ that had formerly been located in another area of the park (1934). By 1936, several Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects were completed in the park as part of the larger national

<sup>17</sup> City of Fresno Building Permit, bandstand, August 15, 1922.

<sup>18</sup> Clough, 398.

<sup>19</sup> Russell, “Roeding Park: A Community Center,” 6.

<sup>20</sup> “Animals Pose for Pictures at the Zoo” *Fresno Morning Republican* (April 16, 1923).

<sup>21</sup> “Monument Commemorates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gift” *Fresno Bee* (May 23, 1939).

<sup>22</sup> “200 Animals Given New Beautiful Homes, Park is Beautified” *Fresno Bee* (November 20, 1925).

<sup>23</sup> Russell, “Roeding Park: A Community Center,” 3.

<sup>24</sup> “Japanese Tea Garden to Open in Park” *Fresno Bee* (November 8, 1930).

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effort to create jobs after the 1929 Depression. These WPA projects included the construction of two enclosed cages for lions in the zoo, the construction of Lake Washington at the southeast corner of the park, the addition of outdoor lighting to the tennis courts, improvements to the sewer system and the addition of a sprinkler/irrigation system.<sup>25</sup> Prior to this period, the park's water system was served by one pumphouse, which was not adequate to serve the irrigation needs and water features of the large park. A 1936 newspaper article stated that by this time the Roeding Park Zoo was one of the best in the country.<sup>26</sup>

In commemoration of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original gift of Roeding Park land to the City of Fresno, George Roeding's sons, Frederick and Henry Roeding, donated a large granite monument with a bronze plaque in memory of their grandparents Frederick and Marianne Roeding in 1939 (called the Frederick and Marianne Roeding Monument).<sup>27</sup>

This period saw many physical improvements to the infrastructure and features of the park and zoo, the dedication of several monuments to local and national leaders, and significant alterations and additions to the park landscape. Despite these improvements, in the early 1930s, rural streetcar lines to the north of Fresno (including the line servicing Roeding Park) began to suffer due to light passenger loads. Subsequently, electric streetcar service in the city was stopped in 1939.<sup>28</sup> The cancellation of streetcar service to Roeding Park marked the end of the park's early period of rapid growth and a shift in focus from expansion to improvement of existing park land, which included developing the zoo as a more prominent attraction within the park.

#### *Shifting Focus Towards the Zoo (1940 to 1953)*

During the early years of this period, changes were made to the park without a clear and cohesive plan and a few features were added to the park that did not have a permanent presence. As the park reached fifty years of age in 1953, necessary improvements were undertaken and the City embarked on the development to the first true master plan for the park and zoo. This was a significant departure from the character of earlier park improvements, which were often carried out in reaction to immediate needs and not according to a comprehensive long-term plan.

In 1943, the City demolished the Japanese Tea Garden, claiming that it was deteriorated. The political move to demolish rather than repair the garden seems to have been in response to wide-spread antipathy toward the Japanese due to their involvement in World War II. It resulted in the loss of one of the park's most prominent features. In 1944, the City moved the Fort Millerton Blockhouse (the oldest building in Fresno) to the park and located it near the Belmont entrance. The Blockhouse building became home to the Fresno Historical Society in 1954, but was later moved out of the park to the Fresno River Indian reservation sometime around 2005. In 1947, the War Department donated a tank to the park as a World War II memento, which was later removed.<sup>29</sup> These changes came about from donations to the City and were not part of any cohesive plan for the park.

In 1948, it was recommended that the City make major improvements. Three new picnic groves were added to the park during this period. Although the exact dates the new picnic groves were established are unknown, according to the Fresno Morning Republican, the Palm Point Grove was in place by 1946, the Cedar Grove was in place by 1948 and the Redwood Grove was in place by the early 1950s.

At this time, the City also recommended that the park employ an architect to redesign the Roeding Park Zoo, which up until this time had grown in a haphazard manner as needs arose for additional animal enclosures. Proposed improvements

<sup>25</sup> Clough, 452.

<sup>26</sup> "Roeding Park Zoo is Classed Among Best in Country" *Fresno Bee* (November 11, 1936).

<sup>27</sup> "Monument Commemorates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gift" *Fresno Bee* (May 23, 1939).

<sup>28</sup> Clough, 452

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

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to the zoo totaled over \$20,000 and included a new monkey house, new barn for feed storage, and paddocks for larger animals. Budgeted improvements to the park included \$34,000 for a new water main system in the northeast half of park, \$2,400 for new lighting in the four main picnic groves, \$1,800 for a new men's lavatory in the eastern section of park, \$1,200 for a storage shed, \$600 to replace worn out picnic tables, funding for new water pumps and the repair of water mains, and replacement of the boundary fence on the east side of the park that was later removed for the widening of the Golden Gate Highway. Plans were made to install a combination rock and wire fence to guard the park from motor vehicles.<sup>30</sup>

Towards the end of this period of development, the Roeding Park Zoo began to move away from cage enclosures and toward the construction of exhibits that created a much more open and natural setting within the existing zoo. In 1949, the Fresno Zoological Society was founded as an organization to support the Roeding Park Zoo and for the purpose of raising funds for the acquisition of animals for the zoo's collection. The construction of the Elephant House in 1949 marked a significant milestone in the evolution of the zoo, enabling the acquisition of its first large mammal, Nosey the Elephant. The children of Fresno raised funds for the acquisition of Nosey, who lived at the zoo until 1993 and was a prominent figure for the zoo and the Fresno community.<sup>31</sup> Major improvements to the zoo during this period included the construction of the Seal Pool (1952) and Monkey Island (1953). In 1953, the Fresno Zoological Society took over operation of the zoo's concession stand.

Changes to the park during the later portion of this period included the construction of the granite Japanese-American World War II Memorial in 1950 at the east side of the park. Earlier anti-Japanese sentiment apparently overcome, the memorial commemorates the service of Japanese-Americans from the San Joaquin Valley during World War II. As a result of the revival of square and folk dancing in the 1930s through the 1950s, two folk dance platforms were added to the park at this time.

#### *Expanding the Zoo (1954 to 1970)*

Many changes took place during this period that resulted in the establishment and development of three distinct attractions within the park: the Roeding Park Zoo, Playland and Storyland. This period marks a transition in focus from creating a park-wide pleasure ground for scenic enjoyment, to enhancing the entertainment aspect of individual areas of the park. As a result of these changes, the Roeding Park Zoo established itself during this period as the main attraction within Roeding Park, overshadowing the park itself as a destination. This shift in focus is the reason that the Roeding Park Historic District's period of significance ends in 1953.

The most significant change during this period was the alteration of the park's western boundary as a result of the State Highway 99 project. In 1954, a 5.26-acre parcel at the southwest corner of the park was taken for construction of State Highway 99. In exchange, a 5.64-acre parcel at the northwest corner of the park was given to the City and incorporated into the park. A Memorial Rose Garden was planted on the new land acquired.<sup>32</sup> The highway project also resulted in the loss of a portion of Lake Washington, which was reconfigured into its current shape.

The Amphitheater was constructed near the Lisenby Bandstand in 1954. In 1955, Rotary Playland was constructed in the southwest corner of the park just southeast of Lake Washington. Playland was designed as an amusement facility for children, similar to other kiddie lands constructed in the United States and California during this period. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company donated the Old No. 1238 Steam Locomotive to the park in 1956. The switch engine

<sup>30</sup> "Roeding Park May Be Redesigned" *Fresno Bee* (May 8, 1948).

<sup>31</sup> Jean Chaffee files, Fresno Chaffee Zoo Office, Nosey the Elephant binder.

<sup>32</sup> Clough, 450, 452.

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locomotive was originally constructed in 1918 by Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia.

Two picnic shelters were added to the park in the early 1960s and were modeled in style and form after the Streetcar Shelter. These large shelters were installed in the Palm Point and Pine groves. Two pump houses were constructed in 1961 to better facilitate the movement of water through the site to serve the water features. The Horseshoe Arena was constructed in the park sometime before 1961. The locomotive is located at the western side of the park. Storyland was constructed in the southwest corner of the park in 1962, over the former site of the Japanese Tea Garden. Storyland was modeled after Oakland's Children's Fairyland and was conceived of by artist Patricia Hopper, who designed all of the exhibits in Storyland.

Many significant changes were made to the Roeding Park Zoo during this period that propelled it in status as one of the three best zoos in California (along with the San Francisco and San Diego Zoos). This period saw the addition of the first moated exhibits, which encouraged a more natural zoo environment that was a departure from the earlier use of cages and fences. These exhibits included: the Galapagos Tortoise exhibit (1954), Giraffe Barn (1954), Flight Cage (1954), Polar and Grizzly Bear Grottoes (1955), Sun Bear exhibit (1956), Flamingo exhibit (1956), and Hippopotamus exhibit (1958).<sup>33</sup> By 1959, the zoo was almost double its original size at approximately eleven acres.

The first official zoo master plan was completed by architect James Oakes in 1961, and served as a guide for physical improvements to the zoo and provided a master acquisition list for animals to be added to the collection.<sup>34</sup> New exhibits added to the zoo as part of the master plan included: the Walk-Through Aviaries (1960), Ape Grottoes (1961), Rhinoceros exhibit (1963), Prong-Horn Antelope exhibit (1964), Fennec Fox cage (1964), alterations to the Hippopotamus exhibit (1964), and extensive landscaping throughout the zoo (1964). The first admission charge was instated at the zoo in 1963, and in 1964 the zoo entrance was completely reconfigured to accommodate the collection of admissions.

In 1965, Dr. Paul Chaffee was named the zoo's first director and all management responsibilities associated with the zoo shifted from the Fresno Zoological Society to the director. Chaffee first came to the Roeding Park Zoo in 1961 to serve as the zoo's veterinarian, and was responsible for encouraging great advancement in the zoo's reputation as a specialized facility that promoted research and the creation of natural habitats for animals.<sup>35</sup> Under Chaffee, the zoo exhibits were first heated and many of the older exhibits were rehabilitated or converted into new exhibits that were better sized and equipped to serve the animals. Examples of improvements that occurred during the later portion of this period include: construction of the Animal Nursery (1966), construction of the Predatory Bird Cage by Elso B. DiLuck (1967), alterations to the Elephant House (1970), and installation of signage and upgrades to the zoo pathways and landscaping. In 1970, the Western Regional Zoo Conference was held in Fresno, showing the influence of the newly improved Roeding Park Zoo throughout the state and region.<sup>36</sup>

### *Reorganizing the Zoo (1971 to 1989)*

During this period the zoo continued to be the main park attraction and several master plans were drafted for the zoo and updated as the needs and goals of the facility changed. A report on the zoo from 1971 described the continual need for improvements as follows: "In a specialized facility such as the Roeding Park Zoo, repairs, remodeling, and heavy maintenance are a perpetual process."<sup>37</sup>

<sup>33</sup> "Important Dates in the History of the Chaffee Zoological Gardens of Fresno," Jean Chaffee files, Fresno Chaffee Zoo Office, updated c. 2002.

<sup>34</sup> Jean Chaffee files, Fresno Chaffee Zoo Office, "Zoo and Society History and Progress Outline" (July 15, 1970): 3.

<sup>35</sup> "Important Dates in the History of the Chaffee Zoological Gardens of Fresno."

<sup>36</sup> Roeding Park Zoo Report, Fresno City Parks and Recreation Commission, 1970. In the collections of the Fresno Public Library.

<sup>37</sup> Roeding Park Zoo Report, Fresno City Park and Recreation Commission, 1971. In the collections of the Fresno Public Library.

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Between 1968 and 1972 the “Zoo Master” was drafted, which was a new phased master plan that was commissioned because the zoo had reached maximum development within its existing boundaries. The Zoo Master outlined future development of the zoo and was completed by Elso B. DiLuck. The Zoo Master included plans to expand the zoo approximately eight acres along its south and west sides over a period of twenty years.<sup>38</sup> In 1974, the Zoological Society moved its offices to the rustic-style Zookeeper’s House (constructed circa 1920) at the west side of the zoo.

The Zoo Master was updated in 1975 to reflect the contemporary conditions and needs for the zoo. Other improvements carried out as part of the update included the renovation of the Sea Lion exhibit (1975), remodeling of the concession stand and bear exhibits as part of the U.S. Bicentennial celebration (1976), construction of the Bison/Elk/Prairie Dog exhibit (1976), and construction of the Edward A. Kane Reptile House (1979). The Reptile House was a technologically innovative facility—the first of its kind to provide computerized climate controls for each individual exhibit unit.

In 1978, Proposition 13 was passed in Fresno and required that the zoo obtain private funding for its operation. This marked a big change in the zoo’s management and fundraising. Between 1978 and 1984, nearly \$3 million in improvements occurred within the zoo. The aim of this movement was to eliminate the cages that remained from the zoo’s early period when it was a collection of donated animals and update the facility to modern zoo standards. Several exhibits and facilities were added in the 1980s including the Asian Elephant Breeding Center (1982), the Doris and Carl Falk Wildlife Center (1983), the Wolf Woods exhibit (1984), the Tropical Rainforest exhibit (1988), and the Annex to the Doris and Carl Falk Wildlife Center (1989). Director Chaffee said that “with these latest projects, the zoo has turned the corner in its long-range efforts to implement a master plan that was developed in the mid 1970s.”<sup>39</sup>

In 1985, the Roeding Park Zoo was renamed the Fresno Zoo, recognizing the importance of the facility as one of the best zoos in California by more closely aligning its identity with that of the City, which in turn symbolically separated the zoo from the park.<sup>40</sup>

Although the focus during this period was on the zoo, there were a few major improvements within Roeding Park as well. In 1974, “a perimeter roadway constituting the main drive through Roeding Park was constructed with Federal Revenue Sharing Funds” and all underground utilities were installed as part of the expansion of the zoo outlined in the 1968 Zoo Master.<sup>41</sup> Additional tennis courts were also added to the park in 1980.

#### *Fresno Chaffee Zoo (1990 to Present)*

In 1990, the zoo was renamed again as the Chaffee Zoological Gardens, in recognition of Dr. Paul Chaffee’s long and influential association with the zoo up until his death in 1990. The Australian Aviary was completed in 1991 and shortly after, a new zoo master plan was adopted in 1992. As part of the new master plan, the west entrance and parking lot were added and fencing was put up around the northeast area of the zoo to include the Wildlife Center, Amphitheater and Bandstand within the zoo boundaries. This resulted in the separation of the Bandstand from the greater park, which obscured the original relationship of this feature to the park rather than the zoo.

Around 1992, the Zoo’s Administration Office was moved from the Zookeeper’s House to the Parks Division Office building near the Belmont entrance to the park (now known as the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office, (constructed circa 1935). The Zookeeper’s House subsequently was used as a residence and staff lounge. A new master

<sup>38</sup> “Council Okays Zoo Plan” Unidentified article (1972).

<sup>39</sup> “Sign of the Times” *Fresno Bee* (April 4, 1985).

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> “Roeding Park Zoo” *Fresno Magazine* vol.4 (2) (September 29, 1976): 27.

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plan was adopted by the zoo in 1996. Examples of improvements to the zoo completed during this period include completion of the Animal Hospital (1998) and the Sunda Forest exhibit (2001).

The City of Fresno presented \$50,000 to Rotary Playland to repair the facility in 2000. Wear and tear had closed eight of the eleven rides and these funds were necessary to continue operation of Playland.<sup>42</sup>

In 2004, Ballot Measure Z was passed and provided 100 to 200 million dollars over 10 years for capital improvements, operations and maintenance of the zoo. In 2006, the private non-profit Fresno Chaffee Zoo Corporation took over operation of the zoo from the City. The name of zoo was changed to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in 2006 to reflect this change. The Zoological Society was disbanded at this time. The Zoo Corporation began development of a new master plan in 2006 to utilize the Measure Z funding over the next ten years and is the plan under which the zoo it is currently operating.

### ***National, State and Local Context***

#### *Development of Recreational Parks for the Middle Class*

In the late eighteenth century, Frederick Law Olmsted and his colleagues began to cultivate municipal parks in the United States based upon the principles of the European pastoral picturesque movement in landscape design. These early municipal parks, including Central Park in New York and Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, were meant to serve as pleasure grounds and provide a country escape from the evils of the city for elite. The location of pleasure grounds at the outskirts of cities often made them accessible only to the upper classes, who could afford transportation outside the city. Pleasure grounds, also called ornamental parks, were often donated by prominent citizens and designed to create an ideal picture of nature and to facilitate activity. These parks included walking paths, water features, ball fields and other landscape design features to promote outdoor recreation. Early pleasure grounds often included menageries and animal paddocks to provide amusement and education about animals. Architecture in the parks was discouraged during this period, as buildings were seen as intrusions into the scenic landscape that parks were intended to create. Buildings were accommodated only where necessary and were sited so as not to interfere with the appearance of landscape design features.<sup>43</sup> Pleasure grounds flourished in America from about 1850 to 1900 and laid the foundation for many of our country's most beloved parks.

Beginning around 1900 and continuing through the 1930s, the reform movement began to influence the design of municipal parks. During this period, due to tighter regulation of industry, the concept of leisure time was first introduced as working hours were decreased and vacations were available to the working class. These reform parks were meant to provide organized activities for children and the working class and were managed by professionals such as social workers. Parks developed during this period were created for the middle class and were often located closer to the city or incorporated public transportation access. The playground movement also flourished during this period as play began to be seen as an activity that molded children into good citizens. Playgrounds were so popular during the period, that often they were inserted into existing parks. A wide range of activities was promoted in reform parks and included facilities for physical, social, aesthetic and civic enjoyment. Athletics were a primary focus of these activities and sports such as tennis and baseball were accommodated. During the reform era buildings became necessary to provide facilities for activities and building typologies such as the fieldhouse, an ancillary athletic facility that usually housed locker rooms and was associated with a stadium or playing field, began to evolve at this time.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>42</sup> "City Presents \$50,000 to Repair Playland" *Fresno Bee* (August 20, 2000).

<sup>43</sup> Galen Cranx, *The Politics of Park Design: A History of Urban Parks in America* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1992), 8, 15.

<sup>44</sup> Cranx, 65, 72, 96.

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The evolution of parks as recreational facilities evolved from 1930 to around 1965. With the abandonment of reform concepts after the Great Depression, parks were no longer seen as idealistic vehicles to social reform, but as necessary components of the urban landscape. Park facilities no longer needed a greater social justification and recreation was accepted as a crucial part of life and the demand for park facilities grew along with the population. Parks became bureaucratic institutions as well and the first park master plans were created to organize park development during this period.<sup>45</sup> As the park bureaucracy rose, the purpose of parks became obscured. Galen Cranz describes the social and political influence on parks during this period in her work, *The Politics of Park Design*, as follows: “depression and war provided park programmers with causes, and for the duration of these emergencies this helped to conceal their growing loss of direction.”<sup>46</sup> Parks were seen as places to promote public good during these periods, as evidenced by the many Works Progress Administration projects carried out in parks in the late 1930s and the use of parks to sell war bonds and house other home front wartime efforts during World War II. As a result, the park became the foreground of community activity during this period. After World War II, the focus in park design was in repairing existing parks that had deteriorated during the Depression and War, and to construct new parks in the early 1950s in response to the post-war baby boom. In the later portion of this period, parks were seen as highly functional institutions and the form of these parks was very different from their early picturesque pleasure ground prototypes. Late recreation era parks were devoid of plantings in favor of hard surfaces, which were easier to maintain, and park infrastructure and site furnishings became a standardized kit of parts at this time. As parks became more function driven, the creativity of their design was often lost, as seen in the abundance of multi-functional buildings and parking lots constructed during this period.<sup>47</sup>

In the late 1960s and after, parks became more specialized and were seen as important vehicles for local tourism. During this period the open space system evolved as competition for urban land precluded traditional park models and parks were seen as a means of providing much needed areas of open space for the urban population. As the middle class moved from the cities to the suburbs, new parks were created to cure urban blight as they took over vacant lots and converted them into pocket parks. This period also saw changes in the form and definition of urban parks, which now included bicycle lanes, urban waterfronts, plazas and pedestrian walkways.<sup>48</sup> By the 1970s, the first movement in the preservation of historic parks was begun with the listing of Central and Prospect Parks in New York City as National Historic Landmarks. By the end of the twentieth century, park design had come full circle, as park planners sought to reclaim some of the urban open space they had first recognized during the early twentieth century as necessary to the experience of American cities.<sup>49</sup>

*Development of Parks in Fresno*

The earliest park in Fresno was Courthouse Park, a four block square first laid out in 1872 by the railroad company. This was the first park for Fresno residents and was laid out before the courthouse and town developed around the park. At least two private parks existed in Fresno in the early twentieth century—Recreation Park located at Ventura and Maple Avenues (laid out in 1902 and removed in 1922), and Zapp’s Park located at Olive and Blackstone Avenues (laid out in 1904 and removed in 1921). These private parks featured amusement rides, menageries, pools and baseball fields.<sup>50</sup> Roeding Park, established in 1903, was the city’s first public park of reasonable size and was the only such park in the city until the establishment of Woodward Park and Bird Sanctuary on the bluffs of the San Joaquin River near North Blackstone Avenue in 1970.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Ibid., 101, 109.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid., 110.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid., 114, 123.

<sup>48</sup> Ibid., 135.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid., 139.

<sup>50</sup> Clough, 452.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

**CONTINUATION SHEET***Development of Zoological Gardens in the United States*

The precursors to formal zoological gardens were the early-nineteenth century menageries of Europe, which were privately owned collections of animals that were established on private estates and sometimes evolved into traveling shows much like the modern day circus. With the establishment of large urban parks in the United States in the late-nineteenth century, small menageries were informally established in public parks, including Central Park, where animals were donated by the public as early as 1859; and Golden Gate Park, which had a collection of buffalo as early as 1890.<sup>52</sup>

By the turn of the twentieth century, formal zoological collections were already established in such major cities as Philadelphia (Philadelphia Zoological Gardens, 1859), New York (Central Park Zoo, 1864), Cincinnati (Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens, 1875), and Washington, D.C. (National Zoo, 1889).<sup>53</sup> These early zoos consisted of small collections of animals in park-like settings, often designed by significant landscape architects as extensions of larger urban parks (such as Frederick Law Olmsted in the case of the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.).

As zoos gained popularity in the United States and were sponsored by cities, they became more complex and permanent institutions that evolved from rows of metal cages to more permanent animal enclosures. Between 1901 and 1905 zoological research was begun at the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens, and the first zoo-related scientific journal was published by the New York Zoological Society in 1907.<sup>54</sup> By the time the Roeding Park Zoo was first established in 1908, a national movement had already begun making zoos permanent city institutions. Archival research indicates that the Roeding Park Zoo was the first officially established municipal zoo in California, pre-dating the San Francisco Zoo (1929) and the San Diego Zoo (1916). Although several private, informal menageries existed in California before 1908, the Roeding Park Zoo was the first to be officially established in a public park and sponsored by a city. Between 1900 and 1949, seventy-seven zoos and six aquariums were established in the United States.<sup>55</sup>

The first modern zoo was Carl Hagenbeck's Tierpark in Stellingen, Germany. Hagenbeck received world-wide attention in 1896 for his patented "barless" panoramic exhibit technique, in which he showcased his collections in open, naturalistic, moated, panoramic exhibits. The earliest zoos in the United States to incorporate Hagenbeck's "barless" technique were the Denver Zoo (1918), St. Louis Zoo (1919), Detroit Zoo (1920s), Chicago Zoo (1930s) and Cincinnati Zoo (1930s).<sup>56</sup> The Roeding Park Zoo and other early zoos gradually began to incorporate moated exhibits in the early-to-mid-twentieth century, in attempts to move away from the informal menagerie tradition and create more permanent facilities for display of animals in public parks.

*Development of Kiddie Parks and Fairytale Parks in the United States*

Kiddie parks and fairytale parks were largely a result of the post World War II baby boom, when many attractions were developed for the increased population of children in cities and towns throughout the country.<sup>57</sup> These parks features fantasy-themed amusements and were specifically constructed to exclusively accommodate children. Fairytale parks and kiddie parks can be differentiated from early ocean-side amusement parks such as Coney Island, Atlantic City, the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, and theme parks such as Disneyland, which catered to both children and adults.

Fairytale parks were a special variety of kiddie park that featured characters from fairytales and nursery rhymes with the

<sup>52</sup> Royston, Hanamoto, Alley and Abey, "Overview History of Golden Gate Park" *Golden Gate Park Master Plan* 1998: 2-1.

<sup>53</sup> R.J. Hoage, William A. Deiss, eds., *New Worlds, New Animals: From Menagerie to Zoological Park in the Nineteenth Century* (Baltimore, MD: The Smithsonian Institution and the John Hopkins University Press, 1996): 112.

<sup>54</sup> Vernon N. Kisting, ed., *Zoo and Aquarium History: Ancient Animal Collections to Zoological Gardens* (Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press LLC, 2000): 16.

<sup>55</sup> Kisting, 164.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> Tim Hollis, "Dixie Before Disney: 100 Years of Roadside Fun" (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1999): 89-90.

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purpose of promoting literacy. Some of the earliest fairytale parks were created in the early 1950s in the Adirondack Mountains, and included such parks as Storytown USA, the Enchanted Forest of the Adirondacks, the Land of Make Believe, Magic Forest, and Santa's Workshop.<sup>58</sup> The popularity of kiddie parks and fairytale parks quickly spread throughout the United States in the early 1950s and 1960s with examples in Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and California.<sup>59</sup>

Fresno's Playland, established in 1955, was one of the first kiddie parks in California, while Storyland, established in 1962, was one of the later fairytale parks in the state. Storyland was modeled after Oakland Children's Fairyland, which was constructed in 1950. Many of the early kiddie parks and fairytale parks in the United States have closed, as funding and the specialized mechanical parts and expertise required for the upkeep of these facilities became scarce. Fresno's Playland and Storyland are intact examples of these types of early amusement parks and two of only a handful of such parks remaining in California and the United States.

### ***Important Persons***

#### *Frederick C. Roeding (1824-1910)*

Frederick Christian Roeding was born and educated in Hamburg, Germany.<sup>60</sup> In 1846 he immigrated to South America and worked in the mercantile business in Chile and Peru. He arrived in California around 1849 to mine gold. Later, he was a member of the San Francisco firm Larco & Company, which owned a general merchandise store. He was heavily invested in the business until his retirement in 1878. While in San Francisco, Frederick Roeding served as a member of the Vigilance Committee, an organization of citizens who ensured that law and order was enforced in the city.<sup>61</sup>

In 1868 Frederick Roeding "and a group of German business associates formed the San Joaquin Valley Land Association, and purchased 80,000 acres between the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers in Fresno County."<sup>62</sup> The San Joaquin Valley Land Association played an important part in the agricultural development of Fresno County as the first group to cultivate the land on a large scale. Frederick Roeding served as trustee of the Association, managing the farming and later the sale of the land. In 1872 the Central Pacific Railroad line was constructed directly through the property.<sup>63</sup> As a result, the acreage was divided and Frederick Roeding acquired eleven sections, while the remainder was sold to F.T. Eisen and Charles J. Hobler, among others. In 1879 Frederick Roeding sowed 320 acres of grain on his land bordering Fancher Creek east of Fresno to test the fertility of the soil and to attract new farmers to the area.<sup>64</sup> Frederick Roeding started a tree nursery on the 50 acres of the Fancher Creek land growing fig, fruit, olive and ornamental trees. The nursery (The Fancher Creek Nursery) was unsuccessful until his son, George Roeding, took over its ownership and management upon his father's death in 1910.<sup>65</sup>

In 1898 Frederick Roeding offered to donate 230 acres of land situated to the north of the town to the City of Fresno for

<sup>58</sup> Rose Ann Hirsch, "Images of America: Kiddie Parks of the Adirondacks" (Arcadia Publishing, 2006).

<sup>59</sup> Debra Jane Seltzer "Roadside Architecture" Available online at <http://www.agilitynut.com/fairyparks/main.html>.

<sup>60</sup> Roeding Family History as told by Bruce B. Roeding, Available online at <http://www.saveroedingpark.org/reedinghistory.html>.

<sup>61</sup> W.W. Elliott, *History of Fresno County, California with illustrations from original drawings, with bibliographical sketches* (Fresno, California: Valley Publishers, 1973), 256.

<sup>62</sup> Russell, "Roeding Park: A Community Center," 2.

<sup>63</sup> Wallace Smith, *Garden of the Sun* (Los Angeles: Lymanhouse, 1939), 381.

<sup>64</sup> *History of Fresno County*, 257.

<sup>65</sup> Russell, "George C. Roeding-The Man and His Trees" *Fresno Past & Present: Journal of the Fresno City and County Historical Society* (Summer 1984, vol. 26 (2)).

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a park. The only condition for donation was that the city should spend \$1,500 per year in the planting and developing of the park. At about the same time, August Weihe of San Francisco and another early landowner in Fresno offered to donate an additional forty acres immediately to the south of the Roeding tract. Both offers were declined by the City Council because it did not want to pledge the annual expenditure stipulated in the Roeding offer.<sup>66</sup>

In 1903 Frederick Roeding again made an offer of land for a park. This time the 72 acres were accepted by the city and funds were appropriated for its development. Frederick Roeding donated an additional 47 acres to the city in 1908. In 1921 the city purchased an additional 35 acres from the Roeding estate and five acres from George Roeding's wife.

In July, 1910 while in San Francisco, Frederick Roeding died from a stroke at the age of eighty-six.

*George C. Roeding (1868-1928)*

George C. Roeding, Frederick's son, was instrumental in the development of the California fig industry. In 1897 he hand-pollinated the Smyrna Fig with a toothpick and in 1903 published a monograph "The Smyrna Fig at Home and Abroad" detailing the introduction of the fig wasp to California. In 1911 George C. Roeding, founded the trade organization known then as the California Association of Nurserymen (now the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers).<sup>67</sup> He took an active interest in the development of Roeding Park and served as a City Park Commissioner, during which time he engaged Johannes Reimers to develop a master plan for the park. In addition, he donated many trees and shrubs from his nursery and exotic specimens he found on his travels.<sup>68</sup> Roeding's active role in the early layout and development of the park continued until his death in 1929, and he is considered a critical figure in the success of the park.

*Johannes Reimers (1856-1953)*

Johannes Reimers was born in Norway on December 31, 1856. He immigrated to the United States at a young age and settled in California, where he established himself as an artist working in pastels and oils. Reimers married Marie Arentz, also a recent immigrant, in 1883. In 1900 Reimers published a novel set in Norway entitled *Unto the Heights of Simplicity*. While a resident of San Francisco in 1907-1919, Reimers studied at the Institute of Art. His art work was exhibited at the Golden Gate Park Museum in 1915 and at the San Francisco Academy of Art in 1916. Today his works are in the collections of the Oakland Art Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Reimers was also a landscape architect for the San Joaquin Division of the Santa Fe Railway. In 1903 he was hired to provide specifications and detailed drawings for the layout of Roeding Park and later designed Hobart Park, also located in Fresno. In 1906 he supervised the planting of trees, vines and shrubs at Jack London's Wolf House in Glen Ellen, California. The commissioners of Mooney Park, a 100 acre tract of valley oaks, in Tulare, California, retained Reimers in December 1910. Reimer died of pneumonia in San Leandro on August 22, 1953.<sup>69</sup>

<sup>66</sup> "George Christian Roeding" *Nurseryman and Fruit Grower*, 64.

<sup>67</sup> Roeding Family History as told by Bruce B. Roeding, Available online at <http://www.saveroedingpark.org/reodinghistory.html>.

<sup>68</sup> "George Christian Roeding" *Nurseryman and Fruit Grower*, 65-67.

<sup>69</sup> Excerpted from Kurt Culbertson, in Birnbaum, Charles, Robin Karson, et al. *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, Volume III (McGraw Hill, 2008).

**CONTINUATION SHEET****SIGNIFICANCE*****National Register of Historic Places***

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's most comprehensive inventory of historic resources. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service and includes buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts that possess historic, architectural, engineering, archaeological, or cultural significance at the national, state, or local level. Typically, resources over fifty years of age are eligible for listing in the National Register if they meet any one of the four criteria of significance and if they sufficiently retain historic integrity. However, resources under fifty years of age can be determined eligible if it can be demonstrated that they are of "exceptional importance," or if they are contributors to a potential historic district. National Register criteria are defined in depth in *National Register Bulletin Number 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. There are four basic criteria under which a structure, site, building, district, or object can be considered eligible for listing in the National Register. These criteria are:

- *Criterion A (Event)*: Properties associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- *Criterion B (Person)*: Properties associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- *Criterion C (Design/Construction)*: Properties 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 distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction; and
- *Criterion D (Information Potential)*: Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

A resource can be considered significant on a national, state, or local level to American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture.

*Criterion A (Event)*:

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A (Event) in the area of community planning and development for its association with the pattern of events that made a significant contribution to the development of municipal parks in California in the early twentieth century.

As a center of community activity, Roeding Park (including the Fresno Chaffee Zoo) followed national and state trends in municipal park development from early picturesque pleasure grounds to recreation-focused institutions with multiple attractions in the twentieth century. Roeding Park is an important regional example of this larger national and state movement in municipal park development and closely follows the development of associated municipal parks in California, including Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, Land Park in Sacramento, and Griffith Park in Los Angeles. Roeding Park is associated with the history and evolution of recreational park design in America and is a regional example of the acceptance of larger national design trends in response to the social, political, and economic influences in Fresno and California during its early development from 1903 to 1953.

**CONTINUATION SHEET***Criterion B (Person):*

The Roeding Park Historic District is not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion B (Person). Although the park is associated with important Fresnoans, including Johannes Reimers, Frederick and Marianne Roeding, and George C. Roeding, these associations do not rise to the level of National Register eligibility.

*Criterion C (Design/Construction):*

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C (Design/Construction) in the area of entertainment/recreation as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period—early twentieth century municipal parks in California—and as a property that represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Roeding Park is an excellent example of the early twentieth century municipal park typology, which is defined by the evolution of parks from urban pleasure grounds to recreation-centered facilities in the early to mid-twentieth century. The early twentieth century municipal park typology is characterized by curvilinear pathways, expansive lawns, groves of trees, picnic areas, designed landscape architecture elements such as pergolas, and the incorporation of facilities for recreational and cultural activities such as tennis, baseball, outdoor concerts, and folk dancing. Roeding Park as it exists today offers a layered glimpse of this early twentieth century municipal park typology, and possesses all of the characteristics of this typology.

*Criterion D (Information Potential):*

The analysis of Roeding Park for eligibility under National Register Criterion D (Information Potential) is beyond the scope of this report. This criterion is typically reserved for archaeological resources, and therefore was not evaluated as part of this report.

*Period of Significance*

The period of significance for the historic district begins in 1903, when construction first began on the park, and ends in 1953, when the development focus shifted from the park as a whole to attraction-specific development of the Roeding Park Zoo and other amusement areas within the park. The insertion of State Highway 99 at the western boundary of the park in 1954, marked a physical transition away from the picturesque period of the park's original design and development. After 1953, the zoo became the main attraction within Roeding Park and was classified as one of the three best zoos in California (along with the San Francisco and San Diego Zoos). Within the established period of significance, the most pronounced periods of development occurred from 1903 to 1923, 1924 to 1939, and 1940 to 1953.

*Fresno Chaffee Zoo*

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo clearly exemplifies the historic evolution of zoos in the United States in the twentieth century as they transformed from caged menageries to master planned animal refuges in response to the ever-changing needs of zoos and their development into educational facilities. As a result of this evolution, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo exists today as a fragmented and layered snapshot of its periods of development and appears to show some physical evidence of each of these periods. As an individual site, the zoo retains little historic fabric from its early development periods and does not represent any clear historic period as it has continued to evolve in response to its user needs and program initiatives. Many of the individual features of the zoo have been altered over time and few retain sufficient historic integrity to convey its

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significance as an individual historic district. By itself, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo would not qualify as a separate National Register, California Register, or locally-eligible historic district, due to its lack of sufficient integrity. However, as a component of the larger Roeding Park Historic District, the zoo does contribute to the significance and integrity of the historic district. Individual features within the zoo boundaries or associated with the zoo that retain sufficient historic integrity to convey their significance as individual contributing features of the Roeding Park Historic District include the Lisenby Bandstand and the Zookeeper's House. Although, the construction of the Elephant House in 1949 marked a significant milestone in the evolution of the zoo, the building does not retain sufficient historic integrity to convey its significance and therefore does not contribute to the historic district. As an early component of Roeding Park, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo has been an important part of the history of the Roeding Park Historic District as it evolved from a picturesque pleasure ground to a major community attraction.

*Playland*

Playland (constructed in 1955) was developed outside the period of significance (1903 to 1953) identified for the Roeding Park Historic District. Although Playland is one of the few extant early amusement parks in California, its construction clearly marks a departure in the character of Roeding Park from a pleasure ground to an amusement facility in the later twentieth century. Therefore, Playland is not eligible for listing in the National Register, California Register or Fresno Local Register as part of the Roeding Park Historic District.

*Storyland*

Storyland is one of a few extant fairytale parks in California. Storyland, (constructed in 1962) is not yet fifty years old, which is the general estimate of time needed to develop historical perspective and to evaluate significance as identified in the National Register Bulletin, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. As a site that is less than fifty years of age, Storyland does not appear to have exceptional importance to qualify for listing to the National Registers under Criteria "Consideration G: Properties That Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years." Storyland also marks a clear departure in the character of Roeding Park from a pleasure ground to an amusement facility and was developed after the period of significance (1903 to 1953) and therefore is not eligible for listing in the National Register, California Register or Fresno Local Register as part of the Roeding Park Historic District.

***California Register of Historical Resources***

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is an inventory of significant architectural, archaeological, and historical resources in the State of California. Resources can be listed in the California Register through a number of methods. State Historical Landmarks and National Register-listed properties are automatically listed in the California Register.<sup>70</sup> Properties can also be nominated to the California Register by local governments, private organizations, or citizens. The evaluative criteria used by the California Register for determining eligibility are closely based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places.

In order for a property to be eligible for listing in the California Register, it must be found significant under one or more of the following criteria:

<sup>70</sup> As described above, since this report finds Roeding Park to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the property is automatically eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. For the purpose of clarity, the detailed analysis is provided under the National Register and summarized under the California Register to show which criteria are applicable. Eligibility is also summarized under the local criteria below.

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- *Criterion 1 (Events):* Resources that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
- *Criterion 2 (Persons):* Resources that are associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history.
- *Criterion 3 (Architecture):* Resources that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values.
- *Criterion 4 (Information Potential):* Resources or sites that have yielded or have the potential to yield information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

According to the California Office of Historic Preservation, historic resources are automatically listed in the California Register of Historical Resources if they have been formally determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>71</sup> Roeding Park has not been previously determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources.

#### *The "Fifty Year Rule"*

In order to be determined eligible for listing in the National Register, resources less than fifty years of age must be shown to have "exceptional importance." This is not the case with the California Register. According to the California Office of Historic Preservation:

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than fifty years old may be considered for listing in the California Register if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance.<sup>72</sup>

#### *Criterion 1 (Events)*

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 1 (Events) at the state level in the area of community planning and development for its association with the pattern of events that made a significant contribution to the development of municipal parks in California in the early twentieth century. Please see National Register Criterion A discussion above for detailed evaluation under this criterion.

#### *Criterion 2 (Persons)*

The Roeding Park Historic District is not eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 2 (Persons). Although the park is associated with important Fresnans, including Johannes Reimers, Frederick and Marianne Roeding, and George C. Roeding, these associations do not rise to the level of California Register eligibility.

<sup>71</sup> California Office of Historic Preservation, *Technical Assistance Series No. 10, California State Laws and Historic Preservation: Statutes, Regulations and Administrative Policies Regarding Historic Preservation and the Protection of Cultural and Historical Resources* (Sacramento, CA: California Office of State Publishing, 13 August 2002), 67.

<sup>72</sup> California Office of Historic Preservation, *Technical Assistance Series No. 7, How to Nominate a Resource to the California Register of Historic Resources* (Sacramento, CA: California Office of State Publishing, 4 September 2001), 11.

**CONTINUATION SHEET***Criterion 3 (Architecture)*

The Roeding Park Historic District is also eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 3 (Architecture) at the state level in the area of entertainment/recreation as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period—the design of early twentieth century municipal parks in California. Please see National Register Criterion C discussion above for detailed evaluation under this criterion.

*Criterion 4 (Information Potential)*

The analysis of Roeding Park for eligibility under California Register Criterion 4 (Information Potential) is beyond the scope of this report. This criterion is typically reserved for archaeological resources, and therefore it was not evaluated as part of this report.

***City of Fresno Local Register of Historic Resources***

The City of Fresno maintains a Local Register of Historic Resources (Local Register), which includes buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts that have sufficient integrity and are significant in Fresno's history.<sup>73</sup> The evaluative criteria used by the Fresno Local Register for determining eligibility are generally based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places.

- *Criterion 1:* It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, or architectural heritage, or;
- *Criterion 2:* It is identified with a person or group that contributed significantly to the culture and development of the city, or;
- *Criterion 3:* It embodies distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period or method of construction, or is a valuable example of the use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship, or;
- *Criterion 4:* Structures within the area exemplify a particular architectural style or way of life important to the city, or;
- *Criterion 5:* The area is related to a designated historic resource or district in such a way that its preservation is essential to the integrity of the designated resource or Local Historic District, or;
- *Criterion 6:* The area has potential for yielding information of archaeological interest.

*Criterion 1:*

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the Fresno Local Register under Criterion 1 for its association with special elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, and architectural heritage. Roeding Park is associated with the pattern of events that made a significant contribution to the development of municipal parks in Fresno in the early twentieth century, and is also associated with the greater development of municipal parks in California. Please see National Register Criterion A discussion above for detailed evaluation under this criterion.

<sup>73</sup> Enns-Rempel, Kevin, "A Guide to Historic Architecture in Fresno, California" – Local Register of Historic Resources, <http://www.historicfresno.org/lrhr/index.htm>, accessed June 14, 2007.

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Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page &amp; Turnbull

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 Continuation  Update*Criterion 2:*

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the Fresno Local Register under Criterion 2 for its association with the George C. Roeding and the Roeding family—who made significant contributions to the culture and development of Fresno in the early twentieth century.

Frederick C. and Marianne Roeding donated the land for Roeding Park in 1903, which led to the creation of the city's first public park. Their son, George C. Roeding, took an active interest in the development of Roeding Park and served as the park's gardener and as a City Park Commissioner, during which time he engaged Johannes Reimers to develop a master plan for the park. In addition, he donated many trees and shrubs from his Fancher Creek Nursery and exotic specimens he found on his travels.<sup>74</sup> Roeding was largely responsible for the success of the Fancher Creek Nursery as an important San Joaquin Valley institution and the expansion of its influence nationwide. In 1895, the nursery was considered one of the largest and best tended in the country at 1,280 acres. In 1903, George Roeding published *The Smyrna Fig: At Home and Abroad* and in 1909 he published *Roeding's Practical Planter's Guide: The Result of Thirty Years Experience in California Horticulture*, a comprehensive guide for fruit growers. George Roeding was responsible for the great number and variety of trees planted in the park, and employed his skills as a nurseryman to cultivate the early vegetation of the park. Roeding's active role in the early layout and development of the park continued until his death in 1929, and he is considered a critical figure in the success of the park. The Roeding's generous donation of land made it possible for the city to establish its first municipal park and the influence of George C. Roeding in the development of the park led to its success in the early twentieth century and its establishment as an important recreational resource to the Fresno community, which continues today.

*Criterion 3:*

The Roeding Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the Fresno Local Register under Criterion 3 as a resource that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period—the design of early twentieth century municipal parks in Fresno and California. Please see National Register Criterion C discussion above for detailed evaluation under this criterion.

*Criterion 4:*

The structures within the Roeding Park Historic District do not exemplify a particular architectural style or way of life important to the city, and therefore, Roeding Park is not eligible for listing in the Fresno Local Register under Criterion 4.

*Criterion 5:*

The Roeding Park Historic District is not related to any designated historic resource or district and therefore, is not eligible for listing in the Fresno Local Register under Criterion 5.

*Criterion 6:*

The analysis of Roeding Park for eligibility under Fresno Local Register Criterion 6 is beyond the scope of this report. This criterion is typically reserved for archaeological resources, and therefore it was not evaluated as part of this report.

<sup>74</sup> "George Christian Roeding" *Nurseryman and Fruit Grower*, 65-67.

**CONTINUATION SHEET*****INTEGRITY***

The process of determining integrity is similar for both the California Register and the National Register. The same seven variables or aspects that define integrity—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association—are used to evaluate a resource’s eligibility for listing in the California Register and the National Register. According to the *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, these seven characteristics are defined as follows:

- *Location* is the place where the historic property was constructed.
- *Design* is the combination of elements that create the form, plans, space, structure and style of the property.
- *Setting* addresses the physical environment of the historic property inclusive of the landscape and spatial relationships of the building/s.
- *Materials* refer to the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern of configuration to form the historic property.
- *Workmanship* is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history.
- *Feeling* is the property’s expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- *Association* is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

There is a critical distinction between the two registers, however, and that is the degree of integrity that a property can retain and still be considered eligible for listing. According to the California Office of Historic Preservation:

It is possible that historical resources may not retain sufficient integrity to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, but they may still be eligible for listing in the California Register. A resource that has lost its historic character or appearance may still have sufficient integrity for the California Register if it maintains the potential to yield significant or historical information or specific data.<sup>75</sup>

Once a resource has been identified as being potentially eligible for listing in the National Register, its historic integrity must be evaluated. In order to be determined eligible for listing, these aspects must closely relate to the resource’s significance and must be intact. The Roeding Park Historic District retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association as described below.

Historical records, including local newspaper articles, building permits, and park archives, indicate that there were several alterations to the individual contributing features of the Roeding Park Historic District during the period of significance from 1903 to 1953, as well as subsequent alterations to many of these features after the end of the period of significance. Major alterations that occurred to the contributing features during the period of significance include the reconfiguration of Lake Washington to accommodate the State Highway in 1954 and the alteration of individual buildings and structures throughout the park. Documented alterations that occurred to contributing features after the end date of the period of significance include: an addition to the Zookeeper’s House in 1962 and an addition to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office at an unknown date. The exterior cladding and overhang of the Elephant House was removed and replaced in the 1960s and early 1970s, which ultimately diminished the historic integrity of this building so that it no longer retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its significance. Overall, alterations to the individual contributing features of the historic district have not affected the ability of the historic district to convey its integrity of design, materials and workmanship.

<sup>75</sup> California Office of Historic Preservation, Technical Assistance Series No. 6, California Register and National Register: A Comparison (Sacramento, CA: California Office of State Publishing, November 2004).

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Roeding Park is significant as a historic district because it is a single site that includes a significant concentration of buildings, structures, and objects. The Roeding Park Historic District possesses many characteristics that define the resource as a cultural landscape. According to National Park Service definitions, a property's combined character as a cultural landscape and historic district should not be separated when considering a property's historical significance, integrity, and potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>76</sup> The following landscape characteristics were identified for the property and define the overall character of the historic district: natural systems and features, spatial organization, circulation, topography, vegetation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features. These characteristics articulate the property's significance as a potential historic district and cultural landscape, and are based upon the accepted National Park Service methodology for the assessment of cultural landscapes. Character-defining cultural landscape characteristics for the Roeding Park Historic District include: its organization of a series of open spaces, made accessible via vehicular and pedestrian circulation systems, and accentuated by buildings, structures, vegetation and small-scale features, which frame the overall historic character of the property. These characteristics were designed in response to the site's topographical conditions, natural systems and features, and program concerns.

The park layout has been slightly reconfigured throughout its history as a result of an accumulation of improvements and changes that took place over time as the park was adapted to accommodate recreational uses, vehicle access and contemporary user needs. For example, roads were widened and re-routed as the zoo and other areas of the park expanded and changed, and features were added and subtracted as the desire for monuments, structures and other park features were realized. (See Roeding Park Historic District Boundary Map on page 10 for a graphic representation of the contributing landscape features and areas of the park). Despite these incremental changes, the overall character of the park's natural systems and features, spatial organization, circulation, topography, vegetation, buildings and structures, and small-scale features has remained intact since the period of significance; and therefore, the property retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, association and feeling. As a whole the Roeding Park Historic District retains sufficient historic integrity to convey its significance throughout the entire period of significance from 1903 to 1953.

<sup>76</sup> Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1998): 9.

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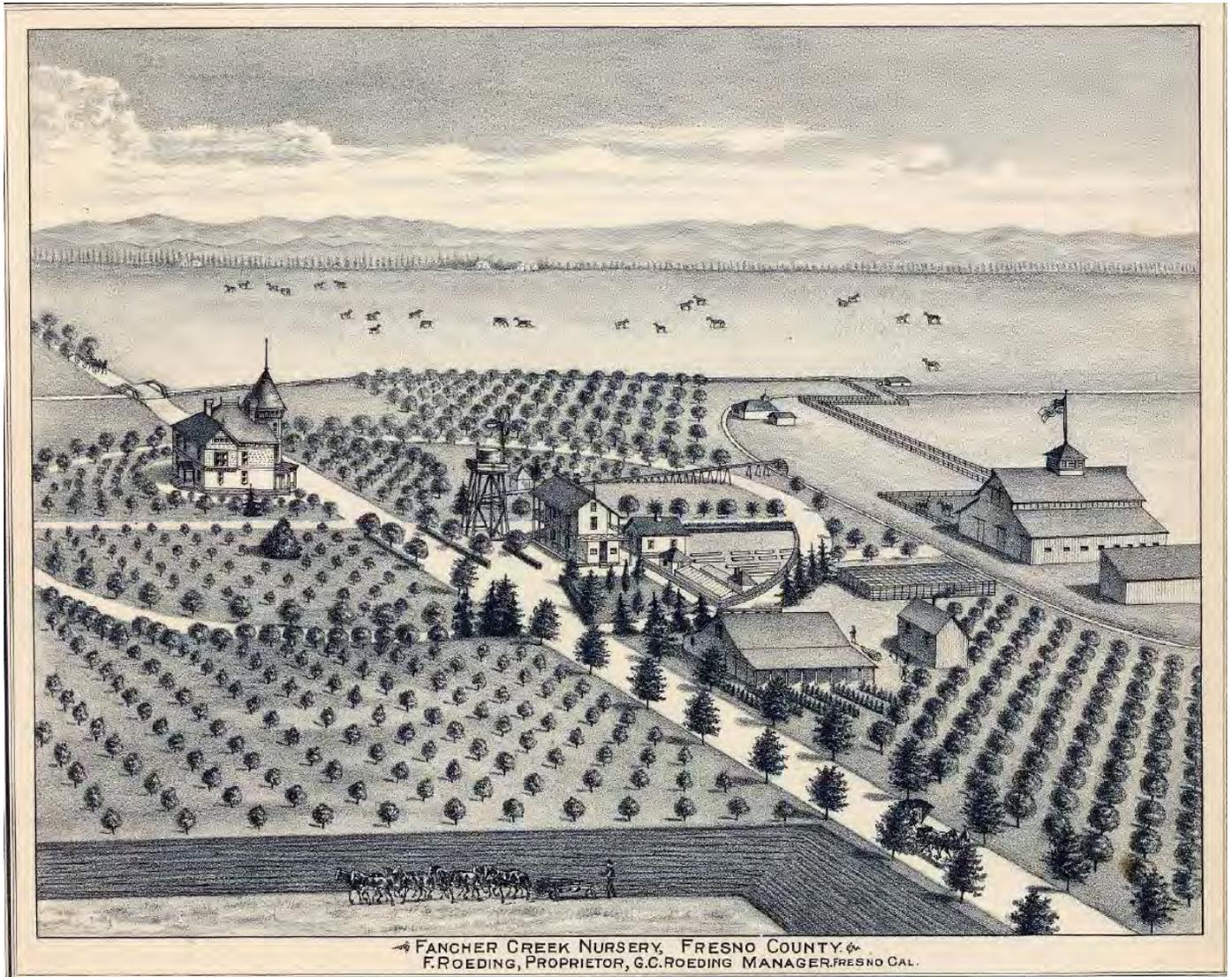
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Source: Rumsey Map Collection.

Roeding's Fancher Creek Nursery, 1891.



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Early view of Roeding Park showing young eucalyptus trees, 1904.**



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Early view of Roeding Park roadway, 1904.**

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Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Early view of Roeding Park, 1907.**

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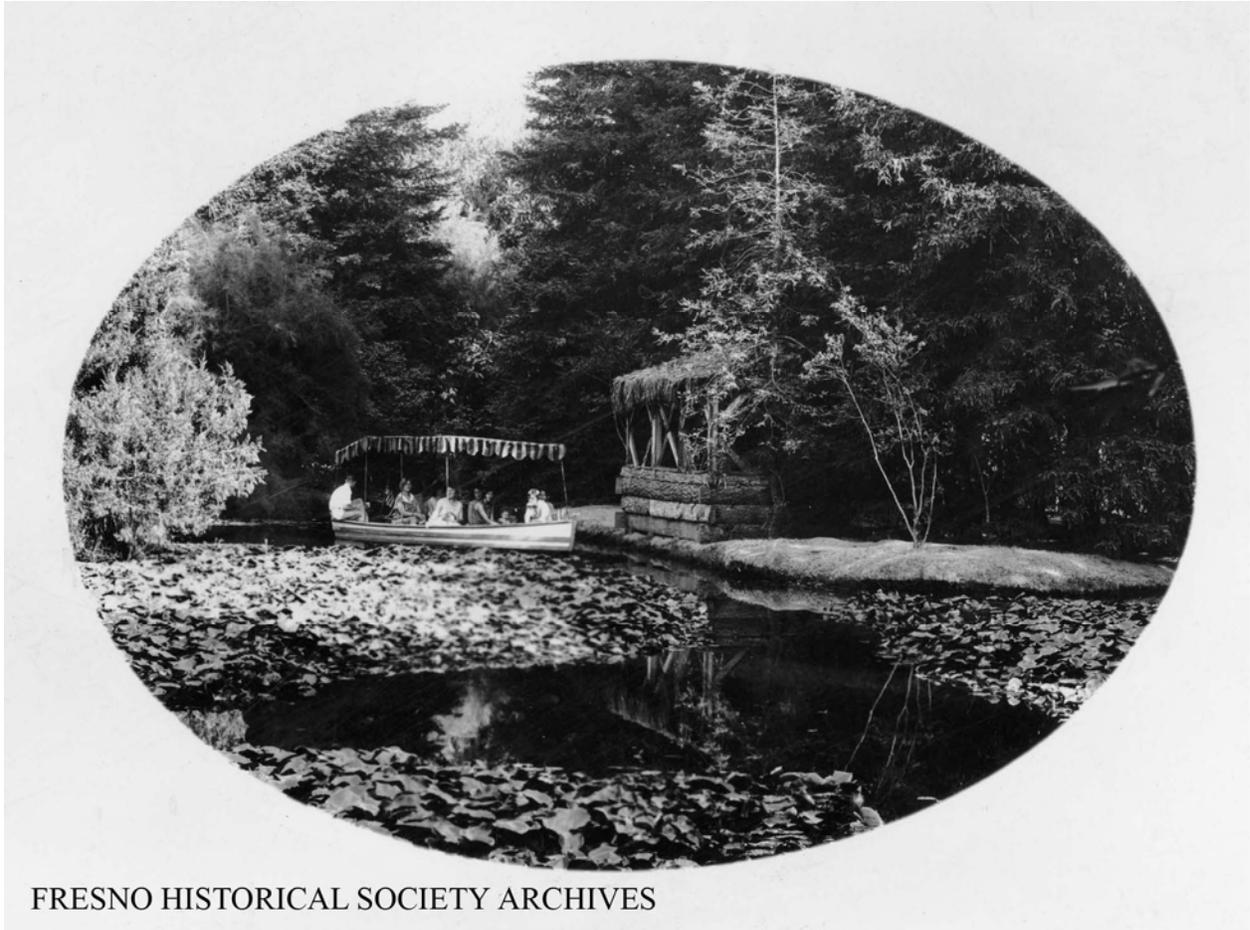
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Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Early view of Roeding Park ponds, 1907.**



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**View of boating on Roeding Park pond, 1915.**

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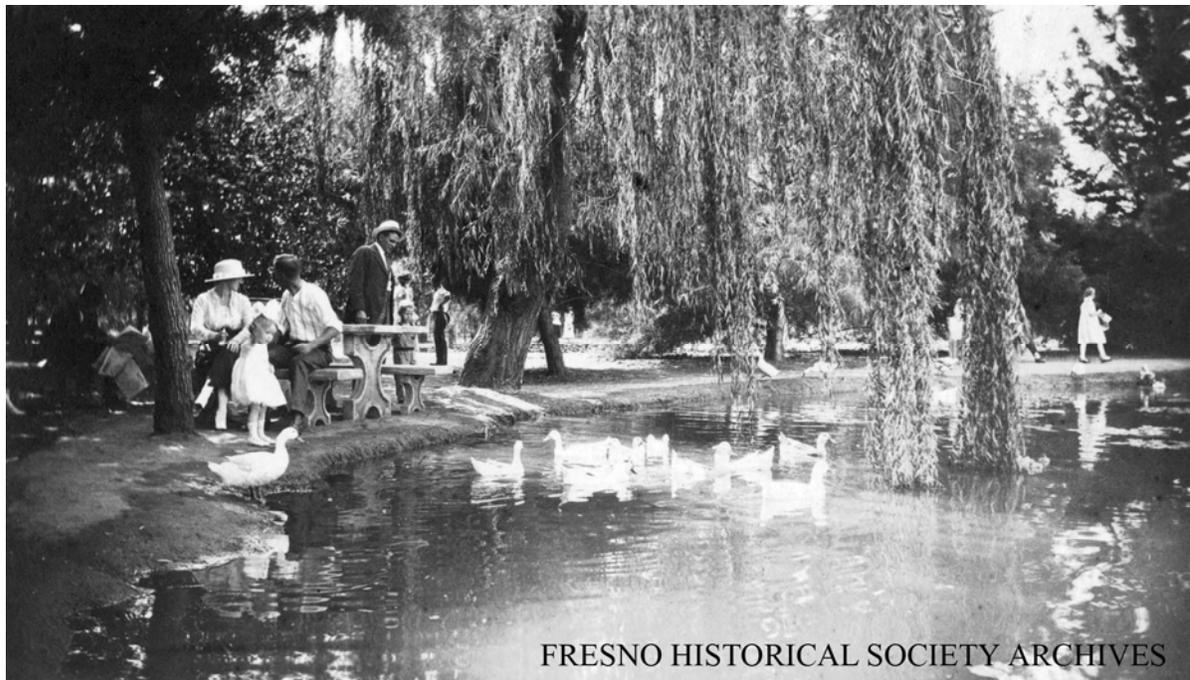
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Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Roeding Park pond, no date.**

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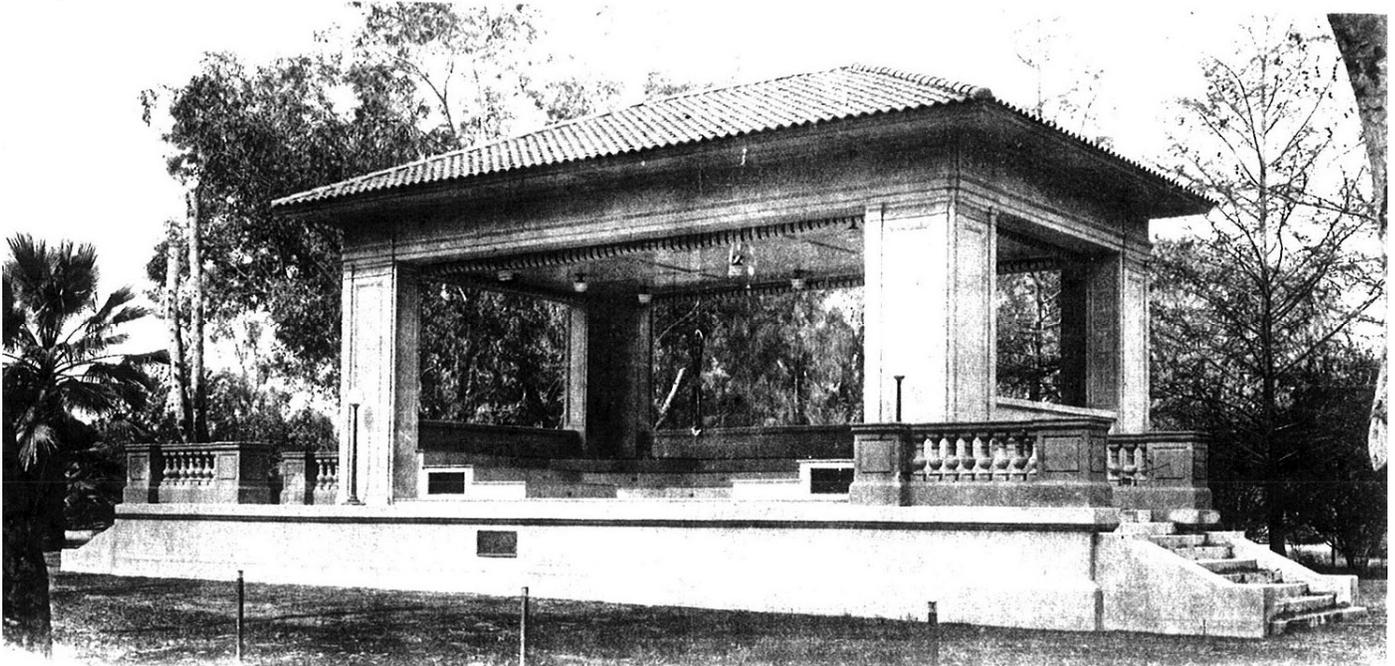
Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

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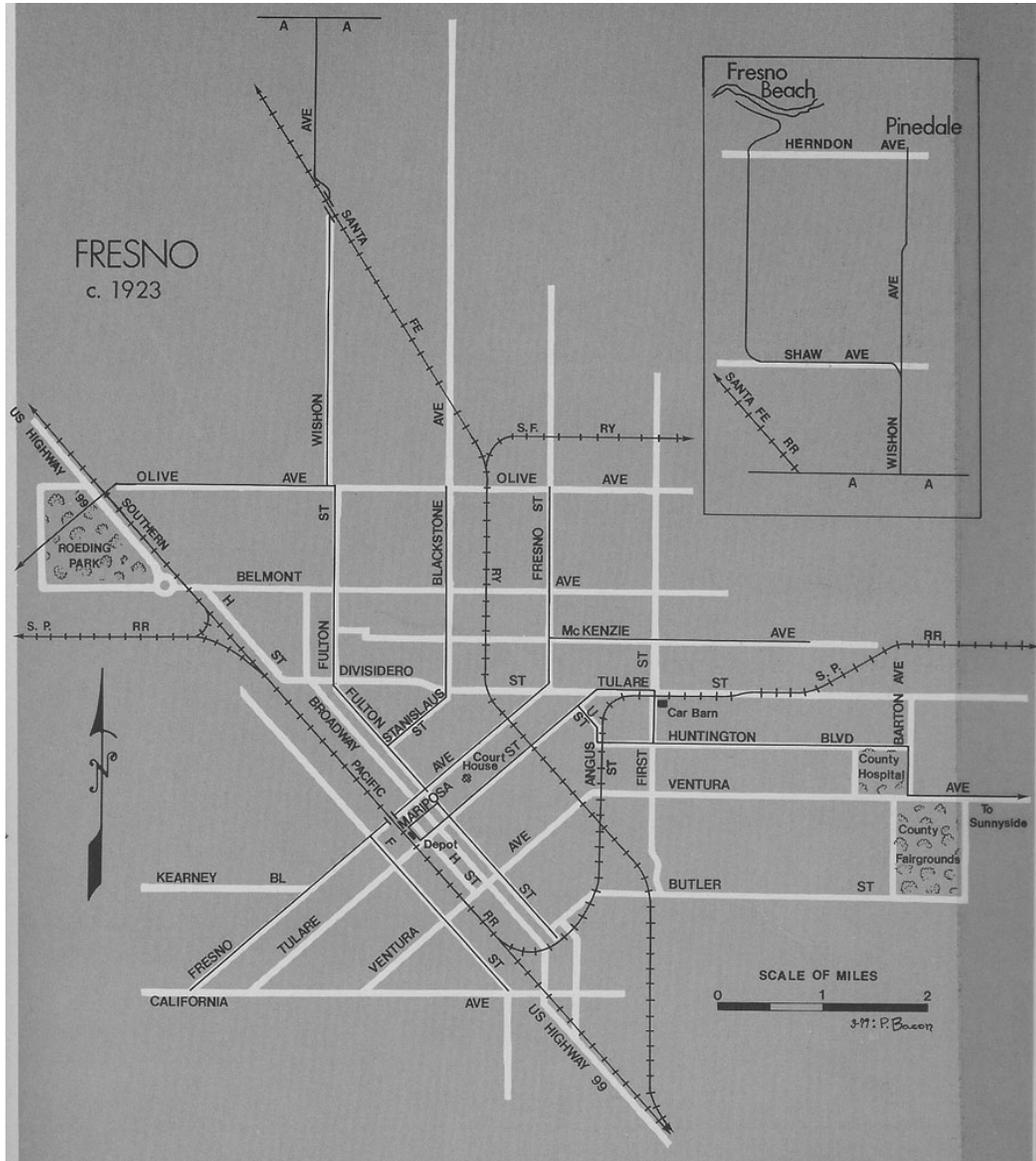
Source: "Memorial Dedication of the Lisenby Bandstand" Roeding Park brochure, April 22, 1923. Courtesy of the Fresno Historical Society.

**Lisenby Bandstand, 1923.**



Source: *Fresno Past & Present*.

Lisenby Bandstand, unknown date.



Source: Edward Hamm Jr. "When Fresno Rode the Rails" Available online <http://www.fresnofamous.com/node/4364>.

**Map of Fresno's Streetcar system, circa 1923.**

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Source: Fresno Historical Society.

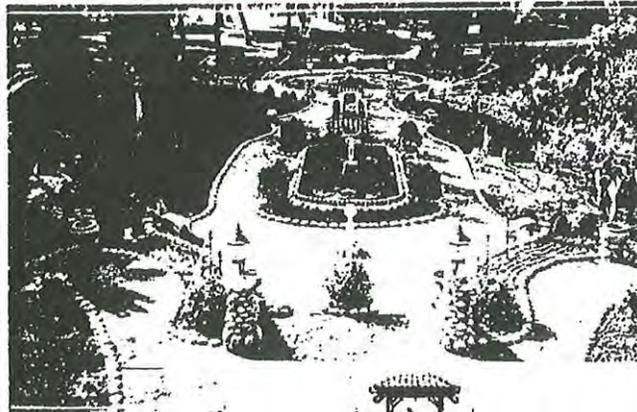
**Roeding Park Pergola, circa 1920s.**



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Roeding Park Pergola, 1940s.**

### *Japanese Tea Garden To Open In Park*



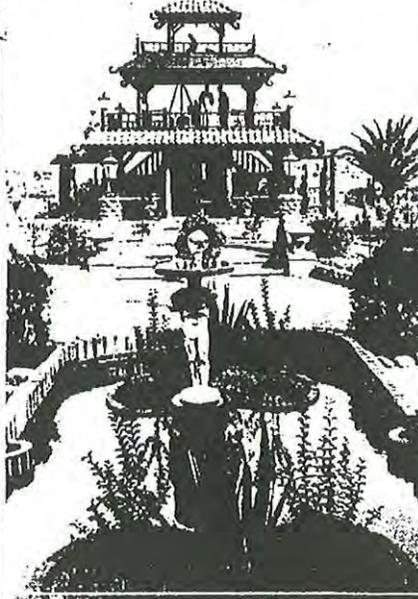
### IRRIGATION UNIT SUES FOR WATER OF SAN JOAQUIN

Lisenby Estate And Other  
Corporations Are Made De-  
fendants In Action

Seeking to condemn for their own use, 1,360 second feet of water from the San Joaquin River, the San Joaquin and Kings River Canal and Irrigation Company filed suit in the superior court to-day against the Lisenby Estate Company and five other corporations, all of which are unidentified. The irrigation company asks that the court decree it to be the rightful owner of the 1,360 second foot flow.

The irrigation company's complaint says that it is now diverting the 1,360 second feet of water from the river and is distributing it for irrigation purposes to 2,000 consumers on 150,000 acres of land in Fresno, Merced and Stanislaus Counties. In addition some water is supplied to the cities of Los Banos and Dos Palos.

The Lisenby Estate Company and the other defendants, claim ripat-



Source: "Japanese Tea Garden to Open in Park" *Fresno Bee* (November 8, 1930).

Japanese Tea Garden, 1930.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



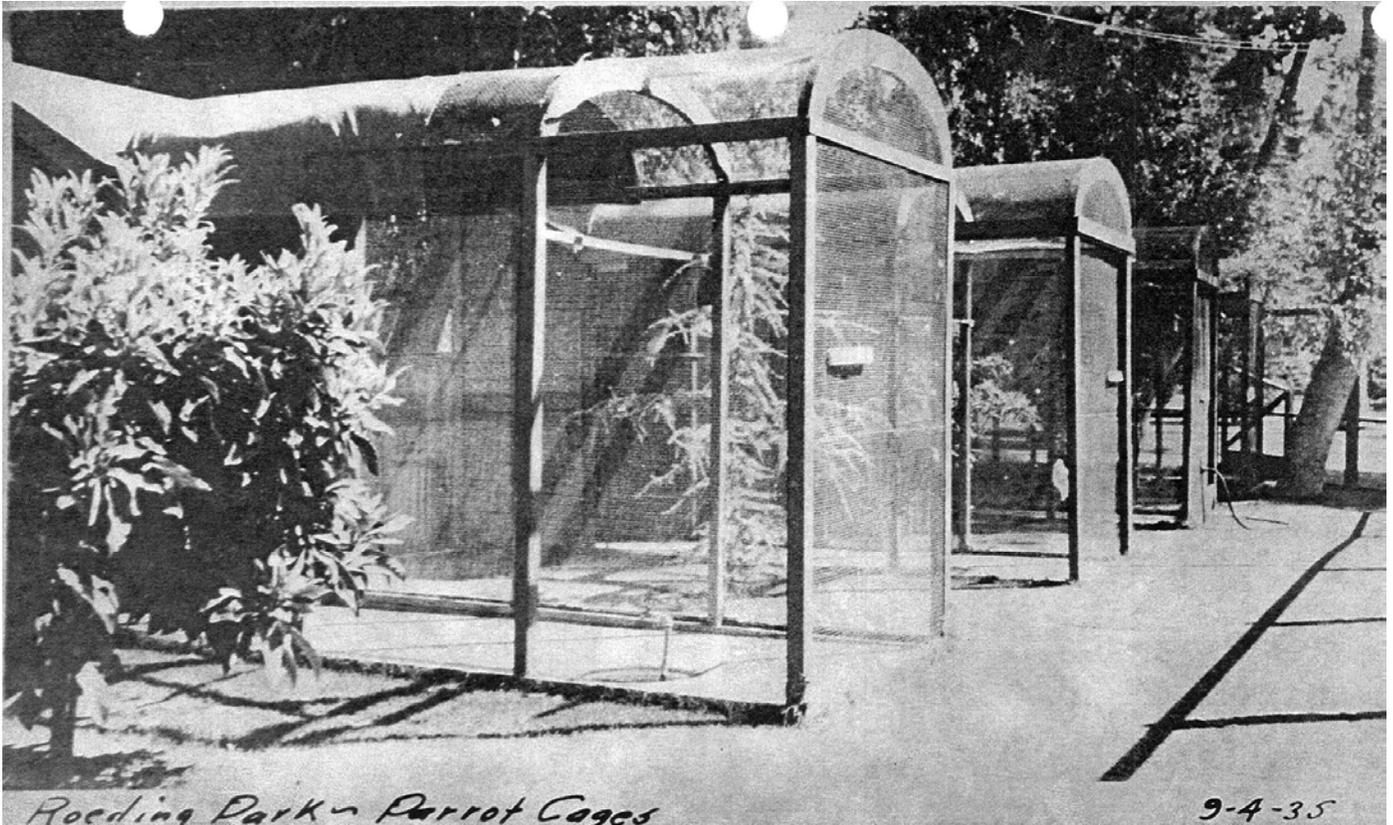
Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Roeding Park Umbrella Grove, children's pool and shower (not extant), 1932.**



Source: Fresno Chaffe Zoo Archive, Jean Chaffee Files

Early lion cages at Roeding Park Zoo, 1935.



Source: Fresno Chaffe Zoo Archive, Jean Chaffee Files

**Early parrot cages at Roeding Park Zoo, 1935.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**View of Roeding Park and roadway, 1940s.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Playland Archives.

Playland, Midge-o-Racer and Carousel, circa 1955.

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Playland Archives.

**Playland, Carousel, circa 1955.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

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Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

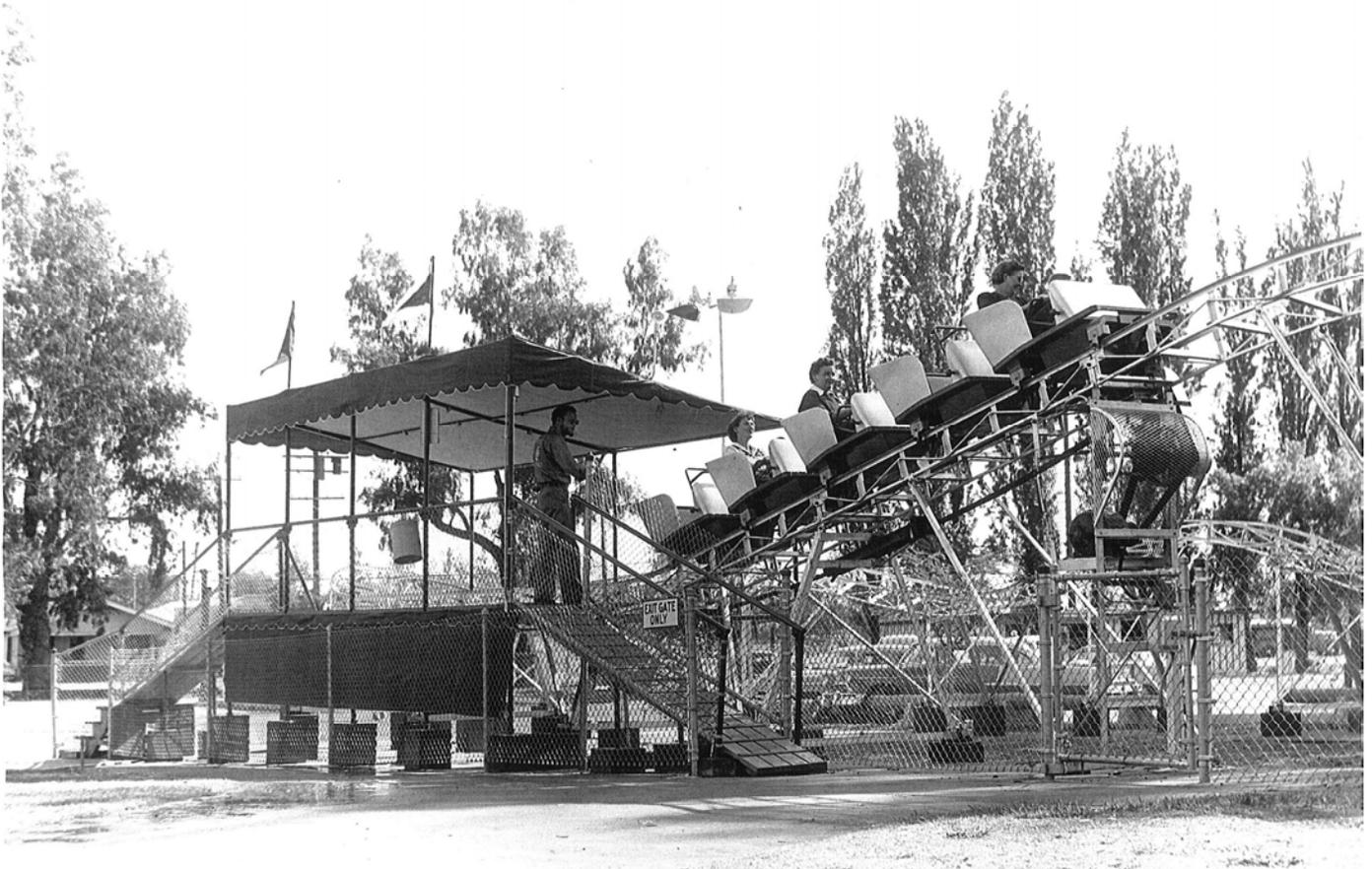
Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Playland Archives.

**Playland, Roller Coaster, circa 1955.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Playland Archives.

Playland, Train, circa 1955.

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

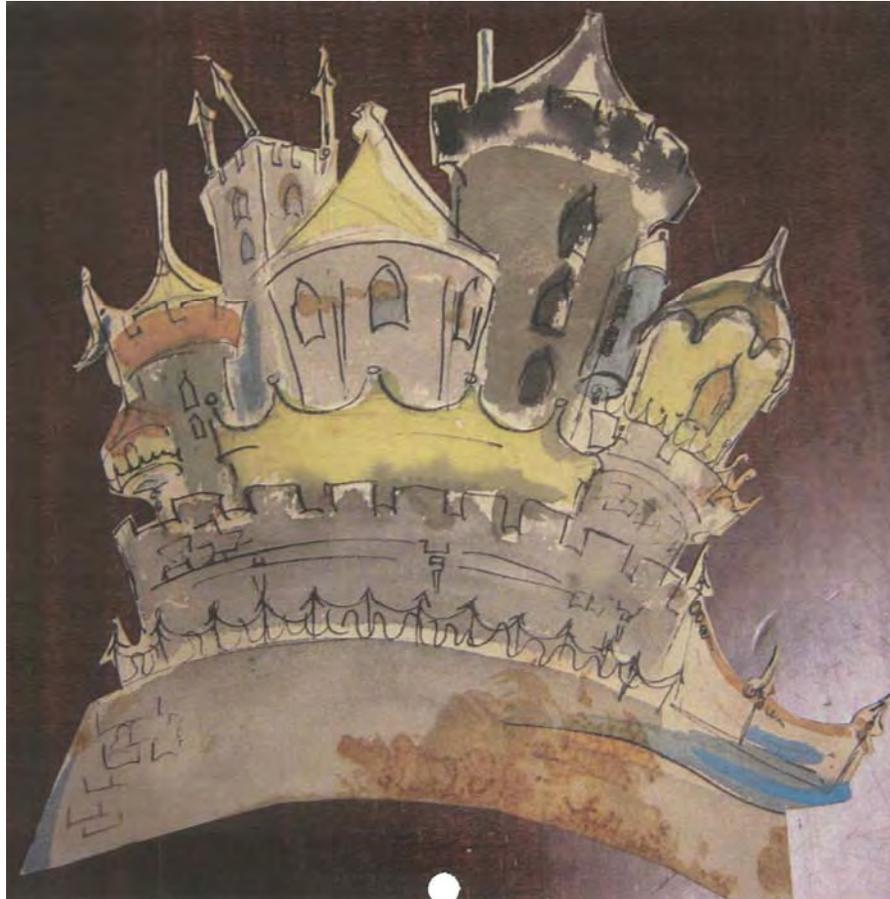
Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Rotary Storyland Playland Archives.

**Conceptual water color for King Arthur's Castle, Storyland, c. 1962.**

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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Rotary Storyland Playland Archives.

**King Arthur's Castle, Storyland, c. 1962.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Rotary Storyland Playland Archives.

**Restrooms and Gingerbread Man bridge, Storyland, c. 1962.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

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Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation  Update



Source: Fresno Chaffee Zoo Archive, Jean Chaffee Files

**Roeding Park Zoo entrance, c. 1964.**

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Roeding Park Historic District

\*Recorded by: Gretchen A. Hilyard, Page & Turnbull

\*Date July 31, 2009

Continuation

Update



Source: Fresno Historical Society.

**Aerial view of Roeding Park, looking west, 1967.**



Source: Fresno Historical Society

**Construction of the Bison and Elk enclosure in Roeding Park Zoo, 1967.**



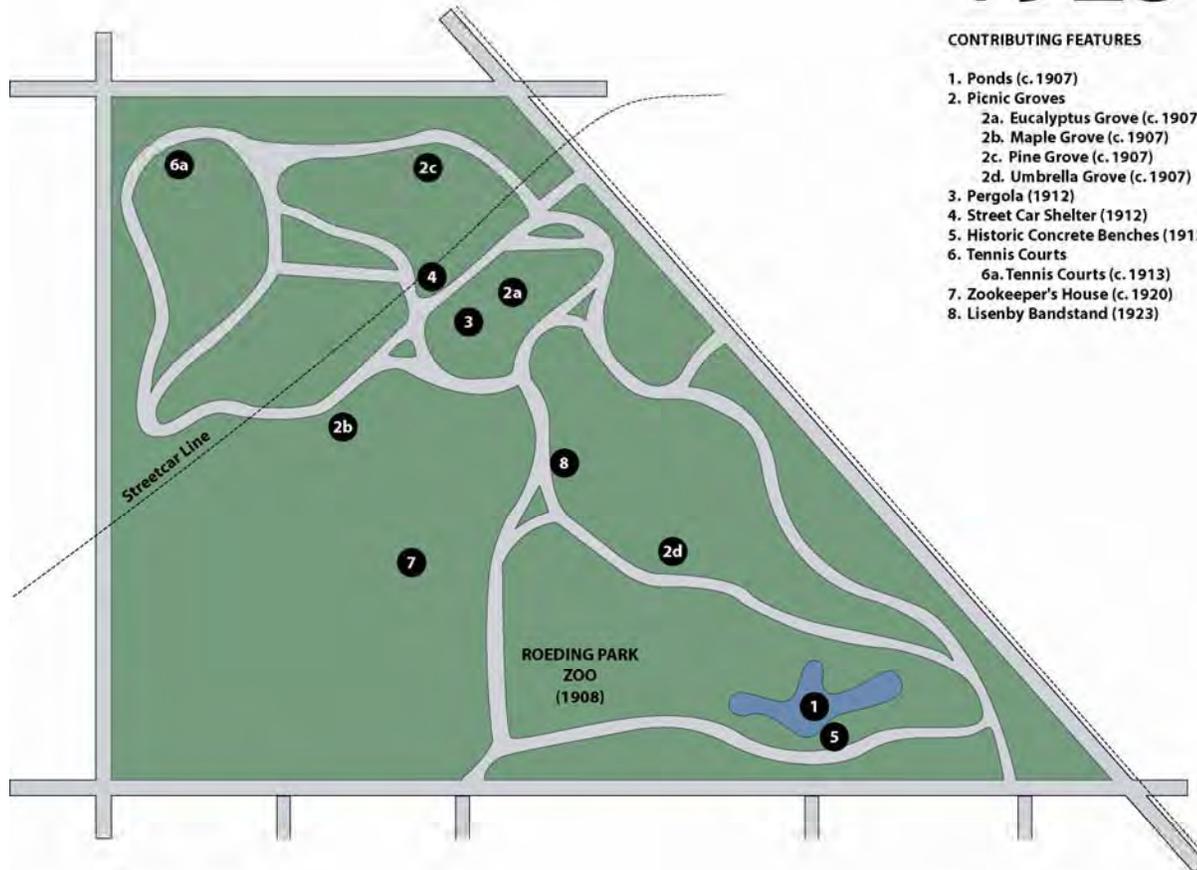
Source: *Fresno Bee*

**Roeding Park Zoo, c. 1976.**

# 1923

## CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

1. Ponds (c. 1907)
2. Picnic Groves
  - 2a. Eucalyptus Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2b. Maple Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2c. Pine Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2d. Umbrella Grove (c. 1907)
3. Pergola (1912)
4. Street Car Shelter (1912)
5. Historic Concrete Benches (1913)
6. Tennis Courts
  - 6a. Tennis Courts (c. 1913)
7. Zookeeper's House (c. 1920)
8. Lisenby Bandstand (1923)



July 31, 2009  
Data received from Google  
Earth and City of Fresno.

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Source: Page & Turnbull

**Roeding Park, 1923.**

# 1937

## CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

1. Ponds (c. 1907)
2. Picnic Groves
  - 2a. Eucalyptus Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2b. Maple Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2c. Pine Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2d. Umbrella Grove (c. 1907)
3. Pergola (1912)
4. Street Car Shelter (1912)
5. Historic Concrete Benches (1913)
6. Tennis Courts
  - 6a. Tennis Courts (c. 1913)
  - 6b. Tennis Courts (c. 1935)
7. Zookeeper's House (c. 1920)
8. Lisenby Bandstand (1923)
9. George C. Roeding Monument (1929)
10. George Washington Memorial (1932)
11. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office (c. 1935)
12. Lake Washington (1936)



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Source: Page & Turnbull

Roeding Park, 1937.

# 1957

## CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

1. Ponds (c. 1907)
2. Picnic Groves
  - 2a. Eucalyptus Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2b. Maple Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2c. Pine Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2d. Umbrella Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2e. Palm Point Grove (c. 1946)
  - 2f. Cedar Grove (c. 1948)
  - 2g. Redwood Grove (c. 1950)
3. Pergola (1912)
4. Street Car Shelter (1912)
5. Historic Concrete Benches (1913)
6. Tennis Courts
  - 6a. Tennis Courts (c. 1913)
  - 6b. Tennis Courts (c. 1935)
7. Zookeeper's House (c. 1920)
8. Lisenby Bandstand (1923)
9. George C. Roeding Monument (1929)
10. George Washington Memorial (1932)
11. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office (c. 1935)
12. Lake Washington (1936)
13. Federick and Marianne Roeding Monument (1939)
14. Folk Dance Platforms (1950)
15. Japanese-American World War II Memorial (1950)



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Source: Page & Turnbull

Roeding Park, 1957.

# 2008

## CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

1. Ponds (c. 1907)
2. Picnic Groves
  - 2a. Eucalyptus Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2b. Maple Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2c. Pine Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2d. Umbrella Grove (c. 1907)
  - 2e. Palm Point Grove (c. 1946)
  - 2f. Cedar Grove (c. 1948)
  - 2g. Redwood Grove (c. 1950)
3. Pergola (1912)
4. Street Car Shelter (1912)
5. Historic Concrete Benches (1913)
6. Tennis Courts
  - 6a. Tennis Courts (c. 1913)
  - 6b. Tennis Courts (c. 1935)
7. Zookeeper's House (c. 1920)
8. Lisenby Bandstand (1923)
9. George C. Roeding Monument (1929)
10. George Washington Memorial (1932)
11. Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office (c. 1935)
12. Lake Washington (1936)
13. Federick and Marianne Roeding Monument (1939)
14. Folk Dance Platforms (1950)
15. Japanese-American World War II Memorial (1950)




 July 31, 2009  
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Roeding Park, 2008.

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 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
 NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Ponds

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fesno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fesno North Date: 1981

c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fesno ZIP: 93728

d. UTM Zone: 10 mE \_\_\_\_\_ m(N.G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park ponds are located in the southeast quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fesno. The ponds consist of four irregularly shaped manmade pools running roughly 900 feet east to west along the northern end of an unnamed park loop road. The ponds have concrete edging and are surrounded by mature landscaping and a few park benches. A large lawn is located to the north. Several of the ponds include small landscaped islands, and the largest of the ponds (second from the east) features two footbridges connecting an island to the mainland. The footbridges feature wooden plank walkways and metal pipe railings, though a historic photograph shows that at least one of the footbridges originally consisted of an arched walkway of wood planks with undressed timber supports and a bent wood railing. The easternmost pond includes a cast concrete fountain with floriated decoration rising from its center. Two kidney-shaped planters enclosed by concrete curbing are located to the north of the eastern ponds. The shape and proximity to the ponds suggests that these planters may once have been ponds that was filled in. The ponds appear to be in good condition and appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP22. LakeRiverReservoir

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Partial view of pond.  
112008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1907  
Historic photographs.

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fesno  
2600 Fesno Street  
Fesno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (JGLGH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4272008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter none) Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  One  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Mining Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Cedar Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Cedar Grove is located at the northern edge of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The grove was established sometime before 1948. Many of the trees that make up the grove are quite large and appear to have been in place for many years. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 5 mature cedar trees. It is bordered closely on the north by a paved vehicular road and the trees cluster around a grouping of six concrete slabs that act as platforms for non-historic picnic benches. The Pine Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Cedar Grove, looking east  
4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Before 1948  
Fresno Morning Republican

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Eucalyptus Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Eucalyptus Grove is located near the northeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Along with the Pine, Umbrella, and Maple groves, the Eucalyptus Grove is one of the earliest of these species-themed picnic areas and likely dates to circa 1907. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 15 mature eucalyptus trees. The trees cluster around an area of bare dirt, where a grouping of non-historic picnic benches is located. A small platform or stage made of concrete block, with metal posts around the edges, is located at the southwest corner of the grove area. Stone, poured concrete, and metal barbeque pits and grills are also scattered around the edges of the grove. The Eucalyptus Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Eucalyptus Grove, looking  
northeast. 4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1907  
Fresno Morning Republican  
(December 8, 1907).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Eucalyptus Grove

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 4/22/2009

Continuation

Update



View of picnic area within Eucalyptus Grove, including stage. (Page & Turnbull, 4/2009).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Maple Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Maple Grove is located near the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Along with the Umbrella, Eucalyptus, and Pine groves, the Maple Grove is one of the earliest of these species-themed picnic areas and likely dates to circa 1907. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 10 mature maple trees. A concrete path approaches from the northwest, where the grove is closely bordered by a paved vehicular road. The trees cluster around a grouping of six concrete slabs that act as platforms for non-historic picnic benches. Non-historic metal barbeque grills are located among the picnic tables. The Maple Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Maple Grove, looking east  
4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1907  
Fresno Morning Republican  
(December 8, 1907).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Palm Point Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Palm Point Grove is located in the southeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The grove was established sometime prior to 1946. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 10 mature palm trees that appear to be of differing varieties, including tall slender Mexican Fan Palms and shorter, more substantial California Fan Palms. Pines and deciduous trees of other species are interspersed among the palms. The trees cluster around a large, gable-roofed picnic shelter and barbeque area (see Palm Point Shelter DPR 523A form.) Palm Point is located near the intersection of two paved roadways that run generally east-west and southeast-northwest, meeting at an acute angle and giving the Point its name. The Palm Point Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Palm Point Grove and shelter,  
looking northwest. 4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Before 1946  
Fresno Morning Republican

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Pine Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Pine Grove is located in the northeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Along with the Umbrella, Eucalyptus, and Maple groves, the Pine Grove is one of the earliest of these species-themed picnic areas and likely dates to circa 1907. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 25 mature pine trees that appear to be of differing varieties. The grove is bisected by a concrete path running generally north-south, and the trees cluster around a large, gable-roofed picnic shelter (see Pine Grove Shelter DPR 523A form.) The Pine Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Pine Grove and shelter, looking north. 4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1907  
Fresno Morning Republican  
(December 8, 1907).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Redwood Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Redwood Grove is located near the northwestern edge of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The grove was established sometime before 1950, and the trees appear to have been in place for many years. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 15 mature redwood trees. It is bordered closely on the southeast by a paved vehicular road and on the northwest by tennis courts. The trees cluster around a grouping of eight concrete slabs that act as platforms for non-historic picnic benches. Non-historic metal barbeque grills are also located within the grove. The Redwood Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Redwood Grove, looking north.  
4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
ca. 1950  
Fresno Morning Republican

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Umbrella Grove

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)  
\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981  
\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728  
d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)  
e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Umbrella Grove is located near the southeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Along with the Pine, Eucalyptus, and Maple groves, the Umbrella Grove is one of the earliest of these species-themed picnic areas and likely dates to circa 1907. The grove consists of a grouping of approximately 15 mature shade trees of varying species (none of which appear to be true Umbrella trees). The trees cluster around a grouping of eighteen concrete slabs that act as platforms for non-historic picnic benches. A low square platform or stage made of poured concrete is located at the center of the grouping of benches and metal lamp posts are scattered around the picnic area. Non-historic metal barbeque grills, stone trash shelters and barbeque pits, and a stone water fountain are located around the edges of the grove. A short paved walkway extends to the south of the grove and leads to a round planter surrounded by a concrete curb. A single tree is planted in this circle, which once contained a small pond with a fountain at the center. The Umbrella Grove appears to be in good condition, with trees generally appearing to be in good health. It appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP30. Trees/vegetation

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Umbrella Grove, looking south. 4/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1907  
Fresno Morning Republican (December 8, 1907).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/22/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Umbrella Grove

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 4/22/2009

Continuation

Update



View of picnic area within Umbrella Grove, including stage. (Page & Turnbull, 4/2009).



View of circular planter to south of Umbrella Grove. (Page & Turnbull, 4/2009).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Pergola

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park pergola is located in the northeast quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. It stands approximately 75 feet south of the Roeding Park streetcar shelter, near the intersection of two unnamed park loop roads. Constructed in 1912, the pergola features two parallel rows of concrete Tuscan columns running approximately 235 feet in a curving line from the southeast to the northwest. The columns rest on concrete bases and support a network of trellised beams interlaced with mature wisteria vines. The terrain in the area is mildly sloping, such that the dirt walkway beneath the pergola has been divided into graduated sections connected by concrete steps. The walkway is flanked by concrete edging, and a water fountain clad in rough-textured stone and resting on a concrete pad has been installed near the center of the upper tier of the walkway. The pergola was originally used as a pathway for passengers accessing the streetcar shelter to the north. The pergola appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP29. Landscape Architecture

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Partial view of pergola exterior  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1912  
Fresno Bee (June 11, 1969).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (GL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/5/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Pergola

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/5/2008

Continuation

Update



Detail of the walkway beneath the pergola (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
 NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Streetcar Shelter

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park streetcar shelter is located in the northeast quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. It stands approximately 75 feet north of the Roeding Park Pergola, near the intersection of two unnamed park loop roads. Constructed in 1912, the structure was originally used as a shelter for passengers of the Fresno Traction Company, which operated an electric streetcar railroad in Fresno until 1939. Designed in the Craftsman style, the shelter is approximately 20' x 30' and features six battered square columns made of mortared fieldstone supporting a gable roof clad in clay tiles. The roof structure is made of wood and consists of horizontal beams supporting a series of kingpost trusses, exposed rafters, and beadboard sheathing. The structure sits on a concrete slab and two concrete picnic tables are located within the shelter. A granite monument resting on a stepped concrete base is located approximately 20 feet to the northwest and commemorates the shelter. Dedicated in May 1989 by the Fresno Organization of Retired City Employees, the monument reads in part: "Between 1912 and 1939, thousands of passengers used this streetcar shelter while waiting for the Roeding-Fulton Line." The side of the monument includes an image of an electric streetcar. (Continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP17. Railroad depot

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View from the east  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1912  
Fresno Bee (line 11, 1969)

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (GL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/27/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Streetcar Shelter

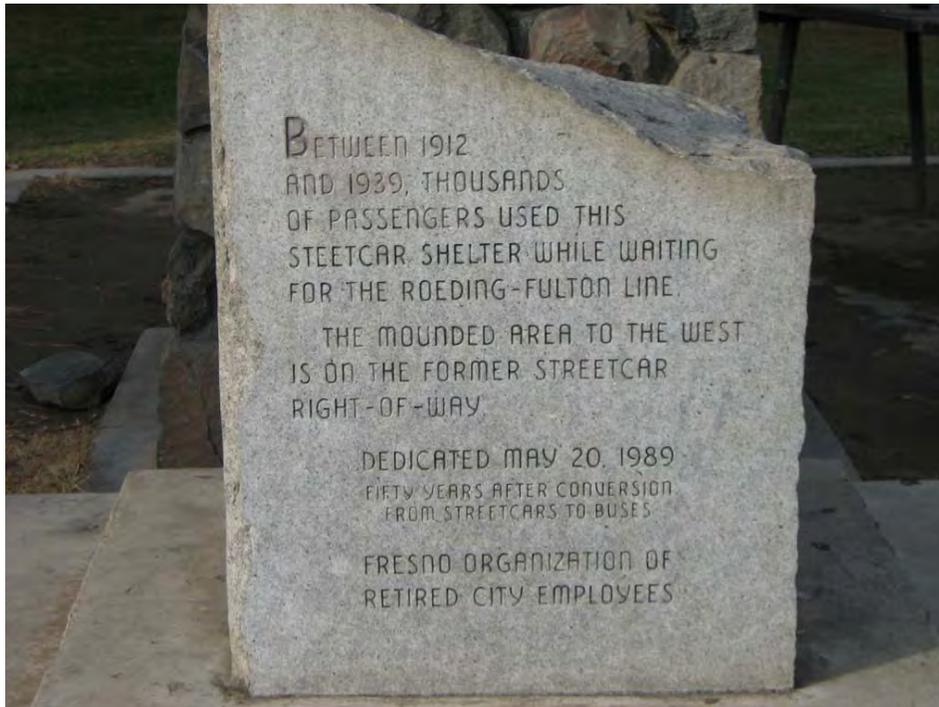
\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 4/27/2008

Continuation  Update

**P3a. Description:** (continued)

The streetcar shelter appears to have influenced the design of the Pine Grove and Palm Point picnic shelters, which are similar in appearance, though larger and of slightly different materials and construction methods. The Roeding Park streetcar shelter appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



Detail of the monument commemorating the streetcar shelter (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Concrete Benches

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Roeding Park is a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno, which developed in the early twentieth century. Concrete benches associated with the early development period of the park are extant and scattered throughout the park. The simple, narrow, cast concrete form is one of the park's earliest bench types, added to the park in 1913. An example of the 1913 concrete benches stands immediately west of the pond and north of Belmont Avenue and Park Drive in the southeastern portion of the park. The bench is comprised of a solid concrete base and features a slight diagonal flare to form the seat of the bench. The back of the bench extends perpendicularly from the concrete base to complete the streamlined form. A few concrete benches of this vintage remain in the park. These concrete benches appear to be in good condition and appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP28. Street Furniture

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View from the southeast.  
11/04/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1913  
Fresno Morning Republican  
(December 21, 1913)

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (MEG/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/18/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Tennis Courts

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park tennis courts are located at the northwest corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The courts are arranged in two main groupings, with the northern most grouping consisting of seven closely arranged courts in two rows (four in the top row and three in the lower row), while the southern grouping includes eight courts in two rows separated by a wide paved area. The courts are paved and enclosed by high modern chain link fences with mesh windscreens. The northern grouping of courts includes a non-historic concrete block storage building at the western edge featuring a shed roof and a flush metal door, as well as a rustic gable roofed kiosk that appears to be historic. Research indicates that northernmost row of tennis courts were in place by 1913, with the row immediately to the south in place by 1935. These historic courts feature remnants of flood lights arranged on metal poles at the edge of the courts. The southern grouping of tennis courts were constructed in the 1980s and feature opposing boxed lights on metal poles. Overall, the tennis courts appear to be in good condition. The historic tennis courts appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District, whereas the 1980s tennis courts do not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP39. Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Aerial view of Lake Washington  
(courtesy of GoogleEarth)  
12/6/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
ca. 1913, ca. 1935 and 1980  
Fresno Morning Republican

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (GL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
04/27/2009

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Tennis Courts

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 04/27/2009

Continuation  Update



Detail of the northernmost tennis court with older lighting fixtures (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



General view showing tennis courts and nearby parking lot (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Lisenby Bandstand

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Lisenby Bandstand is located in the northeast portion of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo, located within Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1923, the bandstand is a double-height one-story building designed with Classical and Mediterranean Revival influences. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in concrete blocks and stucco, and capped by a hip roof with overhanging eaves, covered by terra cotta tiles. The primary facade faces southeast and features a wide wooden stage with wood risers flanked by square columns with molded sunken relief panels. A tile-clad stage addition extends to the southeast. The northwest wall at the rear of the stage is clad with diagonal and vertical flush wood cladding. An organ was added to the bandstand in 1934 and was most likely housed behind the wood cladding at the rear of the stage; however, the organ was removed sometime in the later half of the twentieth century. Small, plaster-clad restrooms are located behind the rear stage wall at the building's east and west ends and the wood ceiling contains lighting. The stage is accessed via concrete stairs—flanked by stucco-clad side walls topped by a rounded metal banister which lead to a landing with stucco clad walls with coping and square piers. An amphitheater with riser seating was added southeast of the bandstand in 1954 with dirt from the excavation of Highway 99. The Bandstand appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP12. Civic Auditorium

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Partial view of the bandstand  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1923  
Building Permits

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (MEG/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/8/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Lisenby Bandstand

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/8/2008

Continuation  Update



Detail of the bandstand exterior from the southwest (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



Detail of steps rising to the north side of the stage (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Lisenby Bandstand

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/8/2008

Continuation  Update



**Ampitheater located southeast of the bandstand (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)**

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) George C. Roeding Monument

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The George C. Roeding Monument is located in the southeast quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The monument stands approximately 365 feet east of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Building, immediately south of an unnamed park road. The monument consists of a cast bust of George C. Roeding, who's family donated the land for the park and was very involved in the early layout and development of the park. The bust rests on a concrete pedestal and is approximately three feet high. The bust is surrounded by a grassy lawn and is set within an ivy-covered planting bed. The bust was installed in 1929. The monument appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP26. Monument

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of monument  
12/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1929  
Fresno Bee

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (JGL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/5/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) George Washington Memorial

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park George Washington Memorial is located in the southwest quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The monument stands near the eastern shore of Lake Washington, approximately 25 feet west of the main park loop road. The memorial commemorates the bicentennial of President George Washington's birth and consists of a bronze bust of George Washington standing on a rectangular granite pedestal featuring an incised bead and covered platform. The pedestal is inscribed "GEORGE WASHINGTON 1732 – 1932 BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION" and rests on a base of rough-textured stone and a concrete pad. A small bronze plaque attached to a slanted stone base rests at the foot of the memorial and is entitled "Donors of the George Washington Memorial 1932," with a list that includes various veteran's organizations, civic groups, and fraternal organizations. The memorial is flanked by planting beds enclosed with concrete edging and surrounded by a lawn. Both the plaque and the memorial show weathering but appear to be in overall good condition. The memorial appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP26. Monument

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View from the southeast  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1932  
Donor plaque

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (JGL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/5/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) George Washington Memorial

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/5/2008

Continuation  Update



Detail of plaque at the base of the memorial (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 4 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Zookeeper's House

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The Zookeeper's House is located just outside the western boundary of the Zoo, and was originally designed as a residence for the zookeeper; it currently contains administrative offices. Built circa 1920 with a circa 1962 addition, the Zookeeper's House is a one-story, wood-frame building designed in a vernacular style. The building is roughly rectangular in plan, clad in rustic wood siding, and capped by a gable roof covered in composition shingles. The primary façade faces north and prominently features the circa 1960 addition, which is clad in flush wood siding. A wood door with a screen and three concrete steps is centered on the façade, and wood sash casement windows flank the entrance. Behind the addition, the original rustic log siding and gable roof with overhanging eaves and exposed purlins are still visible. (continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP2. Single Family Property

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Zookeeper's House  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
ca. 1920  
Visual estimate.

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
04/27/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 4

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Zookeeper's House

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 04/27/2008

Continuation  Update

The rear (south) façade was part of the original Zookeeper's House, and features log siding, a screened window, and an entrance with a simple, shed-roofed portico. The façade terminates in overhanging eaves with exposed purlins, with a louvered vent centered in the gable end. The east façade features log siding and three double-hung, wood sash windows in the original portion, and flush wood siding and a row of casement windows in the addition. The west façade is also clad in log siding and features multi-light casement windows, but is largely obscured due to heavy vegetation. A stone chimney is located near the northwest corner of the original building, and an air conditioning unit sits on the east side of the roof. A freestanding, outdoor brick fireplace is located near the main entrance, and an associated one-story, wood frame garage with a gable roof is located northwest of the house. The Zookeeper's House appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



Zookeeper's House, detail of primary (north) façade, original portion (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Zookeeper's House

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 04/27/2008

Continuation  Update



View of Zookeeper's House, rear (south) façade (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of Zookeeper's House, east façade (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Zookeeper's House

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 04/27/2008

Continuation  Update



Garage adjacent to Zookeeper's House (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
 NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Lake Washington

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
 and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)  
 \*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981  
 \*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728  
 d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)  
 e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)  
 Lake Washington is located in the southwest quadrant of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The lake was excavated by the Works Progress Administration in 1936 and is irregular in shape, with a curving shoreline that runs approximately 850 feet from southeast to northwest. The lake is enclosed by a concrete wall and includes a large fingered dock at the south end where the pedal boats for the Playland attraction are moored. The lake also includes two islands covered with vegetation. The first is a smaller island located approximately 220 feet northwest of the dock, and the second is located in a curving bay at the north end of the lake with a narrow channel to the east. The lake is generally bordered by mature landscaping and lawns, and a fountain is located in the lake west of the George Washington memorial. In 1954, Highway 99 was constructed along the west side of the lake, which reduced the lake in size and reconfigured the western shoreline. Lake Washington appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP35. WPA Project

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
 Aerial view of Lake Washington  
 (courtesy of GoogleEarth)  
12/6/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1936, Fresno Past and Present (Spring 1984)

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (GL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/8/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Lake Washington

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/8/2008

Continuation  Update



Detail of the fountain in Lake Washington (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
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**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Frederick and Marianne Roeding Monument

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Frederick and Marianne Roeding Monument is located to the southeast of the Umbrella Grove and east of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office in the southeastern portion of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Installed in 1939, the monument is composed of a large granite boulder resting on a square concrete platform and centered on a large lawn. On the face of the rock is a square space with four screw holes which formerly contained a bronze plaque. The monument is dedicated to Frederick and Marianne Roeding the original donors of the land for the park and was commissioned by their sons Frederick and Henry to mark the thirty fifth anniversary of the park's creation. The monument appears to be in fair condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP26. Monument

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of monument  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1939  
Fresno Bee, May 23, 1939

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
04/27/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
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**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo Administration Office stands in the south, central portion of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built circa 1935, the Administration Office is a one-story, vernacular style building, capped by a gable roof clad with asphalt shingles. The building is generally rectangular in plan, clad with wood channel drop siding, and has a brick water-table. The primary façade faces west with a recessed porch near the center. The porch is accessed by a concrete path and steps, is covered by a gable roof supported by square wood posts, and features a wood X-braced railing. The primary entrance is a partially-glazed wood door covered by a metal-frame screen door. Typical fenestration consists of one-over-one, double-hung wood-sash windows. A single aluminum-sash picture window is located on the primary façade. The roofline features exposed rafter tails and triangular arch louvered wood attic vents in the gable ends. Later additions are located on the primary and east facades. The former is located on the north side of the primary façade, creating an ell. A secondary entry on the east addition leads to a concrete patio at the rear of the building. The construction date of the additions is unknown, however they are similar to the original portion of the building in materials and style and were likely added relatively soon after the original construction of the building. The Administration Office appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 Story Commercial Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Looking northeast  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
ca. 1935  
Visual estimate

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (MEG/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
.4/27/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

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Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Zoo Administration Office

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 04/27/2008

Continuation  Update



Zoo Administration Office, north façade, showing addition to primary facade at right.  
(Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



Zoo Administration office, rear (east) façade, showing secondary entry on eastern addition (at left).  
(Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Japanese-American World War II Memorial

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Japanese-American World War II Memorial is located in the east central portion of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The memorial stands at the eastern edge of the park near Golden State Boulevard, and was constructed in 1950 to commemorate the service of Japanese-Americans from the San Joaquin Valley during World War II. The memorial consists of a stepped granite monument on a marble base and was designed with Art Moderne influences. The central portion of the monument features a large rectangular inscription field with stepped geometric reliefs on either side, and is capped with a carved relief of an eagle. This central portion is flanked by stepped and sloping wing walls, and two urns rest at its base. An inscription on the central portion attests to the soldiers' service, while the two wing walls are inscribed with the names of fallen soldiers and are titled with the words "FOREVER HONORED" and "FOREVER MOURNED" respectively. The monument is surrounded by mature trees, and three concrete steps run southwest from the monument down to a small lawn enclosed by concrete edging. Here, a second set of three concrete steps leads to a large paved area with an angled concrete retaining wall. The monument appears to be in good condition and appears to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP26. Monument

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View from the southwest  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1950  
Fresno Bee

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (JGL/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/8/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Tennis Courts

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/8/2008

Continuation  Update



Detail of the memorial viewed from the southeast (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View from the southwest showing concrete steps and retaining wall (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Folk Dance Platforms

P1. Other Identifier: Dance Floors

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno, contains two folk dance platforms. One dance platform is located in the east portion of the park and another stands in the north, central portion of the park. Built in 1950, the roughly oval-shaped asphalt dance areas feature a simple raised, concrete block platform with a metal banister. The folk dance caller may have stood in on the raised platforms to direct the dances. Several metal streetlights are located around the edge of the dance area. The folk dance platforms appear to be in good condition and appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP39. Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Looking northwest  
11/4/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1950  
Fresno Bee (June 2, 1963).

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (MEG/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Lion House

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The Lion House is located in the center of the Zoo, and was originally constructed by the Works Progress Administration. The building is currently used for maintenance operations. Built in 1936 and subsequently altered, the Lion House is a one-and-a-half-story, wood-frame building designed in a utilitarian style. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in stucco, and capped by a flat roof. The primary façade faces south, and features no ornamentation. A vertical log fence encloses the building and an area of small animal cages. The secondary (west) façade features a row of windows covered with hinged metal sheathing as well as boarded-up square openings at the ground level and a metal drain pipe. Additional secondary facades were obscured from view and appear to feature no ornamentation. The Lion House appears to be in good condition, although it has been severely altered and no longer retains its original design and function. The Lion House does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Partial view of Lion House  
12/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1936  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (GH/CD)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Lion House

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/22/2008

Continuation  Update



Partial view of south façade (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



Detail of secondary (west) façade (City of Fresno, 12/2008).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Elephant House

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 \_\_\_\_\_ mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The Elephant House is located in the southeast quadrant of the Zoo, and was originally the home of Nosey the Elephant. The building currently contains the zoo's security and first aid station. Built in 1949 and subsequently altered, the Elephant House is a one-and-a-half-story, wood-frame building designed in a modern style. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in stucco and vertical wood siding, and capped by a flat, overhanging roof. The primary façade faces east, and features no ornamentation. A fully-glazed door with glazed sidelights and a glazed transom is located on the south end of the façade, and a row of square clerestory windows decorates the upper floor. The façade terminates in a wide overhang with exposed rafters (this feature has been altered). The north façade does not feature any windows, doors, or ornamentation. The west façade abuts the adjacent Giraffe Barn (1954), and the south façade is not visible from the street. The Elephant House was formerly part of a larger enclosure surrounded by a heavy pipe fence, which has since been removed.  
(continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Elephant House  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1949  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Elephant House

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

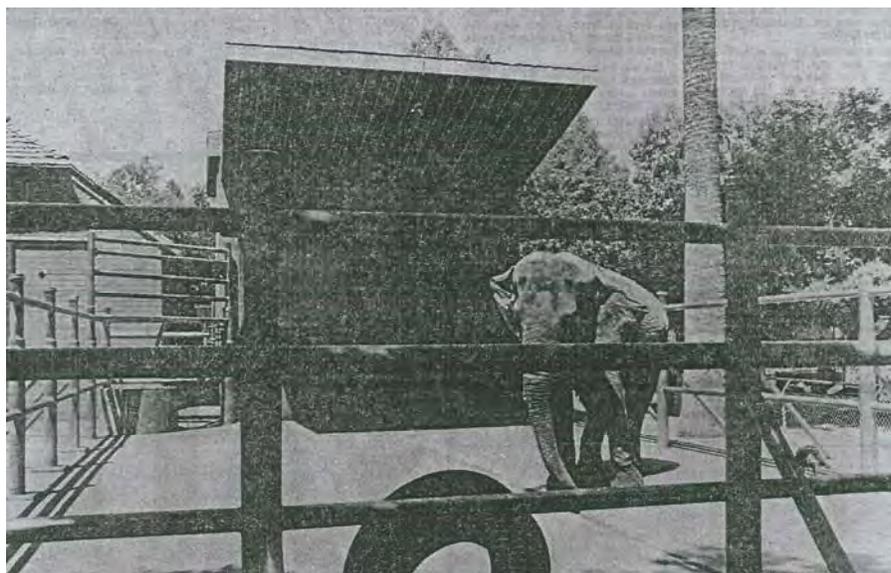
\*Date 12/22/2008

Continuation  Update

The Elephant House appears to be in good condition, although the facing was removed and replaced in 1970, portions of the overhang were replaced in 1971, and the overhang was reduced in size sometime after 1979. The Elephant House does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



View from pathway showing Elephant House in foreground, and two Giraffe Barns behind (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of Elephant House, 1979 (*Fresno Bee*, 27 June 1979, in Fresno Zoo Archives).

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Seal Pool

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

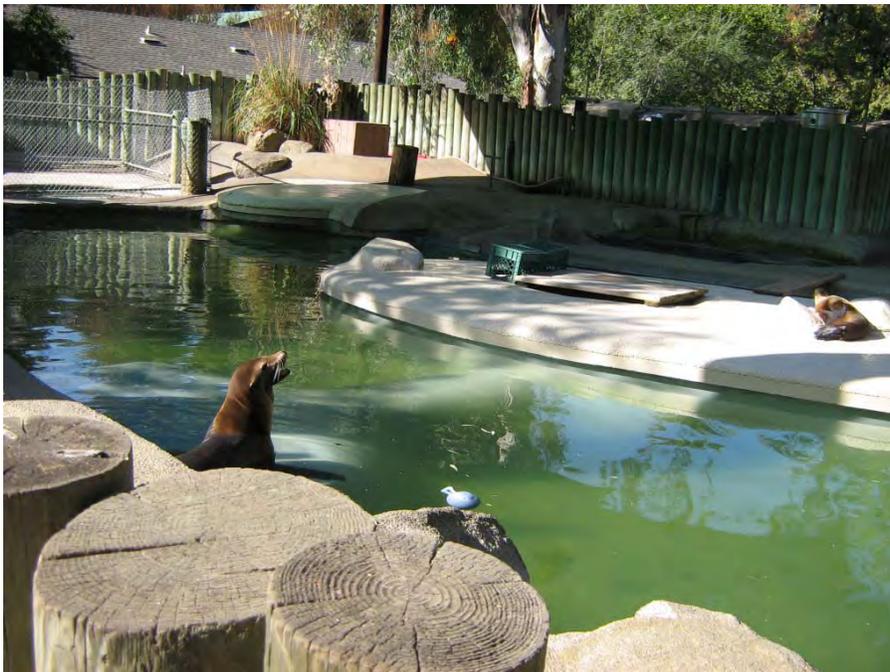
e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1952, the Seal Pool is located near the center of the Zoo, and is composed of a concrete exhibit and pool that house seals and sea lions. The exhibit is roughly oval in plan and features a large concrete pool surrounded by a concrete deck. A concrete island with sculpted concrete faux rocks is located in the center of the pool. A chain link fence encloses the area at the west end of the pool, and plantings are scattered around the concrete deck. A log fence surrounds the entire exhibit. The Seal Pool appears to be in good condition, but has been altered since its original construction. The Seal Pool does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Seal Pool  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1952  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Monkey Island

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1953, Monkey Island is located in the northeast corner of the Zoo, and is composed of a sunken island surrounded by a moat. The island was originally designed as a habitat for spider monkeys, and now houses lemurs and black swans. The enclosure is roughly oval in plan and surrounded by a concrete retaining wall. The moat is concrete, and is currently filled with water. The island features sculpted stucco rocks at the east end, and is landscaped with palm trees. Monkey Island is uncovered and unfenced, and visitors can view the animals from the zoo's paved pathways. Monkey Island appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Monkey Island  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1953  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Giraffe Barn

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

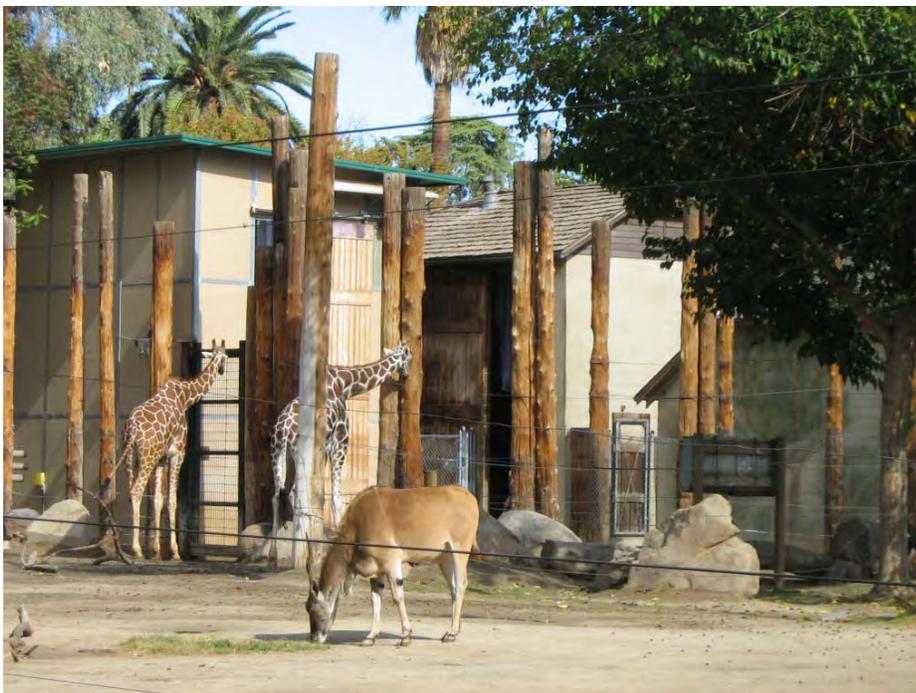
\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The Giraffe Barn is located in the southeast quadrant of the Zoo, and is part of the large, open giraffe enclosure. Built in 1954, the Giraffe Barn is a two-story, concrete building that lacks any discernible architectural style. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in painted concrete blocks, and capped by a clipped gable roof covered in wood shingles. The gable ends are clad in flush wood siding and feature louvered vents. A full-height wooden barn door large enough for the giraffes to enter is located on the west façade. No windows or pedestrian doors were visible from the street. The Giraffe Barn appears to be in good condition and does not contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

A second, modern barn is located adjacent to the historic Giraffe Barn to the west. Built sometime in the late-twentieth century, the second giraffe barn is also a two-story building that lacks any discernible architectural style. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in wood panels with exposed steel trim, and capped by a flat roof with overhanging eaves. (continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Giraffe Barn and enclosure  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1954  
dan Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Giraffe Barn

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update

The primary façade faces south onto the backside of the giraffe enclosure and features a full-height wooden barn door large enough for the giraffes to enter. All façades are simple, and feature no ornamentation. On the east façade, a metal staircase leads to a flush metal door on the second floor. No windows were visible from the street. This building also appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



View of northeast corner of Giraffe Barn, with second giraffe barn visible at right (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Giraffe Barn

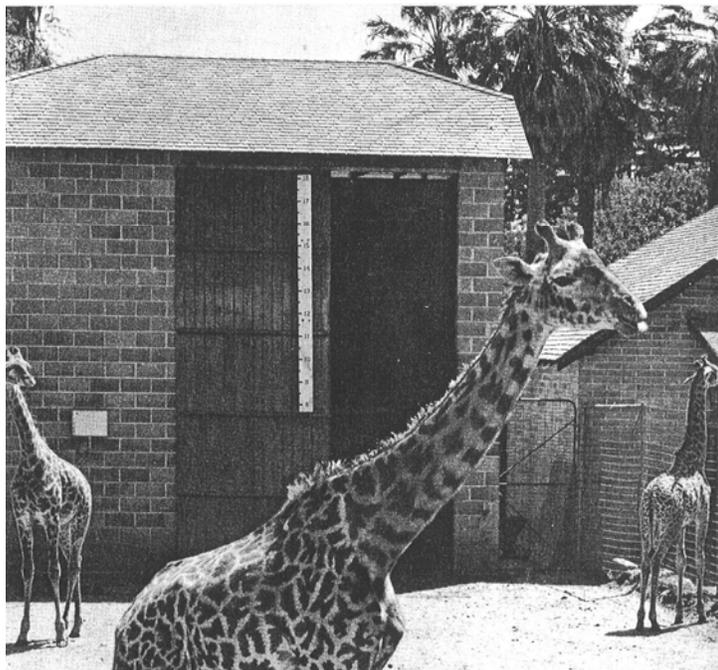
\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



View from pathway showing Elephant House in foreground, and two Giraffe Barns behind (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



Giraffe Barn, west façade, circa 1962 (Fresno Zoological Society, *Roeding Park Zoo Official Guide*, 1962, in Madden Library).

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Bear Grottoes

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1955 and remodeled in 1962, the Bear Grottoes are located near the center of the Zoo, and are composed of a sunken exhibit surrounded by a moat with chain link cages at the rear. The grottoes were originally designed to hold polar bears and grizzly bears. The exhibit is semicircular in plan and features irregular sculpted walls covered in gunnite with four recessed caves. A landscaped platform extends from the caves and is surrounded by a concrete moat approximately ten feet deep. The moat is not currently filled with water. A low rock wall and a wooden fence surround the entire exhibit. The Bear Grottoes appear to be in good condition, but do not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Bear Grottoes  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1955  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Bear Grottoes

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



Additional view of Bear Grottoes (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)



Detail of moat at Bear Grottoes (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Bear Grottoes

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



Cages behind Bear Grottoes (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

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**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 5 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Rotary Playland

P1. Other Identifier: Playland

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Rotary Playland (Playland) is a 3.65 acre site located within Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Established in 1955, Playland is operated by the Rotary Club as a non-profit amusement park with historic and contemporary rides and amenities. Playland is located just south of Lake Washington in the southwest corner of Roeding Park, and features rides, sculptures, and buildings. Playland is fenced off from the rest of Roeding Park with decorative iron fencing approximately 6' tall. Paths are asphalt or concrete, and lawns are found throughout. Wood picket fences or simple metal fences surround each attraction, and low tiled concrete walls or split rail fences contain the plantings. Other site features include wood and metal benches, pierced metal picnic tables and trash cans, and drinking fountains. A small train operates around Lake Washington at the west end of the site, and crosses through Playland at the Maintenance Building near the south end of the site. Playland also operates pedal boats from a T-shaped wooden dock on Lake Washington. (continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Playland  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1955-present  
Building permits.

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/18/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 5

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Playland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update

Some of the rides at Playland date from the site's original 1955 construction, while others have been modified or are more recent additions. The larger rides are freestanding, but some of the smaller rides are covered with pavilions. Rides and attractions at Playland include: Carousel (circa 1955, modified at an unknown date); Midge-o-Racers (circa 1955); Helicopters (circa 1955); Big Rocko (circa 1955); Little Rocko (circa 1955); Teacups (circa 1969, currently closed); Ladybugs (unknown date); Train (recent replacement); Roller Coaster (recent replacement), Pedal Boats (recent replacement); Octopus Ride (circa 2002); Tilt-A-Whirl (2008); and Splash Park (2008).

Colorful freestanding pavilions are scattered throughout Playland and used as picnic or shade shelters; each features four metal columns and a pyramidal roof and was constructed circa 1990. Other buildings at Playland are utilitarian in nature, and lack architectural distinction. Constructed circa 1990, the main entrance is located at the east end of Playland and features six typical metal pavilions. Other buildings at Playland include the Ticket Booth/Concession Stand (circa 1990); Restrooms (unknown date); Activity Stage (unknown date); Train Station (recent replacement); and the Train Tunnel/Maintenance & Office Building (circa 1961). Plaster sculptures are found in the center of Playland, and include Toy Soldiers, Mushrooms, and a drinking fountain resembling a circus lion. Some of these sculptures appear to date to ca. 1955.

Playland as a whole appears to be in good condition, with some individual features in fair condition. Playland does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



View of Playland, showing Big Rocko and Carousel (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 5

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Playground

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of Carousel (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of MidgeoRacers with pavilion and fence (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Playland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of typical freestanding metal pavilion (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)



View of Lion Drinking Fountain at center of Playland (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Playland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of railroad tracks and Train Tunnel/Maintenance & Office Blding (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
 NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Palm Point Picnic Shelter

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
 and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)  
 \*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981  
 \*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728  
 d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)  
 e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)  
 The Palm Point Picnic Shelter is located within Palm Point Grove in the southeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The shelter sits on a concrete slab, surrounded by mature palm and evergreen trees, and is bordered closely on the north and south by paved vehicular roads and on the northwest by a concrete walkway. The shelter is rectangular in plan and situated on a northwest-southeast axis. The structure consists of eight square, battered piers made of mortared, randomly coursed field stone, supporting a gable roof. The roof structure is made of wood and consists of horizontal beams supporting a series of Belgian trusses, narrow sheathing boards, wide fascia boards, and corrugated metal cladding. The gable ends of the roof are kicked out (ie: the ridge beam projects beyond the vertical plane of the gable end.) Due to this characteristic, and the way the horizontal beams and trusses are constructed of multiple pieces of dimensional lumber that have been lapped and bolted together (instead of being single pieces of timber), it is believed this structure dates to circa 1960. Within the shelter are multiple picnic benches made of poured concrete. To the immediate northeast is an outdoor kitchen/barbeque area consisting of modern metal grills and counters and fire pits made of mortared field stone. The Palm Point Picnic Shelter appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District due to its age.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP29. Landscape Architecture

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Palm Point Picnic Shelter looking northeast.  
4/19/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1960  
Visual estimate

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/20/09

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Pine Grove Picnic Shelter

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Pine Grove Picnic Shelter is located within the Pine Grove in the northeastern corner of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The shelter sits on a concrete slab, surrounded by mature pine trees, and is approached from the south and north by a concrete walkway that runs parallel to the west side of the shelter. The shelter is rectangular in plan and situated on a north-south axis. The structure consists of eight square, battered piers, made of mortared, randomly coursed field stone, supporting a gable roof. The roof structure is made of wood and consists of horizontal beams supporting a series of Belgian trusses, narrow sheathing boards, wide fascia boards, and corrugated metal cladding. The gable ends of the roof are kicked out (ie: the ridge beam projects beyond the vertical plane of the gable end.) Due to this characteristic, and the way the horizontal beams and trusses are constructed of multiple pieces of dimensional lumber that have been lapped and bolted together (instead of being single pieces of timber), it is believed this structure dates to circa 1960. Within the shelter are multiple picnic benches made of poured concrete. The Pine Grove Picnic Shelter appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District due to its age.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP29. Landscape Architecture

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Pine Grove Picnic Shelter  
looking northeast.  
4/19/2009

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Ca. 1960  
Visual estimate

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (CPH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
4/20/09

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Pine Grove Shelter

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 4/20/09

Continuation  Update



Pine Grove picnic shelter, detail of battered stone pier (Page & Turnbull, 4/2009).



Pine Grove picnic shelter, detail of roof trusses and gable end (Page & Turnbull, 4/2009).

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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Walk-Through Aviary

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. The Walk-Through Aviary (now known as the "African Aviary") is located in the northeast quadrant of the Zoo, and was designed to house a variety of bird species. Built in 1960, the Walk-Through Aviary is a two-story, mesh and frame enclosure that lacks any discernible architectural style. The structure is roughly rectangular in plan, and zoo visitors are allowed to walk through the aviary to view the birds. The enclosure features trees and a dirt path with simple chain and post railings throughout the interior. On the west facade, a mesh and wood exterior door opens into a small vestibule with another identical interior door, designed to prevent the birds from escaping. The Walk-Through Aviary appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Walk-Through Aviary  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1960  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Ape Grottoes

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1961, the Ape Grottoes are located in the northeast corner of the Zoo, and are composed of a series of three enclosures with a small service building at the rear; the grottoes were originally designed to hold chimpanzees, orangutans, and gorillas, and now hold capybaras, anteaters, and various other animals. Each enclosure is roughly rectangular in plan and features irregular, cave-like sculpted stucco walls covered in gunnite. The enclosures are uncovered and unfenced, and visitors can view the animals from the zoo's paved pathways. Located to the rear of the grottoes are several chain link cages and a small building used for maintenance of the exhibit and care of the animals. The unornamented, concrete block building is rectangular in plan and capped by a flat roof covered with built-up roofing materials. Typical fenestration includes multi-light steel sash windows with screens and metal bars. A pedestrian entrance is located at the rear of the service building, and features a flush metal door. The Ape Grottoes appear to be in good condition, but do not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



\*P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Ape Grottoes  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1961  
Fresno Magazine (Sept. 29, 1976)

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

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 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Ape Grottoes

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation

Update



Additional view of Ape Grottoes, primary façade (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of Ape Grottoes, rear façade (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
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NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Horseshoe Arena

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Roeding Park Horseshoe Arena is located northwest of Palm Point at the eastern edge of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Constructed sometime before 1961, the Horseshoe Arena is a large rectangular enclosure which features a central lawn flanked by a series of eight concrete horseshoe pits on the north and south ends. Both rows of pits are surrounded by a concrete platform, and each pit contains a rectangular dirt area with a steel stake and a low wooden backstop. The Horseshoe Arena is surrounded by a low chain-link fence, with a chain-link gate centered on the west wall of the enclosure. Two light posts with concrete bases are located in the middle of the central lawn. The Horseshoe Arena appears to be in fair condition and does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP39. Other

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Horseshoe Arena  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
Before 1961  
Interview with Pete Rocco

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/29/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Horseshoe Arena

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/29/2008

Continuation  Update



Distant view of Horseshoe Arena (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)



Detail of horseshoe pit and backstop (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
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Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 1 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Roeding Park Pump Houses

P1. Other Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)  
\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981  
\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728  
d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)  
e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)  
Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno, contains two pump houses to monitor the water system within the park. Built in 1961, the concrete block, front-gable, one-story buildings are faced with brick and capped by wood shingle clad roofs with exposed rafter ends. One of the park's pump houses, pictured below, stands at the southeast corner of the park and services the ponds. The building is accessed via a metal-clad door that faces southeast towards Belmont Avenue. A small area fenced by a chain link fence directly behind the pump house contains pipes and mechanics related to the park's water maintenance. Low concrete edging on the east and west sides of the building denotes the location of flowerbeds. The other pump house is located in the northern section of the park. The pump houses appear to be in good condition, but do not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP9. Public Utility Building

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
Looking northwest  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1961  
Building Permit

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (MEG/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/22/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

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**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
 HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
 NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
 Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 5 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Rotary Storyland

P1. Other Identifier: Storyland

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

Rotary Storyland (Storyland) is a 3.35 acre site located within Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Established in 1962, Storyland is operated by the Rotary Club and is a non-profit children's attraction that promotes literacy through a variety of children's storybook exhibits. Storyland is located just north of Lake Washington at the western boundary of Roeding Park, and features exhibits, sculptures, and buildings accessed along winding, wooded paths. A stream runs through the site, and a small train operates around Lake Washington at the south end of the site. Storyland is fenced off from the rest of Roeding Park with decorative iron fencing approximately 8' tall. Paths are asphalt, concrete, brick, or stone, and feature mosaics as part of the exhibits. Several low wooden bridges span the stream, and feature sculpted railings with gingerbread men, lollipops, and other novelty patterns. Low rock walls and split rail fences contain the plantings and divide the exhibits. Other site features include metal benches, lamp posts, and picnic tables, all decorated with novelty details. (continued)

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Storyland entrance  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1962-1980  
Building permits.

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/18/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
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Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Storyland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update

The buildings at Storyland are designed in vernacular or mimetic styles similar to those typically found at amusement parks or roadside attractions. The wood-frame Storyland buildings are clad in stucco or wood, and incorporate whimsical details, playground features, and children's activities into their architecture. The exhibits were designed by a local Fresno artist, Patricia Hopper, who was influential in advocating for the construction of Storyland in Roeding Park. The main entrance is located at the east end of Storyland and was redesigned circa 1980. The one-story, wood-frame entrance building houses a ticket booth and turnstile, and resembles a village or castle. All other buildings were constructed in 1962, and include: Pinocchio's Theatre; Old Lady's Shoe; Red's House; Gulliver's Ship; King Arthur's Castle; Three Bears; Children's Chapel; Ginger Bread Man; Train Station; Gypsy Wagon/Concession Stand; and Restrooms.

Plaster and wood sculptures depicting characters from children's literature are found throughout Storyland, and were also constructed in 1962. Most are accompanied by a handpainted wooden signs that tell the story of the character. Storyland sculptures include: Caterpillar; 3 Little Pigs; Alice's Maze; Alice's Court; White Rabbit; Jack & Jill; Crooked Mile; Winnie the Pooh; Simple Simon; McGregor's Garden; Mother Goose; Frog Prince; Little Boy Blue; and Little Miss Muffet.

Overall, Storyland appears to be in good condition with some individual features in fair condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.



View of King Arthur's Castle (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 5

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Storyland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of Old Lady's Shoe (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of Restrooms (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 4 of 5

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Storyland

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of Three Little Pigs sculpture (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of Little Miss Muffet sculpture and signage (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 5 of 5

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Rotary Storyland

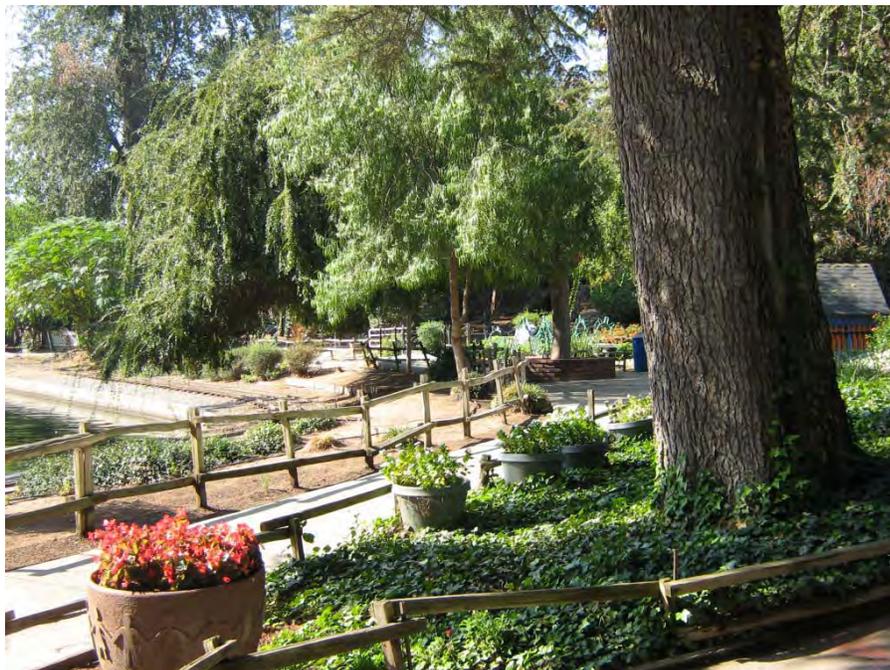
\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/18/2008

Continuation  Update



View of Gingerbread Man Bdge (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of typical paths and fences in Storyland (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Hippo Exhibit

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno

and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1958 and remodeled in 1964, the former Hippo Exhibit is located in the southwest corner of the Zoo; it was originally designed to house a hippopotamus, but is currently vacant. The exhibit consists of a grassy lawn and vertical log fence, behind which a service area containing a roughly round shaped concrete wading pool is located. The pool is surrounded by a concrete block wall, and features shallow concrete steps and bamboo trees surround the uncovered enclosure. The Hippo Exhibit has been severely altered from its original appearance and is in poor condition. The Hippo Exhibit and does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of former Hippo Exhibit  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1958  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Hippo Exhibit

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



Partial view of oval pool in Hippo Exhibit (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



View of service area behind Hippo Exhibit (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Rhino Exhibit

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1963, the Rhino Exhibit is located near the southwestern corner of the Zoo, and contains a small building and enclosure that lack architectural distinction. The exhibit was originally designed to hold a rhinoceros, and now holds tapirs. The dirt enclosure is roughly rectangular in plan and features irregular sculpted stucco walls and a central pond. A service entrance with a bamboo gate is located at the south end of the enclosure, and a low concrete wall separates the area from the path. A small building is located in the northwest corner of the exhibit, and is used for maintenance of the space and care of the animals. The building is irregular in plan, clad in stucco to match the walls of the enclosure, and capped by flat roof. A large overhang extends from the building, and appears to be supported by metal posts. A bronze plaque with a concrete base is located at the east edge of the exhibit; the plaque includes information about the exhibit donor and dates from the exhibit's original construction. The plaque is obscured by a modern wood interpretive sign. The Rhino Exhibit appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Rhino Exhibit  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1963  
Jean Chaffee Files

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Rhino Exhibit

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



View of service entrance at south end of Rhino Exhibit (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008).



Detail of bronze plaque (Page & Turnbull, 11/2008)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

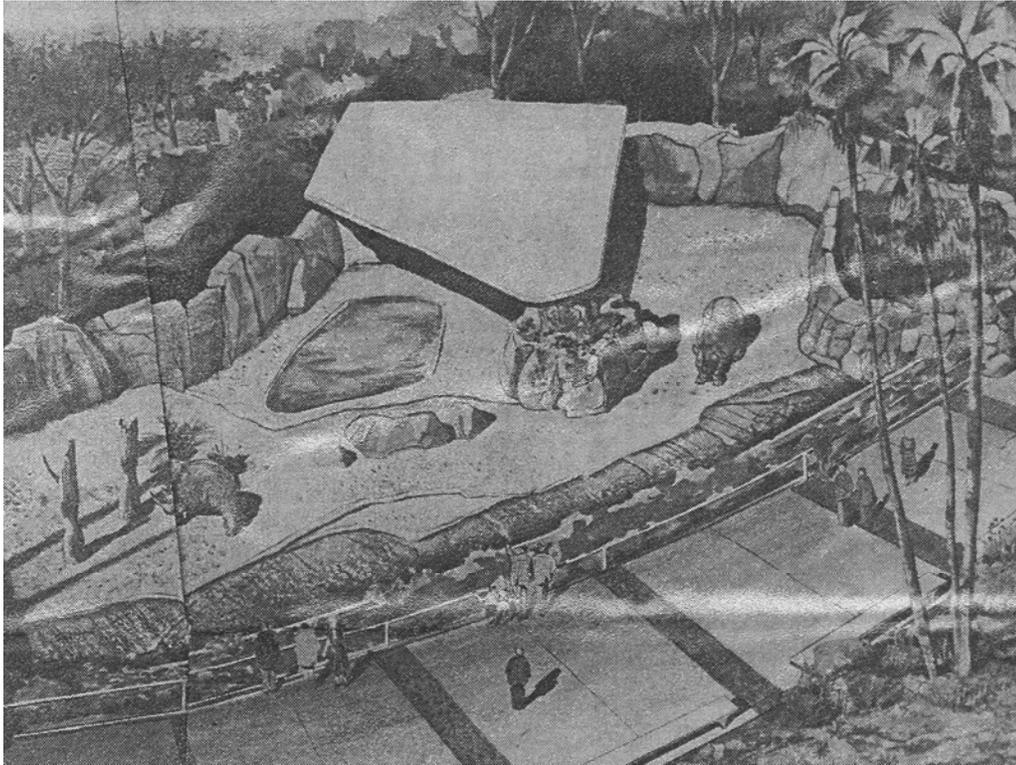
Page 3 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Rhino Exhibit

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



Sketch of Rhino Exhibit, circa 1962 (Fresno Zoo Archives)

State of California — The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 2 \*Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Fennec Fox Cage

P1. Other Identifier: Roeding Park Zoo

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date: 1981

\*c. Address: Roeding Park, 890 Belmont Ave. City: Fresno Zip: 93728

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ \_\_\_\_\_ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): 45002008T

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries.)

The Fresno Chaffee Zoo (historically known as the Roeding Park Zoo) is an 18-acre site situated in the center of Roeding Park, a 148-acre public park owned by the City of Fresno. Built in 1964, the Fennec Fox Cage is located near the northern edge of the Zoo, and is a small wooden shed that lacks architectural distinction. The cage was designed to hold Fennec foxes, which are small, nocturnal desert foxes. The building is rectangular in plan, clad in vertical log siding, and capped by a corrugated metal shed roof. The primary façade faces south onto the path and is open, with a wire screen to allow visitors to view the foxes. The east and west walls are of solid construction with vertical logs. The rear half of the cage is open, with only exposed rafters and no covered roof. A wood fence separates the Fennec Fox Cage from the path, and the area is planted with yucca and other succulents. The Fennec Fox Cage appears to be in good condition, but does not appear to contribute to the potential Roeding Park Historic District.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP25. Amusement Park

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



P5b. Photo: (view and date)  
View of Fennec Fox Cage  
11/2008

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:  Historic  
1964  
Jean Chaffee files.

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno  
2600 Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93721

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Page & Turnbull, Inc. (RF/GH)  
724 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA 94108

\*P9. Date Recorded:  
12/19/2008

\*P10. Survey Type:  
Reconnaissance

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none") Roeding Park Historic Resource Assessment

\*Attachments:  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (list)

State of California & The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary# \_\_\_\_\_

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Fresno Chaffee Zoo: Fennec Fox Cage

\*Recorded by: Page & Turnbull

\*Date 12/19/2008

Continuation  Update



Fennec Fox (Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FennecFox>, accessed 12/2008)

Page 1 of 1

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) APN: 510-23-303 and 304

\*Recorded by AECOM

\*Date March 12, 2011  Continuation  Update

NRHP Status: 1S

P1. Other Identifier: Forestiere Underground Gardens

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Fresno

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Herndon Date 1964 Photoinspected 1978 T13S; R 19E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 15; \_\_\_\_\_ B.M.



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)  
Camera facing south, March 12, 2011

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: March 12, 2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe): Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: AECOM, "California High Speed Train Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section," 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  
 Other (list) NRHP Nomination, 1977

\*B10. Significance: The Forestiere Underground Gardens was listed in the NRHP in 1977 (NPS #77000293) and was designated a California State Landmark (No. 916) in 1978.

As part of the Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project, an AECOM architectural historian surveyed the Forestiere Underground Gardens from the public-right-of-way and determined the property retains the same integrity as when it was listed in the NRHP. This property is a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA. Both the NRHP nomination and the California Historical Landmark documentation have incomplete data with regards to the parcel numbers for the eligible resource. In the NRHP nomination, one incomplete parcel number is shown on a map. The parcel shown is larger than the parcels as currently recorded by the County, indicating that the parcel may have been subdivided since that form was prepared in the 1970s. The State Historical Landmark nomination indicates that the Forestiere Gardens were assigned the parcel numbers 187-003 and 187-004 by the Fresno Assessor's office. These also appear to be incomplete parcel numbers, but do indicate that both parcels were considered part of the historic resource being nominated as a California Historical Landmark. Based on the analysis of previous documentation, and on indications during the site visit that the underground features may extend across both of the parcels currently owned by Forestiere Gardens, for the purpose of this update the boundaries of the resource are the outermost boundary of both parcels 510-23-303 and 30.

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher

\*Date of Evaluation: June 2011

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Forestiere Underground Gardens  
AND/OR COMMON  
Forestiere Gardens

**2 LOCATION**

(N.E. 1/4 of N.E. 1/4 of N.E. 1/4 in section 15,  
Township 13 Range 19 E. Mount Duablo Base and  
Meridian)  
-STREET & NUMBER  
5021 West Shaw Avenue, Fresno, California 93711  
CITY, TOWN  
Fresno  
STATE  
California  
VICINITY OF Fresno  
17th  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
COUNTY  
Fresno  
CODE  
019

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Memoria

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Rosario Forestiere Joseph Forestiere  
STREET & NUMBER  
629 West Robinwood Lane  
CITY, TOWN  
Fresno  
VICINITY OF  
STATE  
California

**COPY**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Fresno County Recorders Office, Hall of Records  
STREET & NUMBER  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 302  
CITY, TOWN  
Fresno  
STATE  
California

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Heritage Fresno (Historic Homes - American Assn. of University Women - Fresno  
DATE  
1975  
Branch)  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Published by Pioneer Publishing Co.,  
CITY, TOWN  
Fresno  
STATE  
California

FORESTIERE UNDERGROUND GARDE

Comment on Integrity:

Integrity is very high. The only loss of integrity is due to natural erosion  
in some portions, but is not significant enough to detract from the quality  
of the property.

National Register Criteria of Evaluation: (Opinion)

Events ----- property does not appear to be associated with historic events

Persons ----- strong, Baldasare Forestiere has been recognized nationally in numerous  
articles and publications dealing with folk art and cultural expression

Type or Period strong, a unique complex which unites old and new world construction  
techniques to create a total environmental system which has been  
acclaimed by various experts as "folk art" or "terra-sculpture"

Information -- moderate to strong, has generated considerable interest for study  
Yield by architects and environmental designers.

General Comments:

The Forestieri Underground Gardens are a unique phenomenon in California, and quite  
probably in the United States. The complex evolved over a 40 year period, beginning  
in 1906. The result is a total environmental system carved out of hardpan beneath  
the surface of the hot, arid San Joaquin Valley near Fresno. Using Old World con-  
struction techniques, this Sicilian immigrant created underground rooms, passages,  
ponds, and gardens which ramble throughout an eight acre parcel. The property has  
received national attention through a number of articles written by professionals  
in the fields of environmental design and folk art and culture. The property has  
been visited on-site by members of the staff. Although operated commercially, for  
public tours, no elements have been introduced which are out of character with the  
property; all promotional efforts and signing have been done tastefully and in  
keeping with the quality of the property. Because of the high integrity of the

property, its uniqueness, and its significance in the areas of environmental design  
and folk art, the Underground Gardens are recommended for nomination to the National  
Register at the national level of significance.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Description

continued

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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PAGE

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in his spare time as a vineyardist and horticulturist found sufficient time to devote to such a remarkable and extra-ordinary undertaking.

"Beneath the well cultivated acres of his ranch...working alone in his spare time...Forestiére excavated fifty rooms connected with passageways ...rooms are skylighted...clusters of big yellow lemons and grapefruit and orange blossoms...vines spread upward and outward forming a green roof from which clusters of grapes hang...A great tunnel has been excavated for automobile traffic...a glass bottom fishbowl room...a small lake is already in existence and will be enlarged to cover a great extent of the establishment...leading into the center of the lake will be a tunnel from the underground workings which will allow visitors to ascend from the depths and enjoy boating and other aquatic sports...near one of the deeper caverns there is a gasoline engine that operates the pump...there are ten acres with several stories down...A sight worth seeing...it will in years to come be one of the show places of the west..." (Fresno Bee, 1923-24).

Baldasare Forestiére continued with his creations for yet another 23-24 years, after the above descriptions were written. He died in 1946 at the age of 67. His desire to be laid to rest at the Gardens was never fulfilled. He was buried instead at Holy Cross Cemetery, some five miles south of the Gardens.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1946	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Unique Conceptual Process
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Page 1 of 2

SPECIFIC DATES 1906-1946

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Baldasare Forestiere

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Forestiere Underground Gardens in Central San Joaquin Valley, in California is widely recognized for its originality and uniqueness. Visitors from across the country and overseas declare that there is nothing quite like it. Architects have attempted to identify it as "Terra-ecture". (Science Digest - 11/1975). Yet artists have described it as "Terra-sculpture" a form of walk-in and walk-around sculpture. There is a blending of these two conceptual thought processes for which newly coined words do not adequately portray their significance. The Underground Gardens are merged and blended into a unique variety of combinations.

Settling on the semi-desert land, baked and scorched by the summer sun, Baldasare Forestiere began in the early 1900's to carve and sculpt a thoroughly unique underground retreat to escape the excessive heat. After nearly forty years with hand tools and persistent effort, he succeeded in creating a cool subterranean complex, a piece of the old mediterranean world fashioned after the "visions stored in my mind". (Fresno Bee 5/23/24).

To avoid monotony and a barren appearance, these sculptings and creations are complimented with novel landscapes and unique horticultural experiments..."everywhere there are arches and domed ceilings and windows with lovely views and pleasing vistas" (Heritage Fresno). They reveal explorations with the control of growth through the controlling of sunlight and root systems. Trees with a variety of citrus on a single tree attest to his experiments with grafting, budding and propagating techniques. Some trees over sixty some-odd years still exist. One tree, some twenty-two feet below ground surface has eight grafts of citrus, of which seven still flourish and bear fruit today.

By coming to an understanding with his environment, he was able to modify it. The extremes in temperature (from the low 20's to 115 plus degrees) was almost more than one accustomed to a mediterranean frost-free climate could endure. A severe and semi-desert environment was moderated and made more temperate. By creating varying micro-climates throughout his underground home and gardens, a dramatic transformation soon resulted. "the fruit hangs almost twice as long...frost never touches this region...the temperature seldom changes over ten degrees the year round". (The Fresno Bee 3/23/23).

Acting as his own designer and engineer, Baldasare Forestiere used his knowledge and ability with amazing skill and craftsmanship. He designed just right for light and ventilation, strength and durability. To support the great mass of earth and to

continued

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Statement of significance, continued

CONTINUATION SHEET

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give permanence to his earthen sculptings, he used the ancient Roman arch, column and dome. Hardpan, mortar and cement were used not only for structural purposes, but for textural variety and beautification. Being his own architect, he did not require a blueprint. He chose instead to follow his own creative instincts and aesthetic impulses. "No plans were made. Every detail in the development of the underground gardens has originated in the brain of Forestiere and has never been set on paper. Gradually he has evolved a comprehensive scheme that will connect up into one of the most involved and yet delightful labyrinths of modern ages" (Fresno Bee, 3/23/23).

The Underground Gardens stand as a testament to the spirit of individualism and the uniqueness of man. They are physical extensions and representations of unique mental concepts. Novel explorations in the control of space and form, the controlling of light and air. The control of and creating of various climates in days before electricity and air-conditioning were available to him. By explorations in the harmony and contrast of textures and materials, creative expressions evoke ever-changing moods and feelings with the varied changes in the physical surroundings..."Variety and originality of design are the predominating impressions left in the mind of the sight-seer. In no two of the reception rooms is an idea repeated. In no place does the working out of the idea of the builder reach the monotonous. A fertile mind filled with ideas is expressed in every turn of the twisting tunnels". (Fresno Bee 3/23/23). One is constantly made aware of the multi-faceted personality of its creator. An imprint of a totally sincere and unpretentious life without tinsel and artificiality.

In the days before power tools and earth moving machinery, such determination and perserverance is a tribute to an indominable spirit. It is all the more amazing that "with simple hand tools as a pick, a shovel and a wheelbarrow and an incredible amount of hard work, Baldasare Forestiere...created a lush mediterranean setting around his home". (Treasures of America). Forestiere's life and work is a memorial to one who came to terms with a hostile environment and created a life of compatibility and harmony with nature and mother earth.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Major Bibliographical References continued

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE page 2

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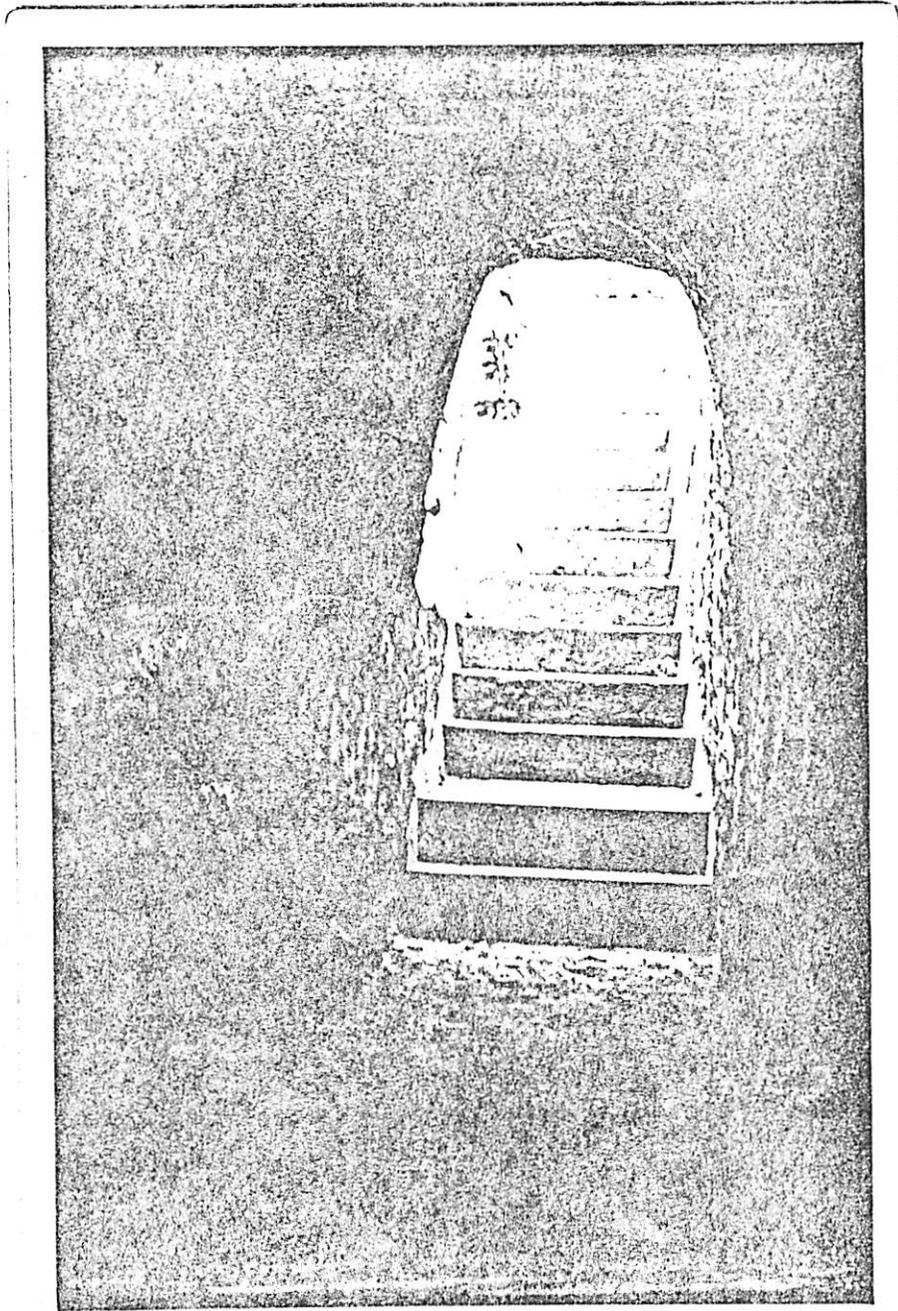
Resource Persons:

Wampler, Jan, Master of Architecture degree, Harvard Graduate School of Design.,  
Associate Professor Architect and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technol-  
ogy, Boston, Massachusetts, and a practicing architect.

Cranz, Galen, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of Sociology in Architecture, College  
of Environmental Design, Department of Architecture, University of California,  
Berkeley, California.



8. UNDERGROUND PASSAGEWAYS IN FORESTIERE'S CAVES.  
In the farthest background is the small room contain-  
ing the Italian's well. The arches in the foreground lead  
to the "Big Triangle". (Photograph by W.M. Strother)



23. STAIRWAY LEADING FROM FORESTIERE'S CAVERNS  
This stairway is cut in the earth and covered with cement.  
It leads from near the "Little Triangle" to the ground  
surface at what is to be the edge of a lake.  
(Photograph by W.M. Strother)



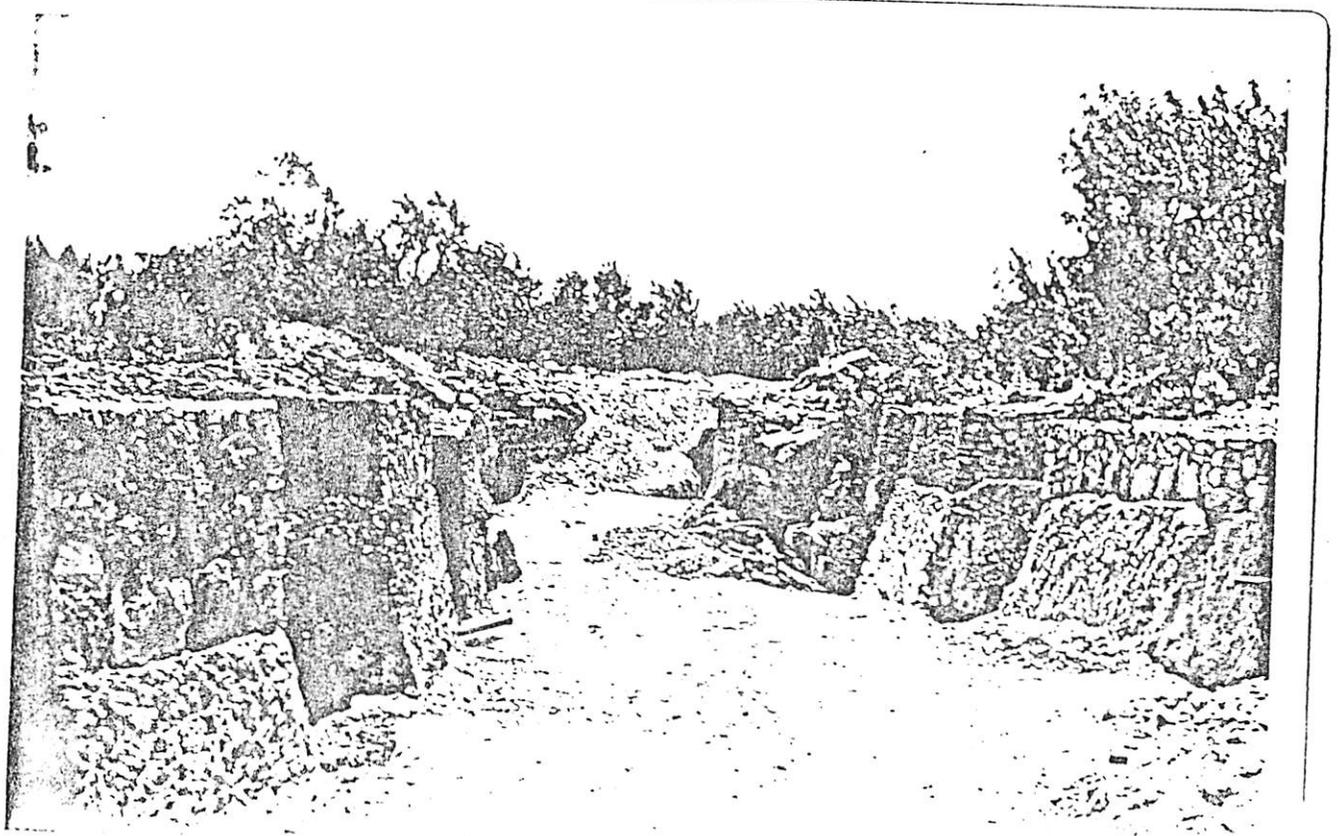
6. WASHINGTON NAVEL ORANGE TREE GROWING UNDERGROUND.  
This is the tree seen just inside the entrance in illustrations 4 and 5. Oranges can be seen in the middle of the foliage and on the lower left. (Photograph by W.M. Strother)



15. IN FORESTIERE'S KITCHIN.

This room is ten feet in diameter and is cemented over. The Japanese cook, G. Matsuda, burns peach pits instead of wood in the cook stove. The pits are secured from peaches grown on the place when they are cut for drying. The kitchen, dining-room, and in fact all of the completed rooms, are kept in perfect order. (Photograph by W.M. Strother)

*Mr. Matsuda was a friend of  
Baldassarre's, he would sometimes cook  
when he came to visit.*



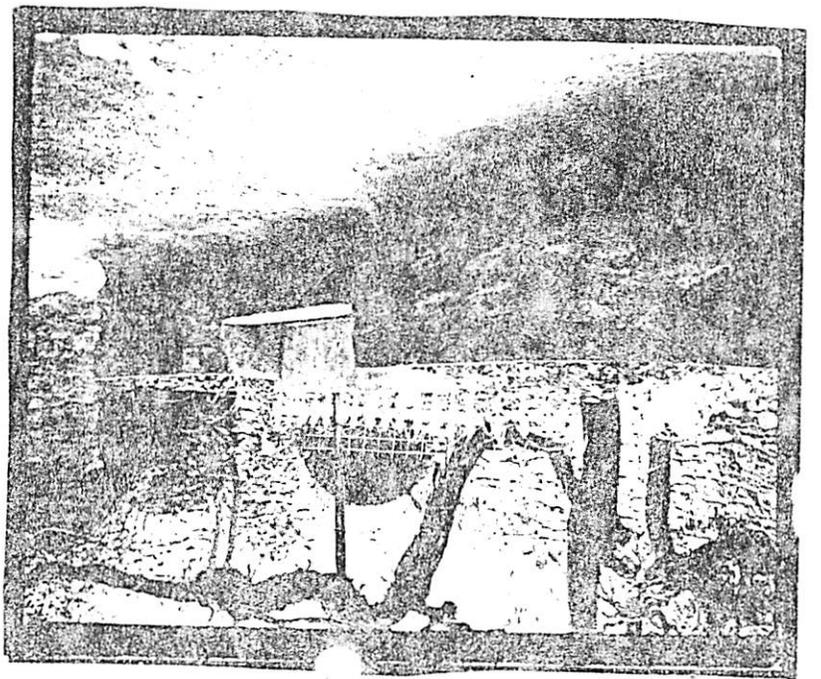
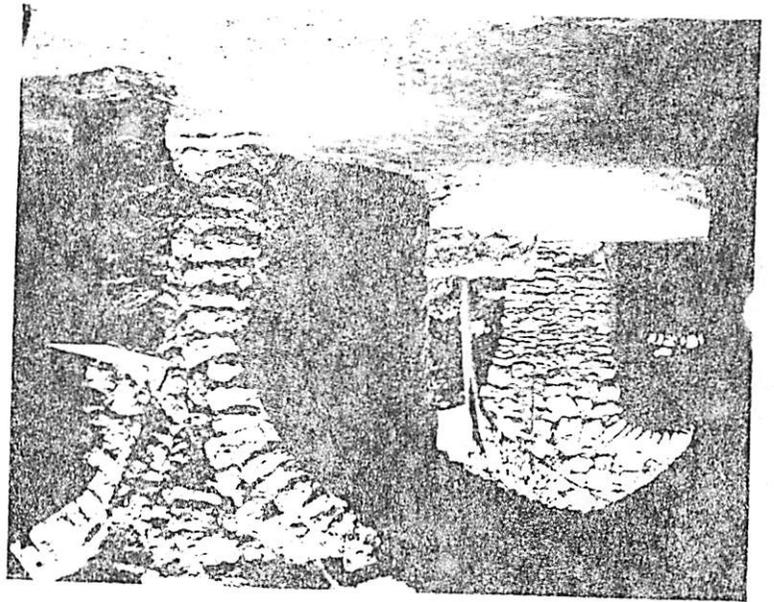
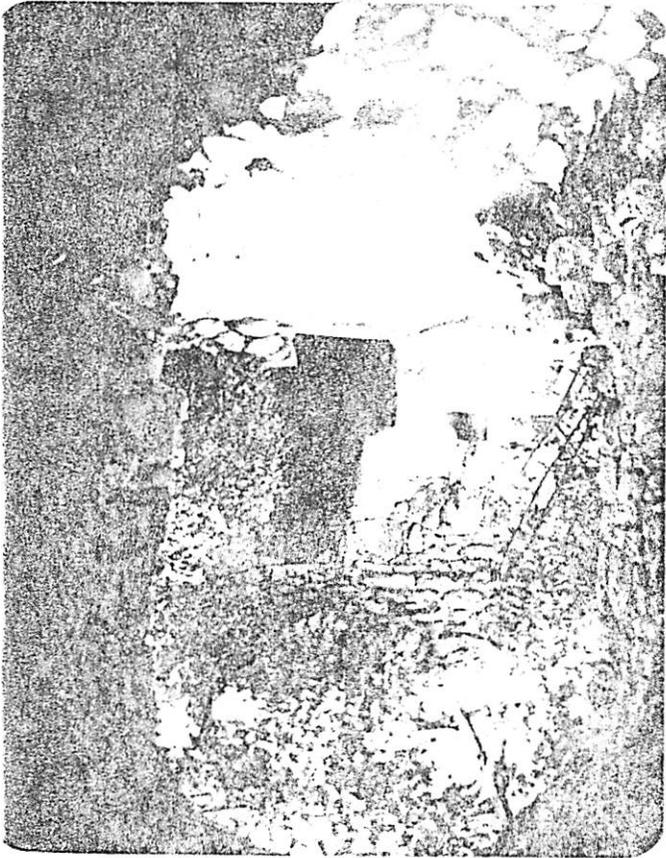
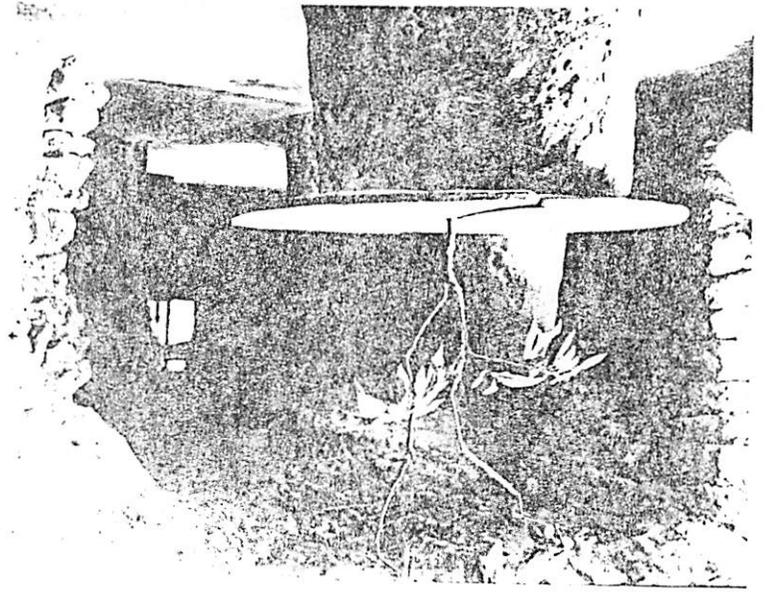
19. VIEW OF AUTOMOBILE INCLINE UNDER CONSTRUCTION  
The masonry is of lumps of hardpan. Orange trees are growing in niches in the walls on the sides of the driveway. The incline is to be paved and drained to carry rain water to the trees. At the far end the incline leads underground. (Photograph by W.M. Strother)

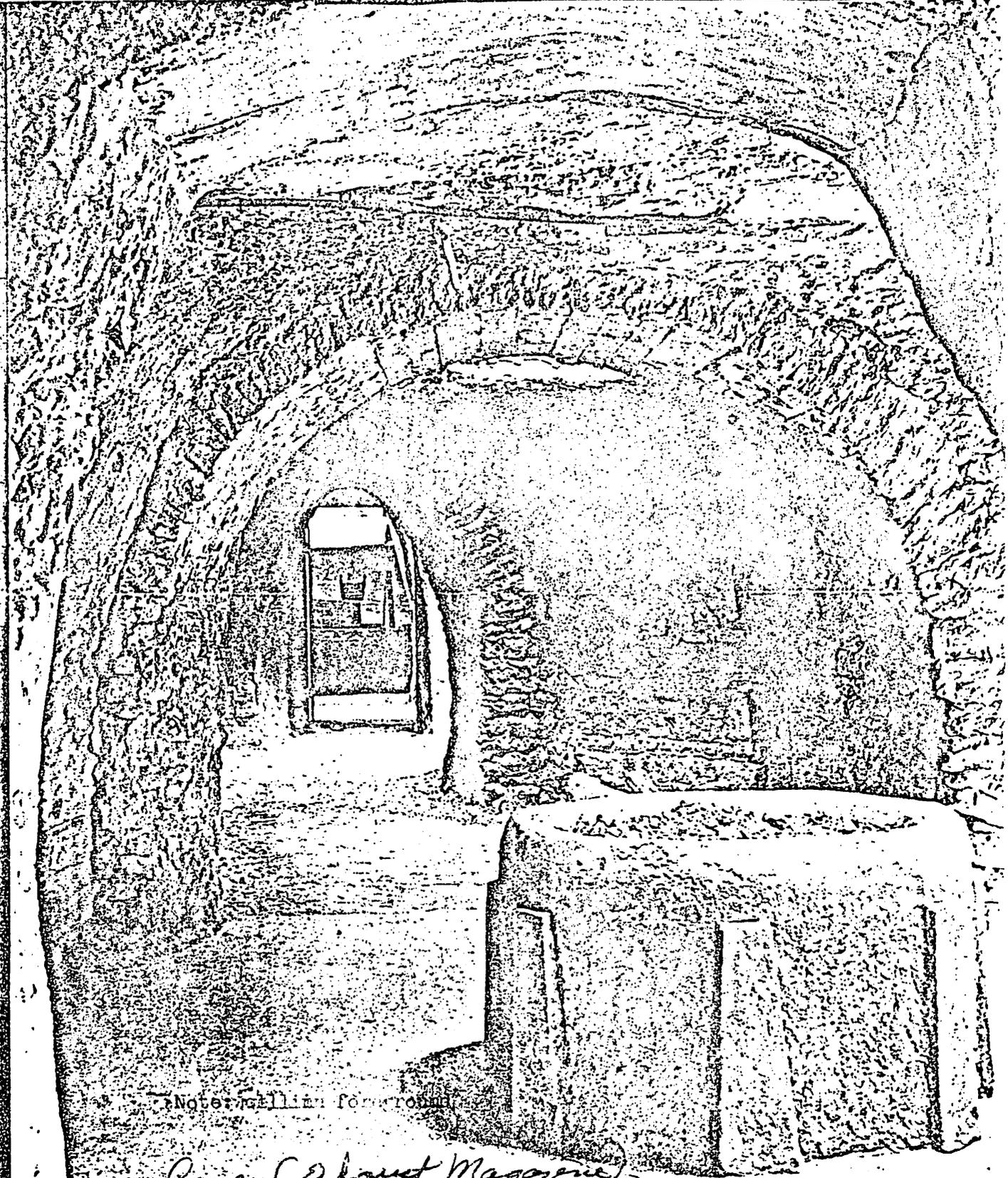
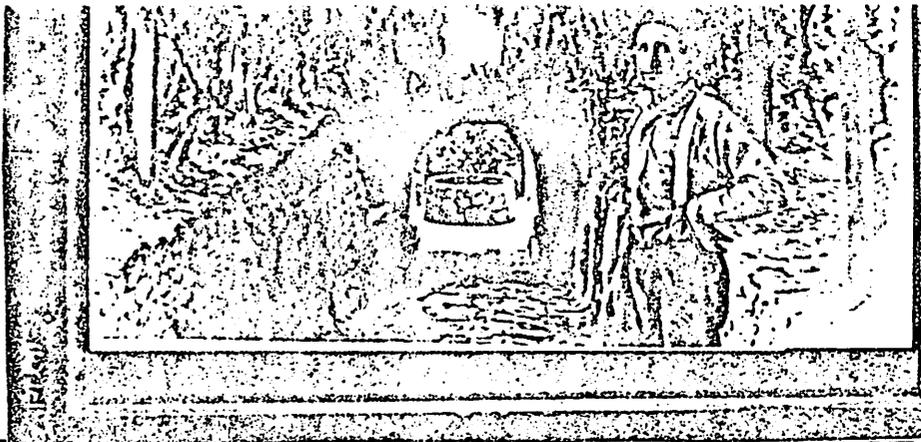


24. UNDERGROUND ENGINE ROOM

This gas engine pumps irrigation water from a well whose top is still further down. The stairway leads to the ground near the rear of Foerestiere's house.

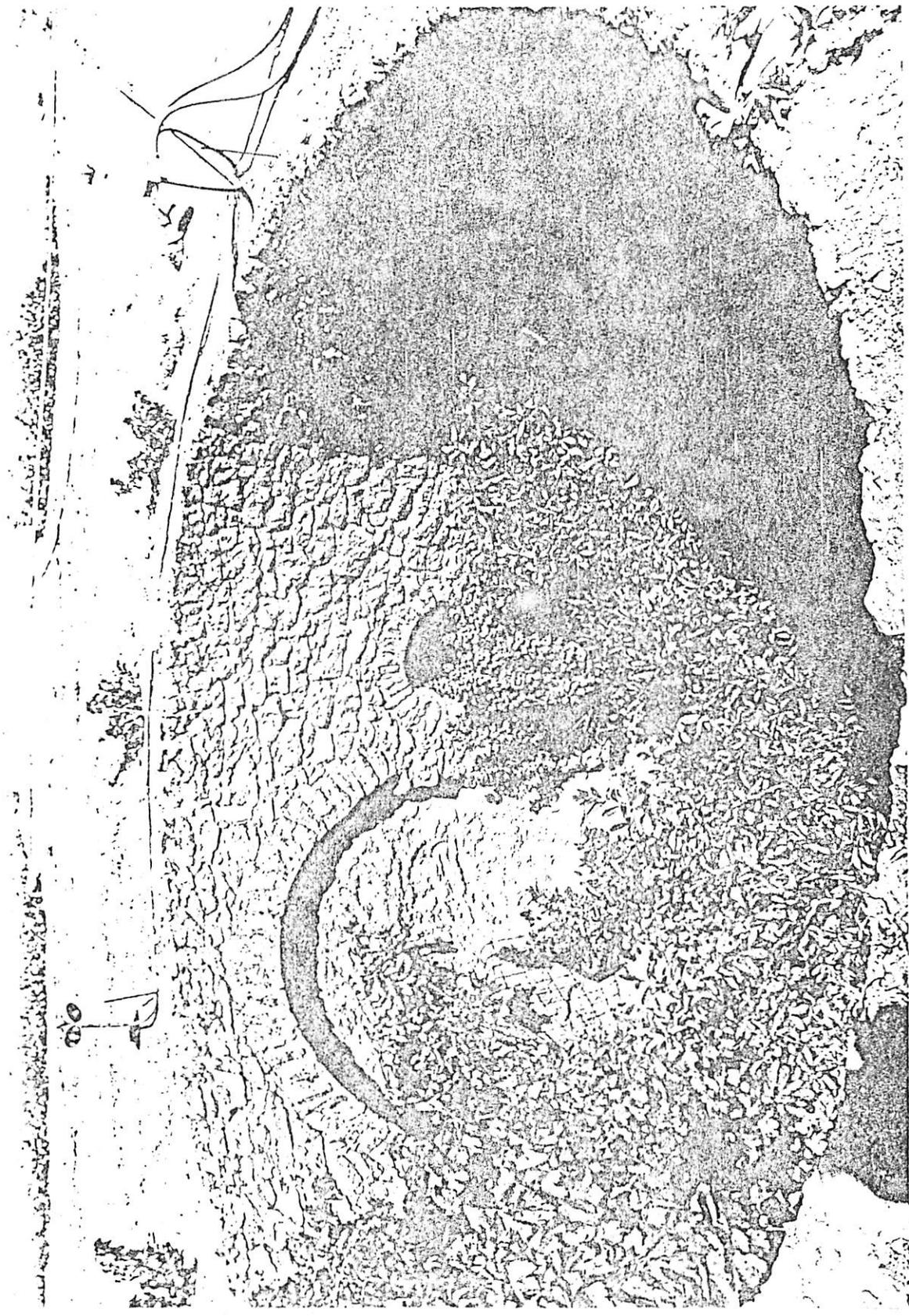
(Photograph by W.M. Strother)



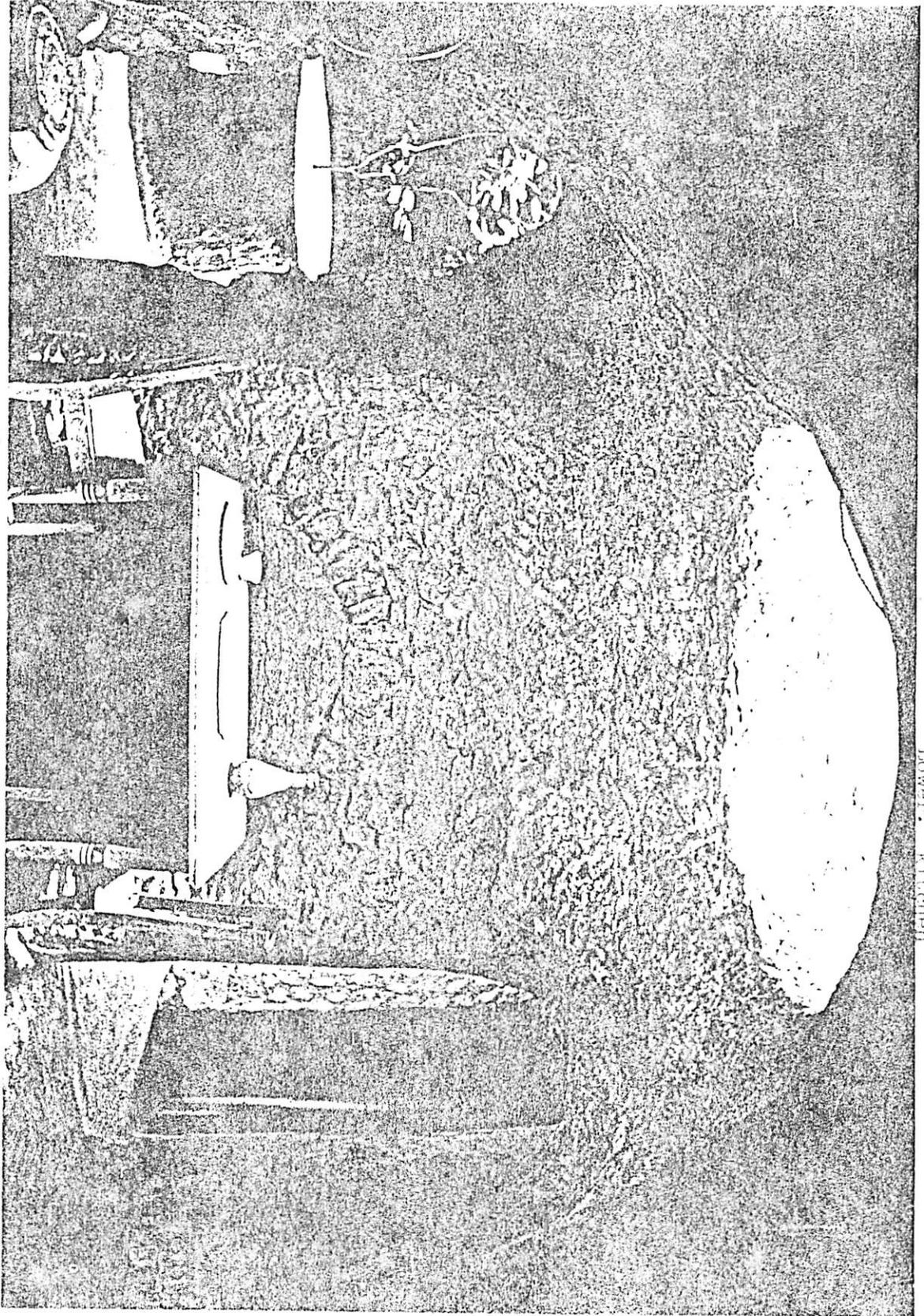


Note: wall in foreground

Prince of Edward Magazine



Upper: ground surface view



Lower: kitchen

Bk.  
306

Forestiere  
Underground  
Gardens

W. SHAW

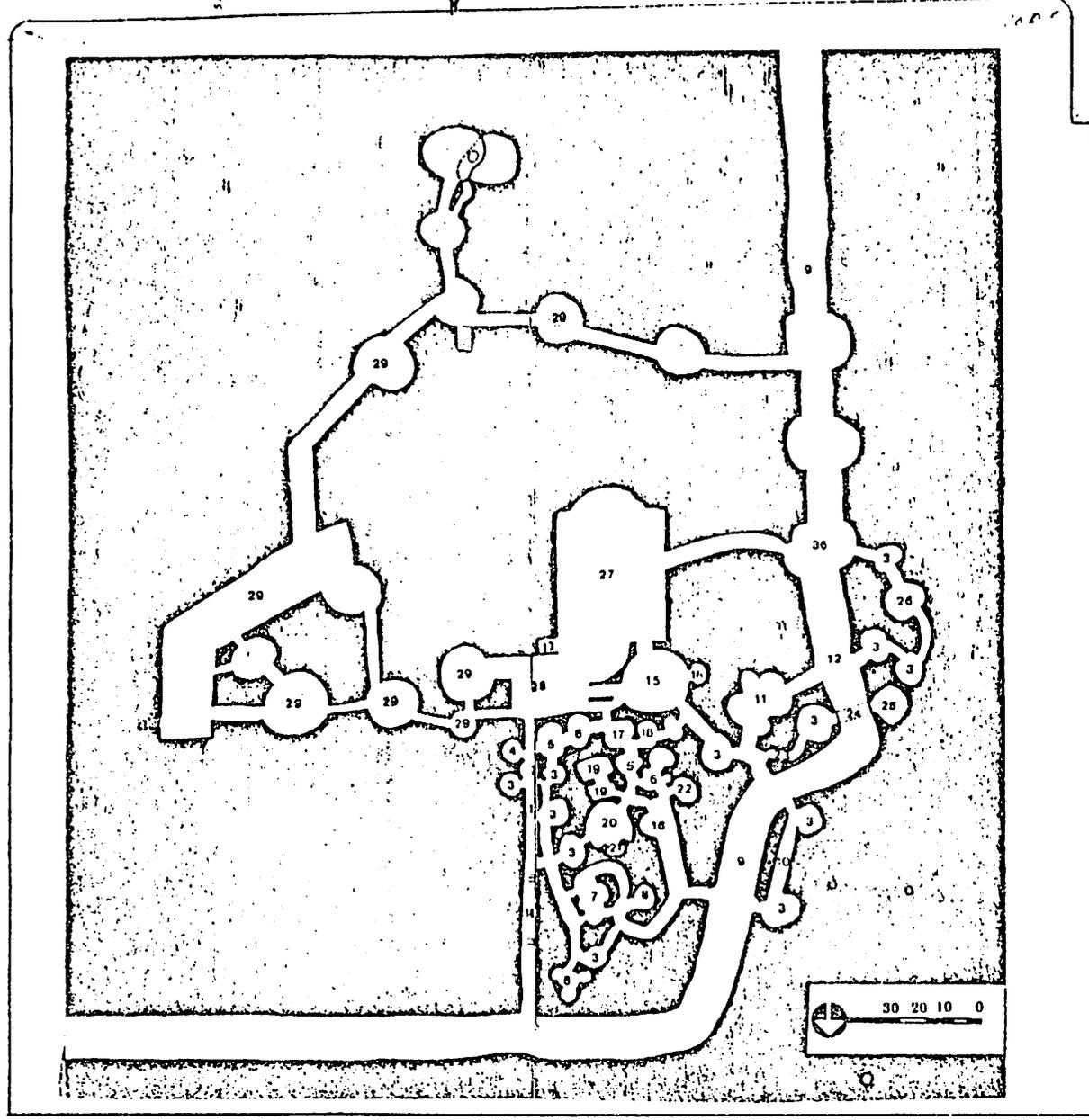
Superimposed Map- Jan Kempler, Assoc. Prof.  
School of Architecture & Planning,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

AVE.

AVE

29

- 1. Entrance
- 2. Entrance Hall
- 3. Planter
- 4. Well
- 5. Living Room
- 6. Kitchen
- 7. Church
- 8. Chapel
- 9. Automobile Tunnel
- 10. Pedestrian Tunnel
- 11. Winery
- 12. Light Well
- 13. Stairs
- 14. Walkway
- 15. Patio
- 16. Sump Pit
- 17. Hothouse
- 18. Indoor Patio
- 19. Bedroom
- 20. Bedroom Court
- 21. Bathroom
- 22. Reading Room
- 23. Stairs to Lower Level
- 24. Tunnel Under
- 25. Glass Bottom Aqu
- 26. Nursery
- 27. Restaurant (since)
- 28. Kitchen
- 29. Unopened



N. FORESTIERE

N. CORNELIA

16

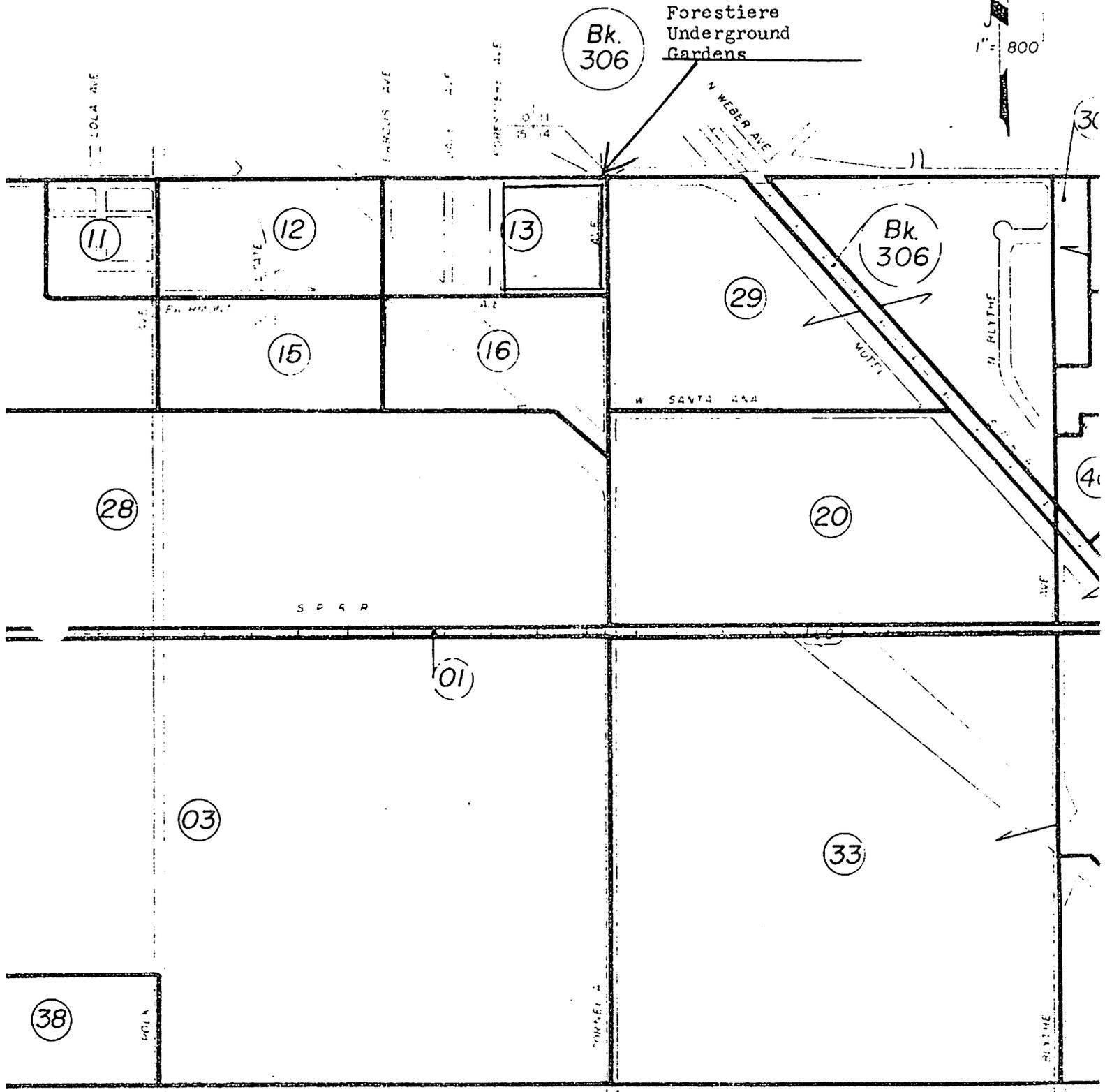
Assessor's Map Bk 311 - Fig 13

County of Fresno, Calif

NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses  
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles



SEC'S. 14 & 15. T. 13 S., R. 19 E. M. V. B. & M.



MAP PAGE INDEX II  
BOOK 311  
Assessor's Maps  
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# Resort Underground

◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆

## Visitors Banned From Unique Cavern

◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆

# Driveway, Fifty Rooms

By C. E. GOOD

**B**ALDASARE FORESTIERE is a dreamer. He has worked with pick and shovel for the past fifteen years to bring into being a dream that he says will not be completed for another four years at least.

Of twenty-two years spent in this country since coming from Italy, Forestiere has been fifteen years within a few miles of Fresno, excavating what he plans shall be a subterranean garden and resort unequalled in the world.

Working alone during his spare time, while cultivating more than seventy acres of surface area, Forestiere has excavated fifty rooms below ground and what seem to be miles of tunnels connecting these rooms, which are on several levels.

### Ban On Visitors

Cherishing his work for its own interest, the delver under the earth begrudges every moment he spares to the curious. He has placed an unalterable ban on visitors until such a time as he is ready to open his workings to the public.

That time will be late in the Summer, when the already roughed-out portion can be better finished.

Each of the fifty rooms completed has a separate skylight over which will be placed an arbor of either grapes or fruit trees, so trained that fruit will hang over the opening.

### Auto Driveway

The single piece of work of the greatest magnitude yet accomplished is a driveway for automobiles along which are deep niches in the walls for parking cars. This driveway when completed will extend from one end of the workings to the other and will provide a means whereby the visitor can enter in his

automobile and not be obliged to touch the ground until such a time as the car is in the cool recesses of the cavern.

### No Idea Repeated

Variety and originality of design are the predominating impressions left in the mind of the sightseer. In no two of the reception rooms is an idea repeated. In no place does the working out of the idea of the builder reach the monotonous. A fertile mind filled with ideas is ex-

(Continued on Page 11, Col. 1)

# VISITORS BANNED BY BUILDER OF UNIQUE CAVERN

## Fresno County Man Works Fifteen Years Digging Underground Resort

(Continued from Page One)

pressed in every turn of the twisting tunnels.

The man who has dreamed this dream and worked a large portion of it into fulfillment, is an unusual person. His life history would be acceptable as a story of the strivings of an emigrant boy to an ideal. Money, he does not crave beyond enough to bring his plans to completion. Servitude, except to himself, he decries.

### Lover Of Liberty

Forestiere left Italy when he was 21 years old, because his father, a wealthy man, wanted to control the fortunes of his family and wanted to rule them with a stern hand. Forestiere wanted liberty.

He came to this country and went to work as a tunneler under the city of Boston. He also aided in building the great Croton Aqueduct and the subway from New York to Jersey. Here, he says, his hopes of freedom and easy wealth were nearly blasted. He began to realize that in the world of the delver for wages there is no freedom.

He came to this valley. First he located near Muscatel. Here he dug a deep cellar to protect himself from the heat of the Summer and the cold of the Winter. Then he moved to his present place and duplicated his cellar residence.

### Subterranean Retreat

Later, as the urge to dig the earth became greater, he began to think that the residents of Fresno and vicinity would relish a cool subterranean retreat from the heat of mid-Summer. Then his work began.

No plans were made. Every detail in the development of the underground gardens has originated in the brain of Forestiere and has never been set on paper. Gradually he has evolved a comprehensive scheme that will connect up into one of the most involved and yet delightful labyrinths of modern ages.

Faced in many places with soft earth that caves in at the touch of the shovel, Forestiere has erected arches of hard sod without mortar, that have withstood the pressure of earth above for years. Where possible, the natural hardpan has provided a roof for the caverns.

Vents or skylights, as yet uncovered, have not caused his place to be flooded in the rainy seasons. Every drop of water that strikes the floor goes on through into the lower earth without standing a moment. The earth floors are packed as hard and smooth in places as iron.

#### Well Within Cavern

In one of the deeper caverns there is a well which has been dug as far as the water level and bored from there on. Near this well, also underground, is the gasoline engine that operates the pump and will provide a steady flow of water for an artificial lake with which it is planned the surface of a large part of the establishment will be adorned.

Leading into the center of the lake will be a tunnel from the underground workings which will allow visitors to ascend from the depths and enjoy boating and other aquatic sports.

#### Trees Underground

Digging into the earth is not the only accomplishment of Forestiere. He finds a great pleasure in controlling the natural output of the earth. In his caverns he has developed oranges and other citrus fruits to a remarkable degree. Some of the trees that provide the principal decoration for the reception rooms bear three varieties of fruit on separate branches. Oranges, lemons and grapefruit, all large and perfect in form and flavor, hang on several trees in the workings.

Here, he says, the fruit hangs almost twice as long as on the surface. Frost never touches this region below the surface of the earth. Here the temperature very seldom changes over ten degrees the year around.

#### Twenty Acres

Twenty acres of ground will be honeycombed by the tunnels and rooms when the work is completed. At present more than half of that area has been mined. Among the many things planned and partially accomplished are:

An automobile driveway and underground parking space, many small dining rooms to be served from a central kitchen, a ballroom, a small hotel with three floors, a subterranean lake and fish pond, under which another room is located with the light to be furnished through the glass bottom of the lake, a surface lake, a series of agricultural exhibits of grafting and other natures, numbers of reception rooms for parties and lounging rooms for those anxious to get away from the heat of the noon-day sun.

**B**ALDASARE FORESTIERE has worked for fifteen years excavating for his subterranean garden which he plans shall occupy seventy acres.

DATE May 3, 1924  
JUL 29 1974

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# Tunnel Artist Builds Cave Resort

## 'Man Of Forest' Adopts Shovel To Realize Dream

### Fifty Rooms Built Underground

By JOSEPH THORBURN

WITH a piece of orange peel in one hand and a lighted match in the other, the objects held about two inches apart, Baldarsare Forestiere, world's champion digger, yesterday demonstrated the explosive nature of the oil in an orange skin. "Now watch," he said, squeezing the orange peel towards the flame. The gap between the peel and match suddenly crackled and snapped as the inflammable gas ignited.

The demonstration was made at Forestiere's ranch in Shaw Avenue just west of the state highway, about seven miles from Fresno.

Forestiere had just been conducting a party of Fresnoans through his subterranean palace of fifty rooms which he has excavated during the sixteen years.

**Shovel Artist Of The Ages**  
Is a good horticulturist, an architect, a visionary and the greatest pick-and-shovel artist of the ages together and flavor with the broken dialect of an Italian and you have Forestiere, a man of the forests, that's what his name means in English.

Beneath the well cultivated acres of his ranch, beneath the flourishing peach orchard, Forestiere has dug a veritable Tut-ankh-amen tomb, a catacomb such as afforded the early Christians refuge from the persecutions of the Roman Caesars.

Fifty rooms, connected by a series of passage ways, that is what Forestiere has accomplished. The work has been finished in the rough, but the vast amount of labor required to convert the raw material into the vision stored in Forestiere's mind, almost overwhelms him, he confessed yesterday. "All that I have done is nothing," he pined, "for it required very little money, perhaps \$300, but now I have to begin to use cement in large quantities. I have to reinforce the roof where there are streaks of loose earth that break through the adobe."

**Rooms Are Skylighted**  
Most of the underground rooms are about ten or twelve feet in diameter, and something the shape of an inverted teacup. They are all skylighted. Above the circular hole in the roof, the visitor below sees

clusters of big, yellow lemons and grape fruit and orange blossoms, all attached to the same trees. Grafting is another of Forestiere's hobbies and he delights to talk about the citrus fruits. He has been accustomed to them from childhood, for his father is the owner of large groves near Massina, Italy.

There are many citrus fruits in the old country that are unknown out here, he declared. There are lemons so sweet that they are like pure sugar. Another citrus fruit has a rich perfume. "My father could always tell when we boys had been eating it," he said.

**Trees To Grow In Cave Garden**  
Forestiere has another use for his fruit trees. In the larger rooms he has constructed circular platforms, the sides cemented to retain the earth. Orange and lemon trees are planted in these. In the reception rooms the platforms are larger and more ornamental, running to triangular designs. Recessed in the walls of most of the rooms are cemented seats. In the largest room of all there is practically no ceiling, but the grape vines planted in the center spread upward and outward, forming a green roof from which great clusters of grapes hang in summer.

Not content with one level, nine or ten feet below the surface, Forestiere has gone down to a second level for one of his large rooms. This will eventually be the center of attraction, for the circular opening in the ceiling will one day be covered by the glass bottom of a huge fish tank.

**Tunnel For Automobiles**  
Passing close to this room, with several entrances to it, is a great tunnel which he has excavated for

automobile travel. The motorist will descend a long incline, the sides of which are recessed and filled with orange trees. At the necessary depth, the motor car will pass under the arched entrance to the tunnel. The far end or egress from the tunnel has not been excavated as yet.

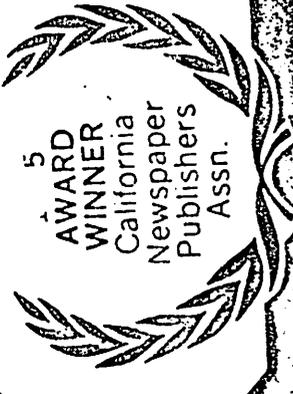
Near the fish bowl room Forestiere will have his cave garage for his own car. It will have a turn table for convenience.

Other plans of Forestiere include a large hotel with a dining room and kitchen in the basement, connecting with the subterranean rooms.

A small lake is already in existence. It will be enlarged to a great extent. That part is easy, for it is merely tractor work.

Forestiere said yesterday that he would allow visitors to inspect the place on Sundays, beginning tomorrow and all through the summer until the end of September.

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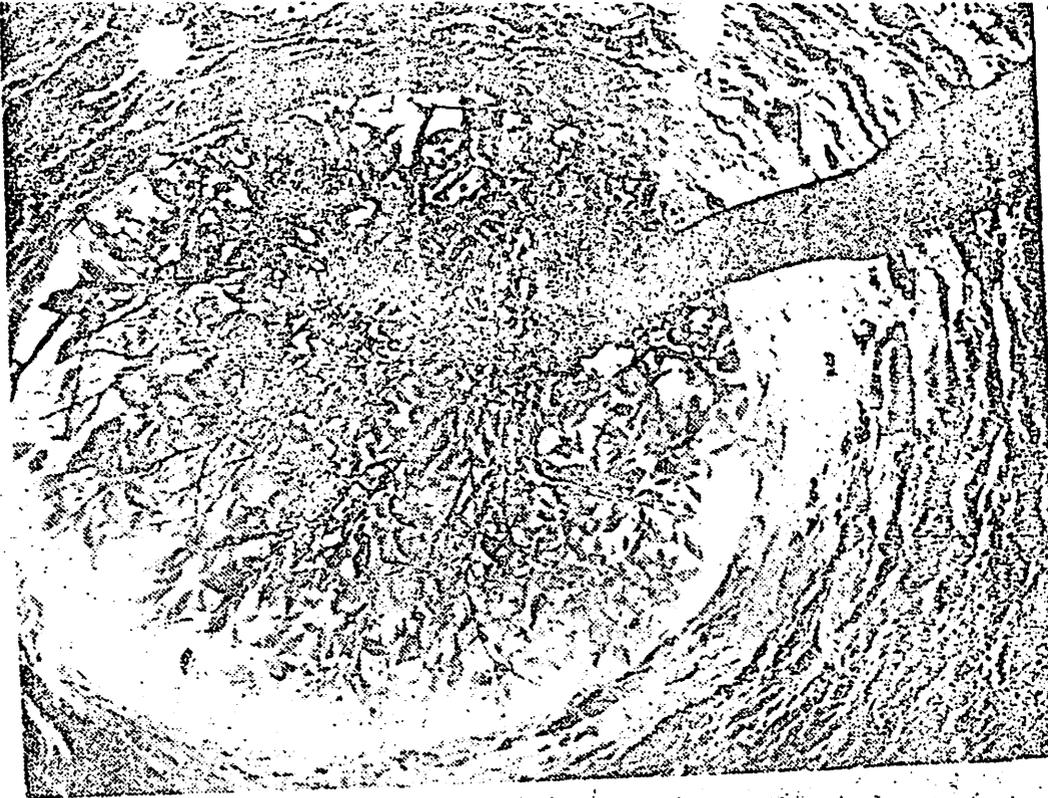
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MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1977

VOL. 45 NO. 108



**VISITORS INCREASING** — A group tours Forestiere's Underground Gardens one day last week although the Forestiere family says they may have to close to the public because of declining interest. For 40 years, until his death in 1946, Baldasare Forestiere expanded his Avenue. Almost all the citrus trees Forestiere used for centerpieces in his courtyards, such as the one pictured here, are grafted to bear as many as seven different fruits. Tours will continue weekends through the month of January, beginning at 11 a.m., and 1 and 2 p.m.



**LEMON AND GRAPEFRUIT** — Baldasare Forestiere's first graft reaches upwards toward ground level in a courtyard at the Underground Gardens. The Gardens cover seven acres, five of which are open public. Included are the underground ballroom, kitchen and bed several courts and plazas, the remains of two fish ponds and an 80

## Forty years of digging

# Underground Gardens display results of careful, hard work

By Jerry Shutman

Like a giant underground sculpture, Baldasare Forestiere's garden winds under seven acres of volcanic hardpan on West Shaw Avenue, just east of Highway 99.

Forestiere, a Sicilian immigrant, spent almost 40 years carving a network of underground rooms, passageways and patios for his own home and for a never-finished restaurant.

From above, the gardens show an arbor of grapes and citrus trees, while below is a maze of underground rooms, passageways and patios. Some are open at the roof, some covered by pergolas or glass skylights, and many have a tree growing straight up from the floor through a hole in the domed ceiling, up into the open air.

After the old man died in 1946, the family leased the property to a tenant who exhibited the gardens as a curiosity and told tourists of the underground "moleman."

Baldasare's nephew Rick, 48, a full-time teacher with the Fresno Unified Schools, is now the caretaker as well. He says the family detested the way the gardens were merchandised. After several court battles, Rick says, the lease finally expired and the family members took back the management themselves in 1969.

Now the younger Forestiere speaks of it as a "sort of terra-sculpture, a form of walk-through art." And indeed, visitors see courtyards with a centerpiece tree having as many as seven varieties of fruit grafted on. He points to a two-storied room, now almost barren, where a glass bubble between the floors enabled visitors to look up through the bottom of a room-size pond, while other visitors sat around its outside — all 12-feet below ground level.

Rick says the parking lot was once a shallow lake made by his uncle. He said the children pushed gondolas there, and adds there were once plans to build a tunnel to a small island in the middle of the lake.

Baldasare never married but his bedroom opens onto another.

Forestiere speaks of a "Swedish arrangement" with a female housekeeper, but says the family doesn't speak of his late uncle's sleeping arrangements. That was another age.

They do speak, however, of Baldasare's relationships with others in Fresno, and bristle at a suggestion that he was a recluse. "They mocked him for living underground," Forestiere says, "but he was a gregarious man who like to talk and even argue. . . . He mocked them for living in 'their sweatshouses' but this was his lifestyle."

A road drops from ground level into a tunnel and winds past an entryway to the ballroom. Baldasare expected diners to drive down the tunnel and leave their cars with an attendant, who would then park them further on. Meanwhile, the guests would enter the ballroom and be seated at round tables with living trees as centerpieces. Light would have come from the open skylights above, which could be covered with glass in the winter.

While they waited for their food, guests would sip wine and lounge in one of the semi-underground arbors.

Eventually the ballroom was covered with a roof of surplus lumber from Hammer Field. Concrete blocks were made across the street for the walls. The marble terrazzo floor was finished by Baldasare.

Baldasare, born in Sicily in 1879, arrived in New York in 1902 according to his nephew. Ironically, he first found work in this country helping excavate subways in New York City and Boston.

He lived briefly in southern California where he found the price of land too high, then moved to Fresno where he began working in 1904. Eventually he owned some 700 acres. To escape the summer heat he spent much time in his cellar and eventually expanded outward from that. Almost everything has been sold off now, according to Forestiere, but the family is holding onto the heart. "This was an extension of himself,"

he says. "You can't just walk away and leave it."

The future of the gardens is in limbo however.

When Baldasare died in 1946 there was no one willing or able to finish the project and the gardens began falling into disrepair. During the years of tenancy, Forestiere says, portions of the project began to deteriorate and the tenant, instead of repairing them simply closed off those areas and shortened the tour. Now two of the seven acres are closed to the public and restoration continues slowly on the rest.

Rick Forestiere says escalating property taxes and a lack of interest from the public forced the family to consider closing the gardens in recent years. A decision was made to close as of two months ago, but a spurt of interest from Bay Area television stations and newspapers have caused them to reconsider.

The gardens were open for three-per-day tours the last week in December and, as an experiment, will remain open weekends in January. Tours in January will begin at 11 a.m., 1 and 2 p.m. and there is an admission charge.

When he spoke to the county assessor's office a few years ago about reclassifying the gardens as a historical or cultural landmark, Forestiere says he was told by a junior staff member that "Fresno already has plenty of landmarks." The assessor told Rick Forestiere that the land is not now being used for its "highest and best use, namely manufacturing."

When he objected that the land was laced with tunnels and not suitable for manufacturing, Forestiere says he was told "that was no problem there are machines that can come in and compact the soil in no time." So taxes are still going up.

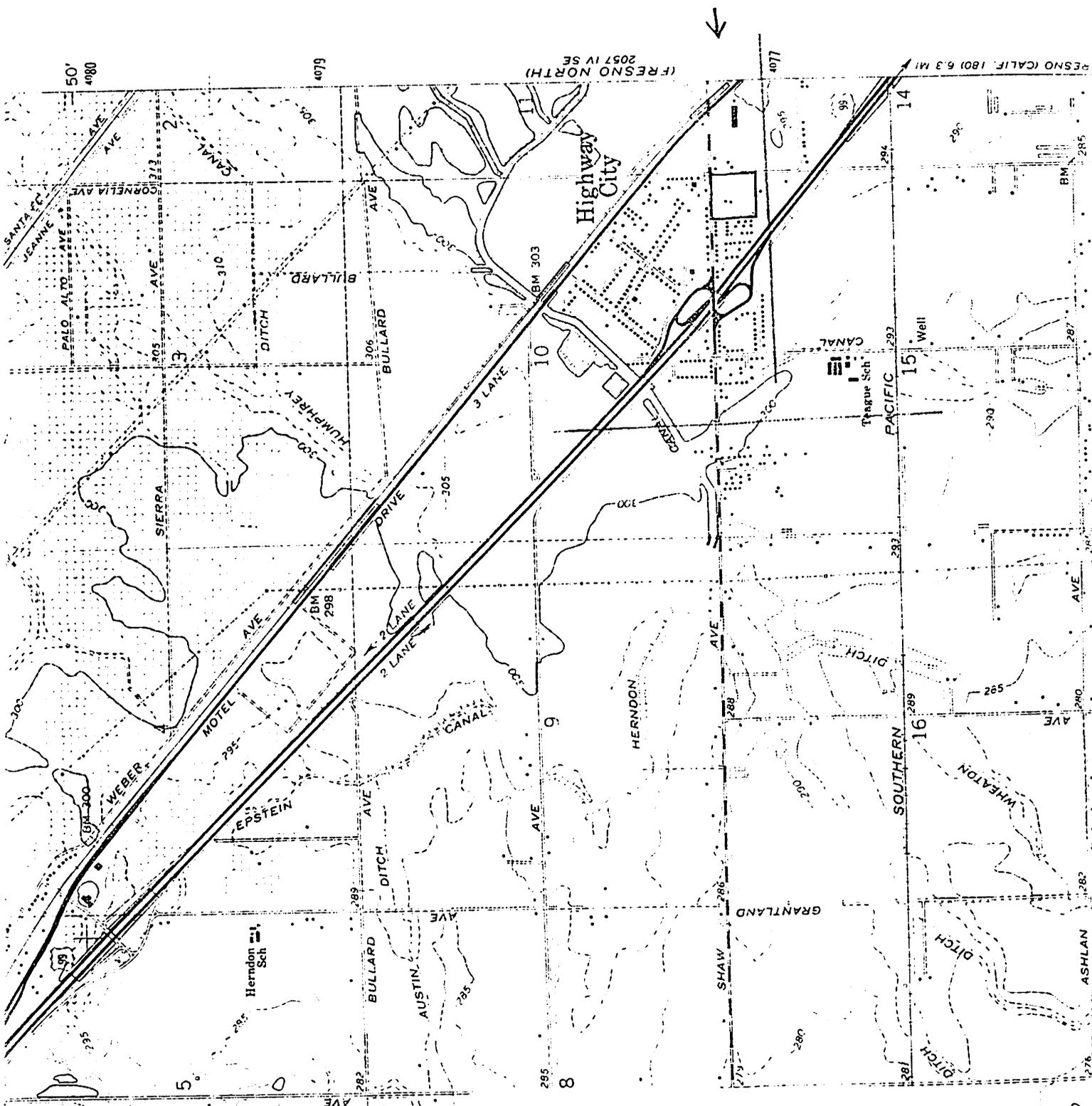
Forestiere says however, that the gardens are like a family trust, left from Baldasare to his brother Joseph, and from Joseph to his son, Rick. "Still, we can't ask our children to stay on . . . they have their own interests."

FORESTIERE UNDERGROUND GARDENS

Fresno, Fresno County, California

UTM References

11/243000/4077150



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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
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HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 3S  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 8

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge #42C0072 (and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle)

P1. Other Identifier: Bridge #42C0072 (and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle)

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted \*a. County: Fresno  
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fresno North Date 1965 (R 1981) T13S; R 20E; \_\_\_ ¼ of Sec 32; \_\_\_ B.M.

c. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City Fresno Zip \_\_\_\_\_

d. UTM (give more than one for large and/or linear resources): Zone \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_mE/ \_\_\_\_\_mN

e. Other Locational Data (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate):

Southeast of Roeding Park

\*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

Near Roeding Park is the Belmont Avenue Subway (Bridge #42C0072) and Traffic Circle (**Photographs 1 and 2**). The subway is a reinforced concrete and steel girder railroad bridge with a span of 42 feet. The balustrade has lancet openings and at the center is a circular medallion featuring the emblem of the Southern Pacific Company. The two-track underpass is lined by poured concrete retaining walls with the same balustrade and textured panels as the railroad deck. The balustrade's motif is separated by rectangular piers that align with the breaks between panels in the retaining walls. The pedestrian tunnel also features the balustrade design and textured panels and passes under the bridge through an arched opening marked by a Doric pilaster (**Photograph 3 and 4**). The Weber Avenue Overcrossing (Bridge #42C0071) is a vehicular bridge that spans the undercrossing 50' east of the deck.

The Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle is located immediately west of the subway bridge and southeast of Roeding Park. The circle has a 200' radius and the center is filled with grass and adorned with mature coniferous and palm trees. One lane of traffic travels around its perimeter (with width for two lanes), with four points of entry/exit at N. Golden State Boulevard (north side), W. Belmont Avenue (west and east sides), and N. Wesley Avenue (south side) (**Photograph 5**).

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP19. Bridge and HP11. Engineering Structure

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)

Photograph 1, Bridge #42C0072, camera facing west

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

Historic  Prehistoric  Both

1932 / Caltrans Bridge Log & The Fresno Bee

\*P7. Owner and Address:

City of Fresno and Union Pacific

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)

AECOM

2020 L Street, Suite 400

Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: December 13, 2011

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive



\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Feature Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record

Other (list) Caltrans Bridge List and DPR 523 Belmont Avenue Subway, P 10 004513, January 20, 2000

DPR 523A (1/95)

\*Required Information

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge #42C0072 and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

B1. Historic Name: Belmont Avenue Subway Bridge and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

B2. Common Name: Belmont Avenue Subway Bridge and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

B3. Original Use: Railroad Bridge and Traffic Circle B4. Present Use: Railroad Bridge and Traffic Circle

\*B5. Architectural Style: Utilitarian

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) 1932; removal of lights – date unknown

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: Weber Avenue Overcrossing (Bridge #42C0072) and Roeding Park

B9. Architect: Jean L. Vincenz, engineer b. Builder: City of Fresno

\*B10. Significance: Theme Transportation Area Fresno

Period of Significance 1932 Property Type Bridge and Traffic Circle Applicable Criteria C/3

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

Bridge #42C0072 was previously inventoried in 2000 by Chambers Group as part of the "Cultural Resources Survey Report for Level 3 Long Haul Fiber Optic Project: WS04 Connection to Fresno ILA, in the City of Fresno, Fresno County, California," but was not formally evaluated as part of that project. The subsequent Caltrans 2004 bridge survey rated the bridge a Category 4 ("Historical Significance Not Determined"). The Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle has not been previously inventoried or evaluated though it was designed as an approach to the subway. This evaluation of Bridge #42C0072 and the Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle determined that both structures appear to meet NRHP/CRHR Criterion C/3 at the local level of significance for being one of the earliest examples of this type of traffic feature in the west and for its association with then City engineer Jean L. Vincenz. The boundary includes those physical features that convey the significance of the resource and follows the boundary as outlined in the sketch map below. These structures are considered historical resources for the purposes of CEQA.

During the early 1920s, automobiles rose in prevalence and accidents increased at railroad grade crossings. More than 600 people were injured and 2,268 persons were killed at grade crossings throughout the United States in 1923 (Woodson 1924:9). The severity of the situation resulted in a combined study undertaken by the California Highway Commission (Commission), Bureau of Public Roads and the State Railroad Commission which rated more than 500 existing crossings. These agencies established a program to eliminate the most dangerous crossings which continued into the 1930s (Packard 1926:3-4). (See Continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

\*B12. References: See Continuation Sheet

B13. Remarks:

\*B14. Evaluator: Mark Bowen

\*Date of Evaluation: December 22, 2011

(This space reserved for official comments.)



**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # 10-004513

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 3 of 8

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge #42C0072 and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

\*Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: December 13, 2011

Continuation  Update

**Significance (cont)**

As early as the 1920s, the California Highway Commission's identified the preferred alternative to the dangerous at-grade crossings through the construction of subways (Woodson 1924:9). In 1931, the Commission in conjunction with the State Railroad Commission undertook an intensive study of railroad grade crossings existing upon the highway system. The collected data: 1) identified each location of railroad grade crossings; 2) approximated levels of railroad and automobile traffic at each crossing; 3) noted types of warning designs in place; and 4) recorded accidents at each crossing. These agencies used this data to determine cost estimates for the elimination of at grade crossings by either relocating the railroad or highway, or constructing underpasses or overpasses (California Department of Public Works 1931:21). Subways continued as the preferred alternative throughout California and the west. Typically, these subways featured utilitarian steel plate girder superstructures that often included some curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements Dunkhorst 1935:4; Stover 1934:30). By 1935, the federal government also allocated monies for all states to construct safer railroad crossings and California received \$7.5 million for 39 projects in 18 different counties (McCoy 1935: 1, 4).

Belmont Avenue in Fresno was heavily traveled, particularly during the summer months where traffic peaked at 11,000 vehicles in 16 hours. Nearly half of those travelers used Highway 99 while the remainder entered Roeding Park or traveled on the county's highway. This roadway vehicular traffic, coupled with frequent Southern Pacific Mainline train traffic made the Belmont Avenue crossing particularly hazardous and frequently caused delays for travelers on this section of Highway 99 (Beuthel 1932:2). In 1930, officials proposed a subway at the Belmont Avenue crossing. Fresno's Commissioner of Public Works and Engineer, Jean L. Vincenz, recommended a traffic circle as part of the western approach to the subway. The traffic circle concept met initial resistance from the Commission because they believed the traffic circle could not accommodate future traffic needs. Vincenz countered that the concept at that time was not unproven. The first traffic circle example constructed in the United States was New York City's Columbus circle in 1903 and New Jersey constructed additional traffic circles during that period. These early 20<sup>th</sup> century traffic circles adopted the "yield-to-right" principle for right-of-way and were concentrated on a weaving movement as a main design consideration. These two factors resulted in common traffic-jams in the circle. By the 1920s, when traffic volumes increased, engineers designed larger circles to accommodate higher speeds and longer weaving distances that helped avoid rear-end collisions and traffic locking up in the circle (Jaquemart 1998:1, 9). Vincenz consulted with traffic experts on the East Coast and successfully demonstrated that his design with its 200' radius could accommodate more than 60,000 vehicles per day. The Commission then authorized \$70,000 for their portion of the project (*The Fresno Bee* 1931). Before the end of December 1931, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, and the California State Railroad Commission each provided their approvals and committed their share of the \$240,000 project (*The Fresno Bee* 1931). Construction began in February 1932, and the traffic circle and subway formally opened on July 22, 1932 (*The Fresno Bee* 1932).

The Belmont Avenue Subway and Traffic Circle do not appear to meet NRHP/CRHR Criterion A/1. State and local officials acknowledged grade changes at railroads, including those in Fresno, as being dangerous as early as the early 1920s and acknowledged the necessity to change these crossings for the safety of motorists. California conducted intensive studies in the late-1920s and early 1930s and made comprehensive changes to numerous at-grade crossings throughout the state. The construction of the traffic circle also does not represent a successful and long-term movement to incorporate traffic circles as safety measures in the west. By the early 1930s there appear to have been only three traffic circles of note in the cities of Long Beach, Bakersfield, and Fresno. But, because traffic circles continued to cause traffic jams during peak traffic hours, the design quickly fell out of favor. By the 1950s, most traffic circles were replaced with signalized intersections or had signals added to them. It should be noted that traffic circles are seeing a western renaissance today. In general, the construction of this first western traffic circle (as part of the subway design) does not appear to have galvanized or represent any event related to transportation history nationally or in the State of California.

Under NRHP/CRHR Criterion B/2, the subway and traffic circle do not appear significant. Neither is associated with persons who made a significant contribution to history. While they are associated with engineer Jean J. Vincenz, that association is better understood under NRHP/CRHR Criterion C/3 as the work of a master engineer. These structures do not appear to meet NRHP/CRHR Criterion B/2.

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # 10-004513

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 4 of 8

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge #42C0072 and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

\*Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: December 13, 2011

Continuation  Update

**Significance (cont)**

The Belmont Avenue Subway and Traffic Circle do appear to meet NRHP/CRHR Criterion C/3, at the local level of significance, for representing the earliest example of this type of traffic feature in the west and for its association with engineer Jean L. Vincenz. Completed in 1932, the Belmont Avenue Subway Bridge and Traffic Circle is a combined effort between Fresno County, the City of Fresno, the State of California and the Southern Pacific Railroad and was part of the efforts to eliminate dangerous at-grade railroad crossings. The subway and its associated 200' radius traffic circle roadway approach is the first configuration of this type in California to address a key railroad grade-separation along former Highway 99, and is one of the earliest examples of traffic circles in the West. The project was the first to incorporate a traffic circle as a design approach to a subway (Beuthel 1932:2). The other period-built traffic circles, Long Beach and Bakersfield, were not constructed as part of a subway project. Bakersfield's traffic circle saw construction in 1934, and was designed to route traffic from Highway 99 into Bakersfield and can easily move traffic on surface streets in a safer manner (Badger 1934:4, 22). Long Beach's traffic circle (also known as the Los Alamitos Traffic Circle) was after Belmont and was part of a larger highway improvement project and was a major intersection along the Pacific Coast Highway. Long Beach's traffic circle was altered in 1993 and converted to a modern roundabout using design standards of the late-20<sup>th</sup> century and no longer retains integrity (Roussel 1935 12; Jaquemart 1998:45–46).

The structures also appear eligible for their association with master engineer Jean L. Vincenz. Vincenz graduated from Stanford University in 1918 with a degree in civil engineering. He worked briefly at a private firm in Fresno and in 1931 he was elected Commissioner of Public Works. In this role Vincenz embarked on several public works projects in Fresno, including the innovative Fresno Sanitary Landfill (now a National Historic Landmark), improvements to the Fresno Municipal Airport, and various infrastructure projects relating to the city's sewer system and its roads. Vincenz was responsible for the design of the traffic circle. In his role as city engineer Vincenz made significant contributions to the public works in Fresno including this particular project which the City considered momentous.

Under NRHP/CRHR Criterion D/4, the structures do not appear likely to yield information important to history and they do not appear to meet this criterion.

It should be noted that both structures have undergone minor alterations, but the changes have not compromised the resource's overall integrity or ability to convey significance. The subway had its original ornamental lights removed at an unknown date and the eastern end intersection has been modified since 1932. The Weber Avenue Overcrossing (itself notable for the first use of a pre-stressed concrete road bridge) now spans the eastern approach ramp. Overall, however, the subway and the circle retain integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. As a resource that largely appears as it did when it was constructed, it also retains integrity of feeling. Since the resource has never been moved and still functions as a railroad bridge, automobile underpass and traffic roundabout, it retains integrity of location and association. Because the Belmont Avenue Subway and Traffic Circle retains all seven aspects of integrity, it is able to convey its significance and therefore, is eligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR.

**Photographs (cont)**



**Photograph 2.** Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle, camera facing northwest



**Photograph 3.** Retaining wall and pedestrian walkway, camera facing southwest

**Photographs (cont)**



**Photograph 4.** Bridge #42C0072 with pedestrian walkway, camera facing east



**Photograph 5.** Belmont Avenue traffic circle, camera facing northwest

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Primary # 10-004513

HRI # \_\_\_\_\_

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 7 of 8

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge #42C0072 and Belmont Avenue Traffic Circle

\*Recorded by: AECOM

\*Date: December 13, 2011

Continuation  Update

**References**

Badger, R. S. "Bakersfield By-Pass Relocation is Opened with Dedication Ceremonies." *California Highways and Public Works*, June 1934.

Beuthel, Walter. "First coast Traffic Circle-Subway Improvement Completed at Fresno." *California Highways and Public Works*, July 1932.

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Maintenance  
Bridge Inspection Records Information System. Bridge Number 42C0072. (Bridge Reports and As-Built Plans).

"Construction to Start Soon on Belmont Subway." *The Fresno Bee*, December 27, 1931.

"County Approves Subway Project." *The Fresno Bee*, December 15, 1931.

Dunkhorst, Paul. "Grade Separation Built by State on Route 4 in City of Bakersfield." *California Highways and Public Works*, August 1935.

Jaquemart, Georges. *Synthesis of Highway Practice 262: Modern Roundabout Practice in the United States*. Washington, D.C.: 1998.

Laval, Jerome D. *As "Pop" Saw It Volume III: Photographs of the San Joaquin Valley*. Fresno: Graphic Technology Company, 1976.

McCoy, George T. "39 Grade Crossings On California Highways Being Eliminated with \$7,500,000 Federal Funds." *California Highways and Public Works*, October 1935.

Packard, L. D. "Progress Made on Grade Crossing Elimination." *California Highways*. April 1926.

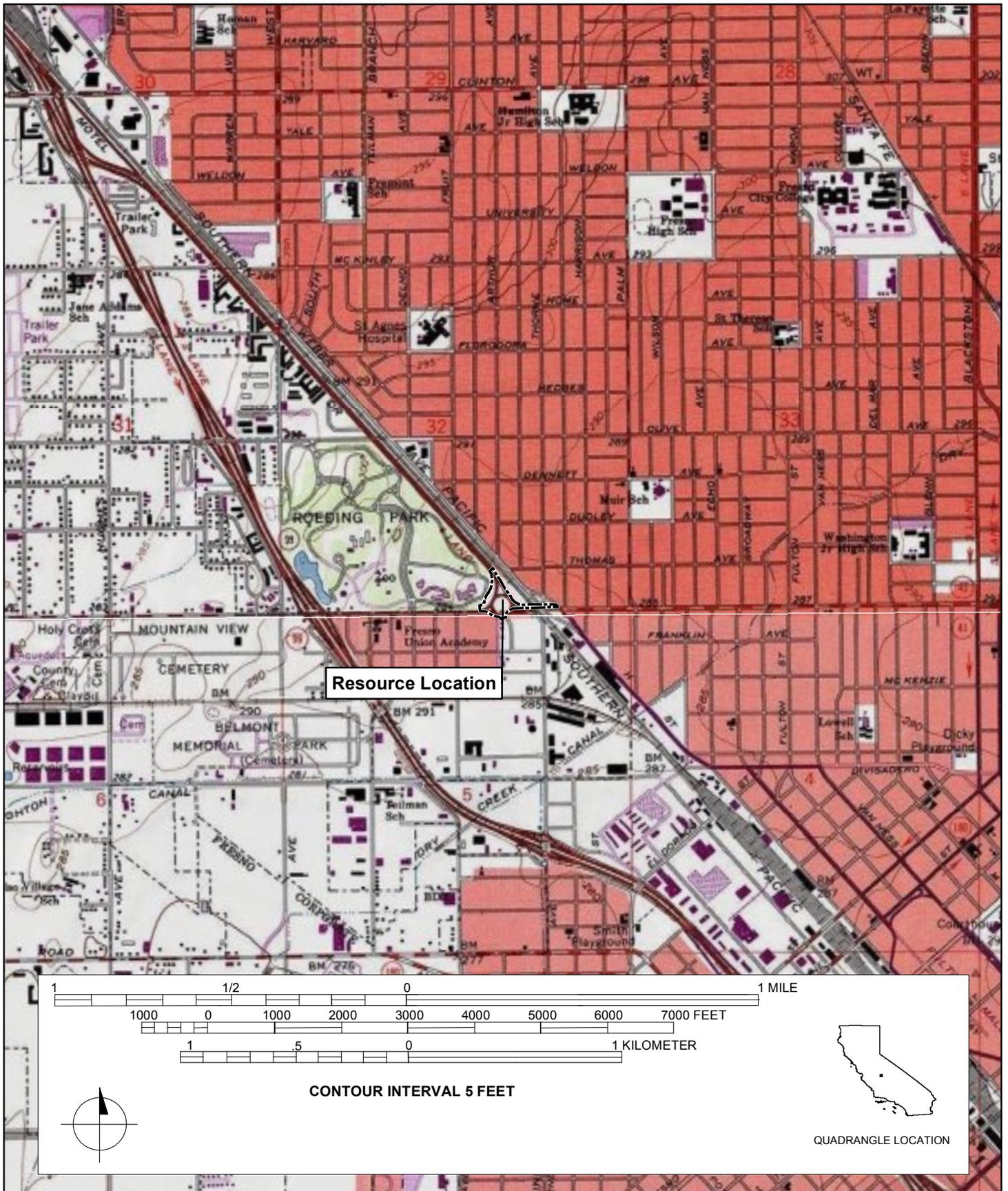
Roussel, Julien D. "Eight Contracts Completed on State Street Project in Long Beach Area." *California Highways and Public Works*, July 1935.

"State Agrees to Give \$70,000 to Belmont Subway." *The Fresno Bee*, December 12, 1931.

"State Approves Circle Plan for Belmont Subway." *The Fresno Bee*, December 7, 1931.

Stover, H. D. "Longest Steel Plate Girders in State Placed at McConnell Subway Crossing." *California Highways and Public Works*, September 1934.

Woodson, J. B. "Elimination of Grade Crossings Grave Problem." *California Highways*. August 1924.





# Structure Maintenance & Investigations



December 2011

## Historical Significance - Local Agency Bridges

### District 06

#### Fresno County

Bridge Number	Bridge Name	Location	Historical Significance	Year Built	Year Wid/Ext
42C0001	SAN JOAQUIN RIVER	0.1 MI W/O FRIANT RD	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1952	
42C0007	CAMERON SLOUGH (OFF OF KINGS RIVER)	0.14 MI E/O RIVERBEND AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1981	
42C0009	KINGS RIVER	0.1 MI WEST OF REED AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1975	
42C0010	KINGS RIVER	0.5 MI WEST OF REED AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1929	1974
42C0014	CCID MAIN CANAL	0.1 MILES WEST OF SR 33	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1960	
42C0015	OUTSIDE CANAL	AT (E/O) WASHOE AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1960	
42C0023	JAMES BYPASS (JAMES MAIN CANAL)	4 MI S OF S.R. 180	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1956	
42C0026	CENTERVILLE & KINGSBURG CANAL	0.26 MI NORTH OF SR 180	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1940	
42C0032	FANCHER CREEK CANAL	0.3 MI N OF S.R. 180	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1966	
42C0038	FOWLER SWITCH CANAL	1.0 MI W OF MCCALL AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1938	1983
42C0039	KINGS RIVER	S OF TRIMMER SPRINGS RD	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1953	
42C0043	CENTERVILLE & KINGSBURG CANAL	0.07 MI NORTH OF SR 180	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1930	1978
42C0047	OUTSIDE CANAL	3.9 MI NORTH OF NEES AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1954	1971
42C0048	CCID MAIN CANAL	5.1 MI NORTH OF NEES AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1954	
42C0053	CENTRAL CANAL	WEST OF CHESTNUT AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1955	
42C0054L	FOWLER SWITCH CANAL	0.3 MI W OF BETHEL AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1962	
42C0054R	FOWLER SWITCH CANAL	0.3 MI W OF BETHEL AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1925	1955
42C0056	FRESNO SLOUGH (KINGS RIVER) OVERFLOW	0.5 MI E OF DICKENSON AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1955	
42C0057	FRESNO SLOUGH (NORTH FORK KINGS RIVER)	0.8 MI E OF DICKENSON AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1955	
42C0058	CRESCENT DITCH	0.2 MI EAST OF HOWARD AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1955	
42C0059	FANCHER CREEK CANAL	0.2 MI EAST OF TEMPERANCE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1956	
42C0060	JAMES BYPASS OVERFLOW	3.7 MI SOUTH OF S.H. 180	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1956	
42C0063	PITMAN CREEK	6.36 MI N OF S.H. 168	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1942	
42C0064	BIG CREEK	6.45 MI N OF S.H. 168	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1985	
42C0065	JAMES BYPASS	2.8 MI EAST OF COLORADO	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1957	
42C0066	JAMES BYPASS OVERFLOW	3.8 MILES WEST OF SR 145	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1957	
42C0067	JAMES BYPASS OVERFLOW	3.2 MI EAST OF COLORADO	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1957	
42C0068	ALTA MAIN CANAL	1.71 MI S WELDON AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1965	
42C0070	DRY CREEK CANAL	SOUTH OF PALM AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1974	
42C0071	WEBER AVENUE OC	AT THORNE AVE	2. Bridge is eligible for NRHP	1953	
42C0072	BELMONT AVENUE UP	AT THORNE AVE	4. Historical Significance not determined	1932	
42C0074	DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL (@CPM 107.42)	1.33 MI W OF WASHOE AVE	4. Historical Significance not determined	1950	
42C0075	FRESNO CANAL	0.8 MI EAST OF BELMONT AV	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1964	
42C0076	FRIANT-KERN CANAL	1.5 MI EAST OF BELMONT AV	4. Historical Significance not determined	1946	
42C0077	GOULD CANAL	2 MI EAST OF BELMONT AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1964	
42C0078	JACALITOS CREEK	JACALITOS CREEK RD	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1940	1962
42C0081	TRAVERS CREEK	0.8 MI E OF BUTTONWILLOW	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1936	1973
42C0082	MURPHY SLOUGH	1.9 MI N OF MT WHITNEY AV	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1964	
42C0083	CENTRAL CANAL	0.65 MI NW OF CENTRAL AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1930	1946
42C0084	GOLDEN STATE SEP & OH		5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1936	
42C0085	CALIFORNIA AVENUE OC	BTWN CHERRY AVE & G ST	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1948	1963
42C0086	MONTEREY STREET SEP & OH	0.14 MI SW OF BROADWAY	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1948	
42C0089	MURPHY SLOUGH	2 MI SOUTH OF ELKHORN AVE	5. Bridge not eligible for NRHP	1922	1962

Primary # **P 10 004513**  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code \_\_\_\_\_

**PRIMARY RECORD**

Page 1 of 5

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

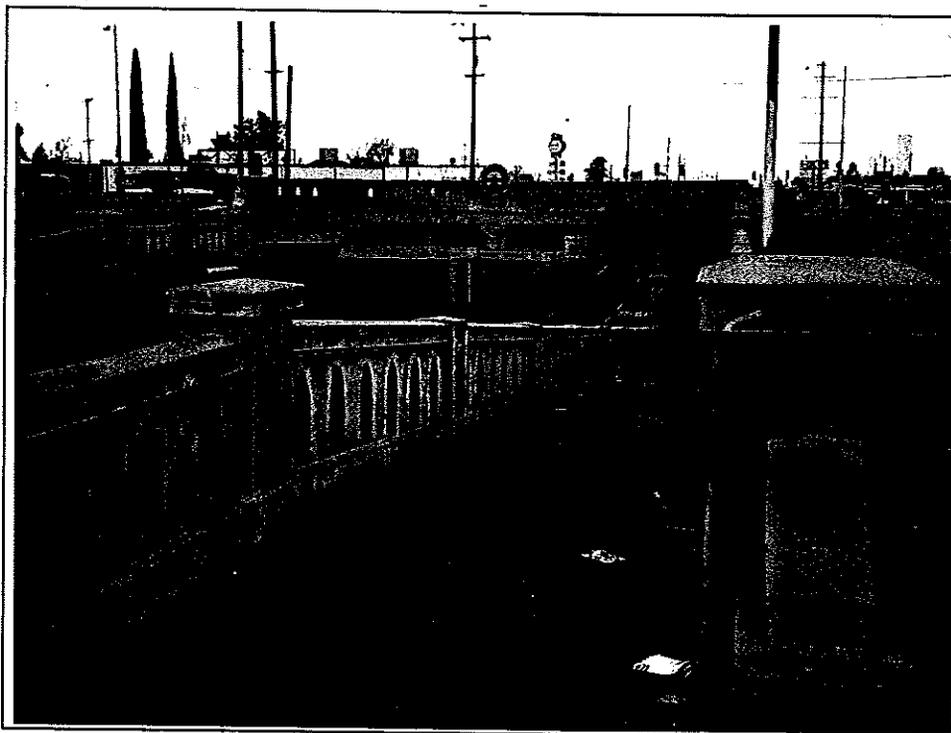
- P1. Resource Identifier: Belmont Avenue Subway
- P2. Location: a. County Fresno and (Address and/or UTM's. Attach Location Map as required.)
  - b. Address 100 West block of Belmont Avenue at Union Pacific Railroad (near Thorne Ave)  
City Fresno Zip 93728 8
  - c. UTM: USGS Quad Fresno North (7.5') Date 1965/81; Zone 11., 248920 mE/ 4070510 mN
  - d. Other Locational Data (e.g., parcel #, legal description, directions to resource, additional UTM's, etc., when appropriate):

Structure is part of West Belmont Avenue as situated beneath the Union Pacific tracks. Located on line between Sections 5 and 32, Townships 13 and 14 South, Range 20 East.

- P3. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries):

Structure is a concrete railroad overcrossing above a lowered portion of Belmont Avenue and includes associated pedestrian tunnel and decorative walls and sidewalks.

- P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District



- P6. Date Constructed/Age:  Prehistoric  Historic  Both

P7. Owner and Address:  
Possibly joint ownership between Union Pacific RR and the City or County of Fresno

- P8. Recorded by (Name, affiliation, and address):

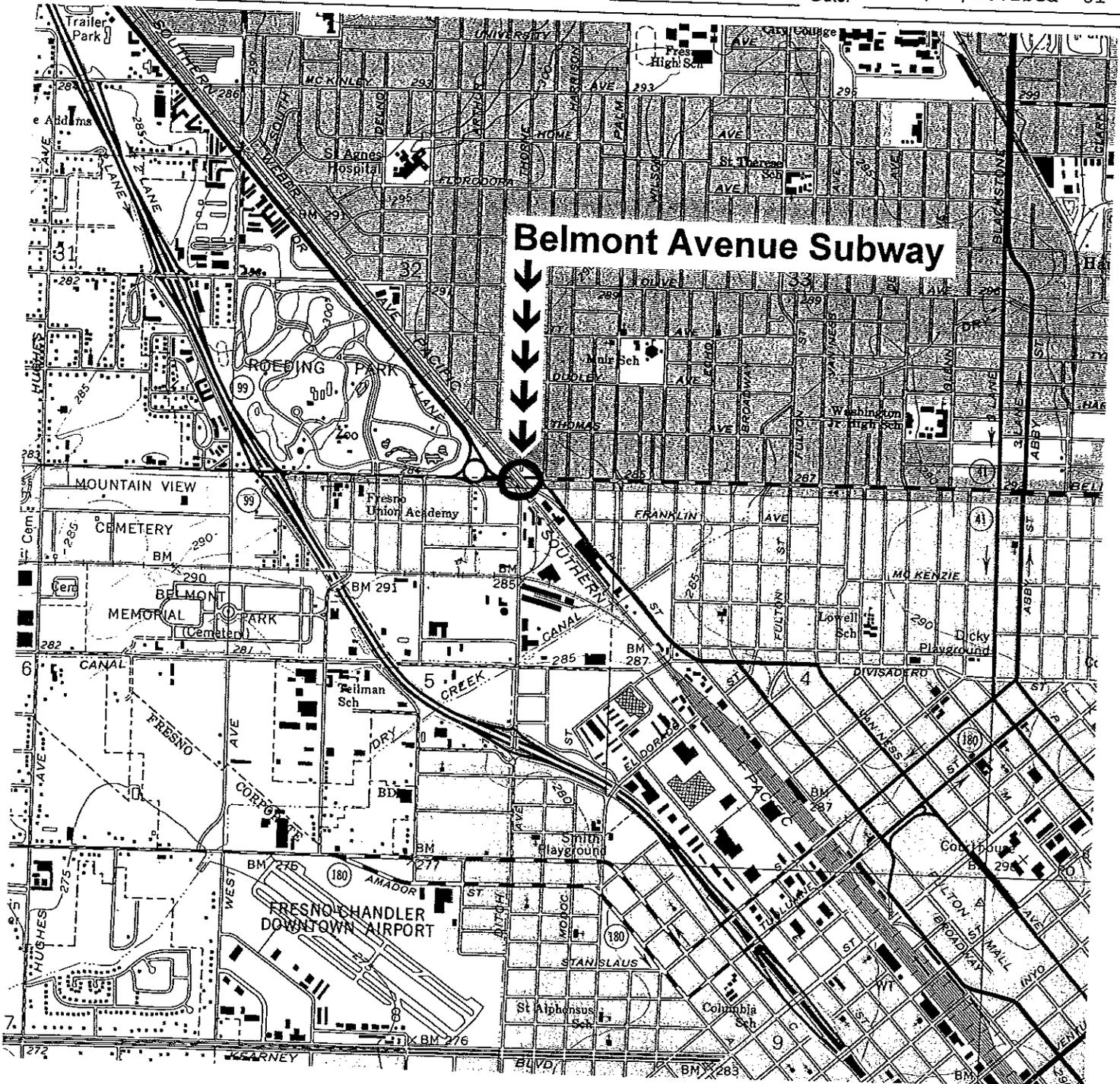
Richard S. Shepard, M.A.  
Chambers Group, Inc.  
17671 Cowan Ave, Suite 100  
Irvine, California 92614

P9. Date Recorded: Jan 20 2000

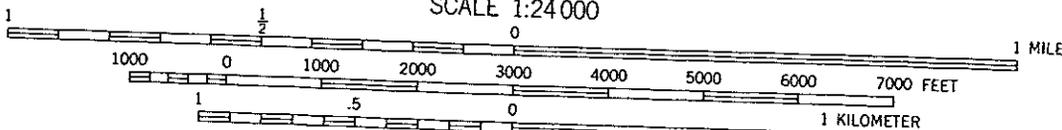
- P10. Type of Survey:  Recon  Intensive Linear  Other

P11. Report Citation (Provide full citation or enter "none."): " Cultural Resources Survey Report for Level 3 Long Haul Fiber Optic Project: WS04 Connection to Fresno IIA, in the City of Fresno, Fresno County, California" by Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA and Richard S. Shepard, M.A.

- Attachments:  NONE  Map Sheet  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Linear Resource Record  Archaeological Record  District Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List):



SCALE 1:24 000



NORTH

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 3 of 5

- B1. Resource Identifier: Belmont Avenue Subway  
B2. Historic Name: Same  
B3. Common Name: Same  
B4. Address: 100 West block of Belmont Avenue City: Fresno County: Fresno Zip: 93728  
B5. Zoning: \_\_\_\_\_ B6. Threats: fiber optic installation B7. Architectural Style: \_\_\_\_\_  
B8. Alterations and Date(s): Unknown  
B9. Moved? X No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
B10. Related Features: Decorative concrete walls and pedestrian tunnel.  
B11. Architect: Unknown Builder: "Constructed jointly by Southern Pacific Company, the County of Fresno, and the City of Fresno"  
B12. Historic Attributes (List attributes and codes): HP11 Engineering structure w/HP19 railroad bridge  
B13. Significance: Theme Railroad + Vehicular Area West Fresno  
Period of Significance Depression era Property Type Public works Applicable Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The Belmont Avenue Subway is not simply a railroad overcrossing, but, as the name implies, also includes the decorative concrete walls, sidewalks, handrails, and pedestrian tunnel associated with the portion of Belmont Avenue as it passes beneath the rail bridge. Apparently all concrete construction, with blue-and-gold "Southern Pacific Lines" circular emblems on both west- and east-facing sides of the rail bridge. Brass plaques at each end of pedestrian walkway commemorating joint construction by SPRR, Fresno County, and Fresno City in 1932.

Significance in Depression Era civil engineering projects related to the railroad industry.

B14. References:

Hansen, Doug (1993) *Fresno Sketchbook II, One Hundred Drawings of Fresno: Everyday Places*. The Fresno Bee, Fresno, California. Page 1.

B15. Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_

(This space reserved for official comments.)

P 10 004513

State of California - The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

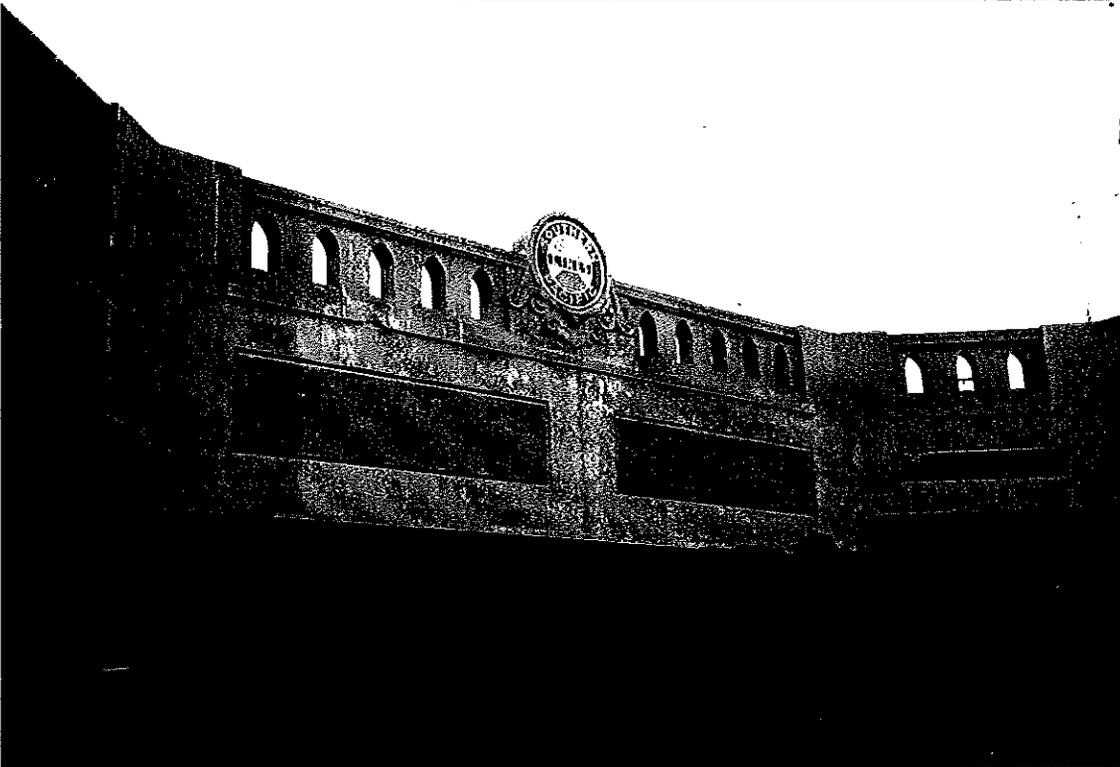
Primary # \_\_\_\_\_

HRI#/Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

Page 4 of 5

Continuation     Update

Resource Identifier: Belmont Avenue Subway (photos January 20, 2000)



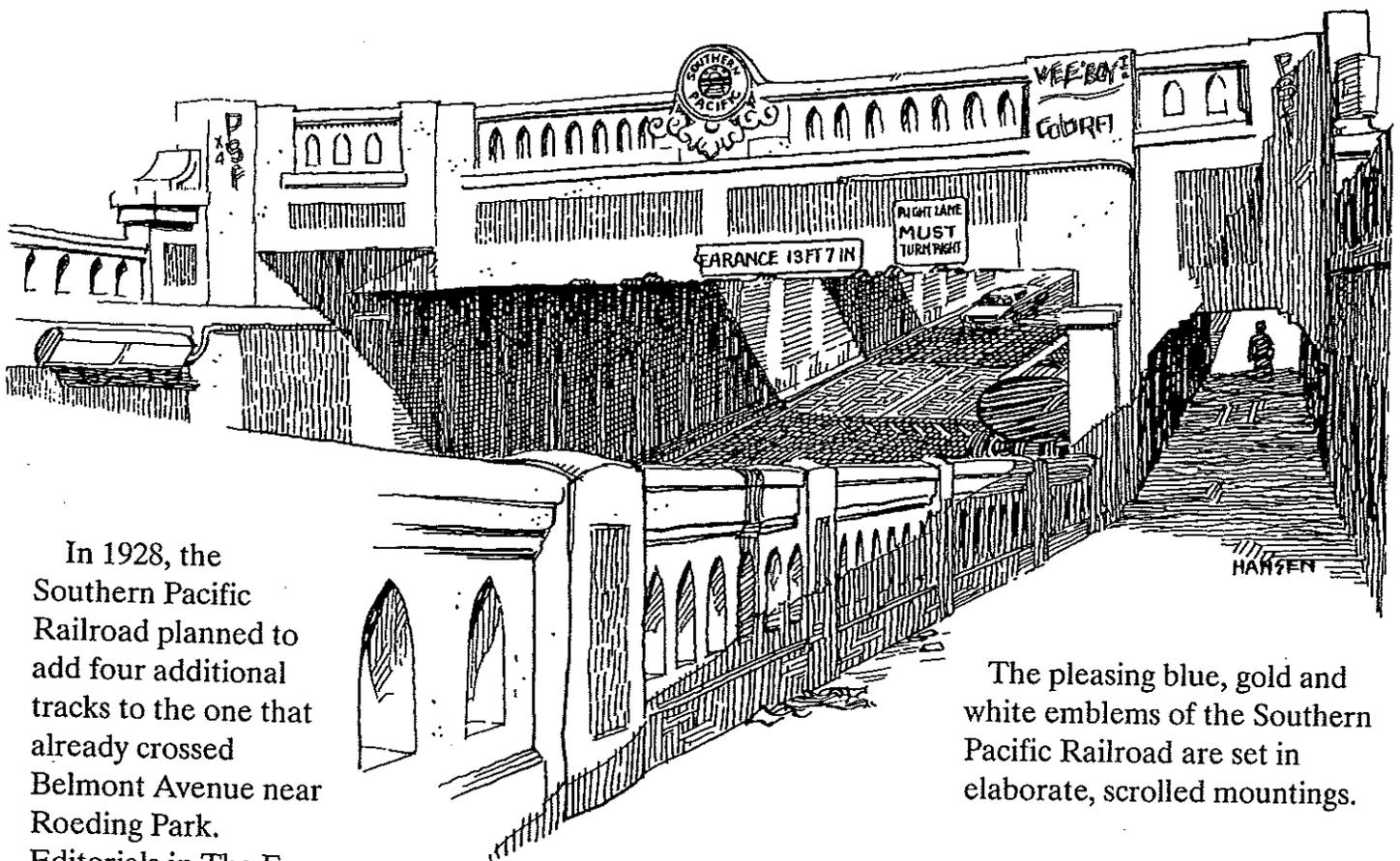
(above) "Southern Pacific Lines" emblem on east-facing RR overcrossing

(below) Brass commemorative plaque (1932) on west end of pedestrian walkway



## Belmont Subway

Attentive readers must suspect that I have an undue fascination with the mundane subject of underpasses. In my defense, they deserve notice as complex and varied examples of civil engineering and, in a landscape monotonously level, they provide us with a tiny thrill as we shoot through their shadowed depths.



In 1928, the Southern Pacific Railroad planned to add four additional tracks to the one that already crossed Belmont Avenue near Roeding Park.

Editorials in *The Fresno*

*Bee* decried the inevitable procession of switch engines and freight cars that was sure to block "the main entrance to Fresno from the north."

The four extra tracks were never laid, but in 1932, the Belmont Subway, as it was known, was ceremoniously opened. An automobile caravan departed from the Fresno County Courthouse, passed through the subway and negotiated the brand-new Belmont Circle, "the state's largest traffic circle."

October 10, 1991

The pleasing blue, gold and white emblems of the Southern Pacific Railroad are set in elaborate, scrolled mountings.

Page 1 of 1

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Bridge No. 42C0071

\*Recorded by Mark Bowen, AECOM

\*Date April 26, 2010     Continuation     Update

NRHP Status Code 2S2

P1. Other Identifier: Weber Avenue Overcrossing



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Camera facing west, March 13, 2011.

\*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, address)  
Mark Bowen  
AECOM  
2020 L Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95811

\*P9. Date Recorded: April 26, 2010

\*P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") *Historic Property Survey Report: Merced to Fresno Section High-Speed Train Project EIR/EIS* AECOM 2011

\*Attachments: NONE     Location Map     Sketch Map     Continuation Sheet     Building, Structure, and Object Record     Archaeological Record  
 District Record     Linear Feature Record     Milling Station Record     Rock Art Record     Artifact Record     Photograph Record  
 Other (list) Bridge 42C0071 DPR 523 Form, May 2004, SHPO Concurrence Letter, December 7, 2005, and Caltrans Bridge Log

\*B10. Significance:

Bridge No. 42C0071 in Fresno, Fresno County, was previously evaluated by Andrew Hope, Principal Architectural Historian, California Department of Transportation in May 2004. That evaluation found the bridge eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) at the state level of significance under Criterion C as an early example of the use of prestressed concrete, and the first vehicle bridge in California to use this construction technique (See Attachment). The period of significance is 1953, the year of construction. The State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the evaluation on December 7, 2005 (See Attachment). The bridge was given a NRHP Status Code 2S2 and it is a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

As part of the Merced to Fresno Section of the High-Speed Train Project, an AECOM architectural historian field-checked the bridge in April 2010. The bridge appears to retain integrity and still appears eligible for the NRHP at the state level of significance.

\*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher

\*Date of Evaluation: June 2011

# PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #: \_\_\_\_\_  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 6

\*Resource Name or #: Bridge 42C0071

P1. Other Identifier: Weber Avenue Overcrossing

\*P2. Location:  Not for Publication  Unrestricted

\*a. County Fresno

\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Fresno North Date 1965 (photorevised 1981) T 13S; R 20E; SW ¼ of SE ¼ of Sec. 32

c. Address Weber Avenue City Fresno Zip N/A

\*d. UTM: 248950 mE, 4070680 mN

\*e. Other Locational Data: Weber Avenue over Belmont Avenue

\*P3a. Description:

This bridge consists of a single span of precast, prestressed T-beams. The span of 66 feet, 9 inches carries southbound Weber Avenue traffic over Belmont Avenue. The abutments are integral with earlier retaining walls built to lower Belmont Avenue under the adjacent railroad tracks. The two-lane bridge has a 22-foot roadway, with a six-foot sidewalk on the south side and concrete window railings. There are a total of ten concrete T-beams, each 36 inches deep. The beams are 36 inches wide at the top and 16 inches wide at the bottom, with six-inch thick vertical webs. The bridge crosses Belmont Avenue at an approximately 41-degree angle.

\*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP19 – Bridge

\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  Other



Bridge 42C0071 (Weber Avenue over Belmont Avenue)

P5b. Description of Photo:  
View northwest  
October 2003

\*P6. Date Constructed/Age  
and Sources:  Historic  
1953 (Caltrans records)

\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Fresno

\*P8. Recorded by:  
Andrew Hope, Caltrans  
1120 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 654-5611

\*P9. Date Recorded: May 2004

\*P10. Type of Survey:  
Intensive

\*P11. Report Citation: *Caltrans Statewide Historic Bridge Inventory Update: Survey and Evaluation of Common Bridge Types*. Andrew Hope, California Department of Transportation, 2004.

\*Attachments:  Building, Structure, and Object Record  Continuation Sheets  Location Map

# BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6

\*NRHP Status Code:

\*Resource Name or #: Bridge 42C0071

- B1. Historic Name:** Weber Avenue Overcrossing  
**B2. Common Name:** Weber Avenue Overcrossing  
**B3. Original Use:** Roadway bridge  
**\*B5. Architectural Style:** N/A  
**\*B6. Construction History:**

**B4. Present Use:** Roadway bridge

This bridge was completed in 1953. Alterations appear to have been limited to routine maintenance.

**\*B7. Moved?**  No  Yes  Unknown **Date:** N/A **Original Location:** N/A

**\*B8. Related Features:** The bridge is part of Weber Avenue.

**B9a. Designer:** California Division of Highways **b. Builder:** Thomas Construction, Fresno  
**\*B10. Significance: Theme:** Bridge Engineering **Area:** California  
**Period of Significance:** 1953 **Property Type:** Bridge **Applicable Criteria:** C

See Continuation Sheet, page 3.

**B11. Additional Resource Attributes:**

**\*B12. References:**

As-built plans, 1952 (Caltrans bridge records)

Barton, Robert M. "Prestressed Bridge: First of Its Kind in State Is Built in Los Angeles." *California Highways and Public Works*, March-April 1951, pp. 1-5+.

Bezouska, Thomas J. "Precedent: First Pre-stressed Highway Bridge Planned for Fresno." *California Highways and Public Works*, September-October 1952, pp. 40-42.

"Bids for Prestressed Bridge Opened." *California Highways and Public Works*, November-December 1952, p. 57.

Bridge Report, July 28, 1953 (Caltrans bridge records)

Dallaire, Gene. "The Birth and Growth of History's Most Exciting Building Material." *Civil Engineering*, October 1977, pp. 118-120.

Holley, Myle. "Prestressed Concrete Makes Rapid Progress in the United States." *Civil Engineering*, June 1953, pp. 25-29.

See Location Map, page 6.

**B13. Remarks:**

**B14. Evaluator:** Andrew Hope, Caltrans

**Date of Evaluation:** August 2004

(This space reserved for official comments.)

\* Recorded by: Andrew Hope, Caltrans

\* Date: July 2004

Continuation  Update

**\*B10. Significance (continued from page 2):**

The Weber Avenue Overcrossing was constructed as a traffic improvement project and is not associated with significant persons or events in the history of Fresno that would make it eligible for National Register listing under Criteria A or B. However, the bridge is significant as an early example of the use of prestressed concrete, and the first vehicle bridge in California to use this construction technique.

Prestressing is a method of increasing the strength of concrete, allowing for the use of less material and a shallower structure depth for beams and girders compared to typical reinforced concrete construction. It is therefore often used where the necessary vertical clearance requires a structure of minimal depth. Although several methods of prestressing were in use by the early 1950s, the most common method, then and now, is to hold the reinforcing steel (rebar) in tension while the concrete is poured around it. When the concrete has set, the tension in the rebar is released, causing the rebar to contract and induce a compression force in the concrete that is bonded to it. This internal compression significantly increases the strength of the concrete member [Bezouska: 40].

Prestressing originated in Europe, with the French engineer Eugene Freyssinet playing a pioneering role in the first decades of the twentieth century. The method was used extensively in the reconstruction efforts following World War II, as it reduced the amount of steel required compared to regular concrete construction. In the United States, prestressing was first used for circular forms, such as pipes and tanks, and was not used for bridge construction until 1951. In that year, two roadway bridges of prestressed concrete were completed in the Eastern United States: the Walnut Lane Bridge in Philadelphia, and a bridge in Madison County, Tennessee [Dallaire; 118; Holley: 25].

The first bridge in California to use prestressed concrete was a pedestrian bridge over the Arroyo Seco Channel in Los Angeles, completed in the autumn of 1951. It was reportedly the first bridge of this type not only in California, but also in the Western United States [Barton: 1]. The bridge's 110-foot span is carried by a pair of concrete girders, which were prestressed using groups of wires rather than reinforcing bars. (The Arroyo Seco pedestrian bridge is extant, but is not included in Caltrans' bridge inventory, as it does not carry or cross vehicle traffic.)

The Weber Avenue Overcrossing was the second bridge constructed in California using prestressed concrete, and the first to accommodate the heavier loads of vehicle traffic. Two issues specific to this location led to the choice of prestressed concrete: the need for a minimal depth of structure, so that Belmont Avenue would not need to be further recessed to get the required clearance under the bridge, and the need to maintain traffic on Belmont Avenue during construction. Cast-in-place concrete construction was ruled out for this project, since the necessary formwork would have required the closure of Belmont Avenue for an extended period. A steel girder bridge would have been more expensive than concrete, and would have required a minimum superstructure depth of 46 inches. Precast concrete girders, without prestressing, were cheaper than steel but would have required an even deeper superstructure of 56 inches. The technique that was ultimately chosen, using precast, prestressed concrete beams, proved to be the cheapest to build and had a depth of only 40 inches. In addition, the weight of the superstructure was reduced by 125,000 pounds compared to regular concrete construction [Bezouska: 40].

(See Continuation Sheet, page 4.)

\* Recorded by: Andrew Hope, Caltrans

\* Date: July 2004

Continuation  Update

**\*B10. Significance (continued from page 3):**

The Weber Avenue Overcrossing demonstrated the efficiency, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of prestressed concrete, and marked the beginning of a new era in bridge engineering. The use of this technique grew rapidly in the following years, with 12 extant examples from 1954 and 1955, more than 20 each year in 1956 and 1957, and more than 70 each year in 1958 and 1959. The number of prestressed concrete bridges built in California continued to increase from 1960 on, to a high of approximately 300 examples built in 1970. The use of prestressing is now a standard part of the bridge designer's repertoire, and there are currently more than 5,000 prestressed concrete roadway bridges in California.

As one of the pioneering examples of this innovative construction technique in California, the Weber Avenue Overcrossing is eligible for National Register listing under Criterion C, at the state level, and is considered an historical resource for the purpose of compliance with CEQA.



**View of the precast T-beam superstructure and the earlier retaining wall.  
View northeast. October 2003.**

\* Recorded by: Andrew Hope, Caltrans

\* Date: July 2004

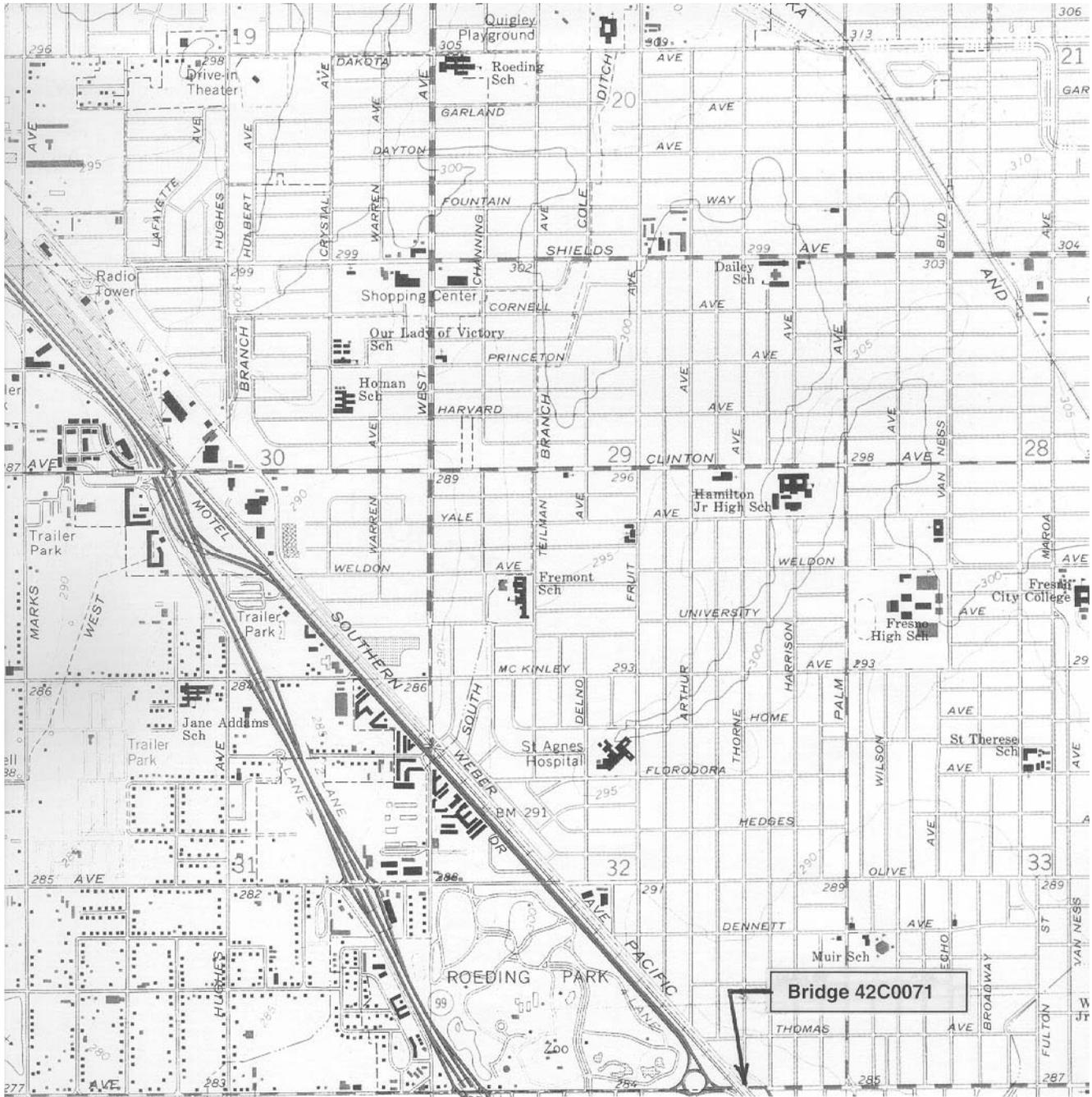
Continuation    Update



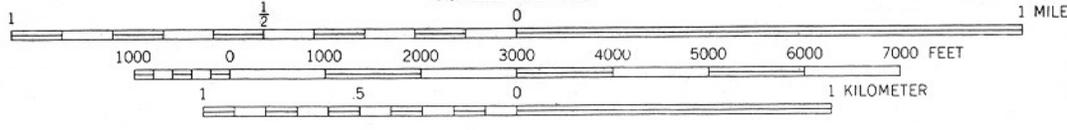
**View of the roadway, looking northwest. October 2003.**



**View of the underside of the bridge, showing precast T-beams and transverse stiffening webs. October 2003.**



SCALE 1:24 000



**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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December 7, 2005

Reply To: FHWA051028B

Gene K. Fong, Division Administrator  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration, California Division  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: California Department of Transportation Statewide Historic Bridge Inventory Update –  
Common Bridge Types and Monumental Bridges of Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Fong:

Thank you for consulting with me about the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Statewide Historic Bridge Inventory Update concerning Common Bridge Types and Monumental Bridges of Los Angeles. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requesting my concurrence, pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800, that the following ten bridges are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):

- 02-0011 State Route 263 over the Shasta River, Siskiyou County
- 02-0015 State Route 263 over the Klamath River, Siskiyou County
- 34C0024 Third Street over Islais Creek, San Francisco
- 34C0063 Lincoln Way over Sunset Boulevard, San Francisco
- 42C0071 Weber Avenue over Belmont, Fresno
- 53C0397Y Gaffney Street Overcrossing at Interstate 110, Los Angeles County
- 53C1289 Riverside Drive over the Los Angeles River, Los Angeles County
- 53C1380 West Boulevard over Venice Boulevard, Los Angeles County
- 54-0411 State Route 38 over Grout Creek, San Bernardino County
- 55-0003 State Route 1 over Aliso Creek, Orange County

Based on my review of the submitted documentation, *Caltrans Statewide Historic Bridge Inventory Update: Survey and Evaluation of Common Type Bridges* (2004) and *City of Los Angeles Monumental Bridges* (2004), I concur with these determinations.

Thank you for seeking my comments. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David Byrd, Project Review Unit historian, at (916) 653-9019 or at [dbyrd@ca.parks.gov](mailto:dbyrd@ca.parks.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Milford Wayne Donaldson" followed by a small circular mark.

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MWD:db