

HISTORIC RESOURCES EVALUATION REPORT

FOR THE

SR 23 Drainage System Restoration Project

07-VEN-23 PM 22.5/22.9
EFIS 07 2100 0094 / EA 37630

Approved by: 

Claudia Harbert
Environmental Branch Chief & Heritage Resources Coordinator
California Department of Transportation, District 7
100 S Main St, MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reviewed by: 

Joshua Knudson
PQS Principal Architectural Historian
California Department of Transportation, District 7
100 S Main St, MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Prepared by: 

Jeff Carr
PQS Principal Architectural Historian
California Department of Transportation, District 7
100 S Main St, MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

February 2023

County of Ventura
June 12, 2023
Cultural Heritage Board Meeting
Item 6e
Exhibit 3 – Historic Resources Evaluation
Report

The environmental review, consultation, and any other action required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by Caltrans pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding dated December 23, 2016, and executed by FHWA and Caltrans.

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) proposes to rehabilitate the roadside drainage system on State Route (SR) 23 between Bellevue Avenue and East Guiberson Road (postmile 22.5 to postmile 22.9) near the community of Bardsdale in Ventura County, California.

The studies for this undertaking were carried out in a manner consistent with Caltrans' regulatory responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800) and pursuant to the January 2014 *First Amended Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council On Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as it Pertains to the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highways Program in California* (Section 106 PA).

An intensive survey of the project's area of potential effects (APE) resulted in the identification of one built environment resource: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road, a tree row planted circa 1900 along the east side of SR 23/Chambersburg Road. In 1988, this resource was listed on the Ventura County Historical Landmarks and Points of Interest list as Ventura County Landmark 122 and has been evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as part of the current study.

Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C at a local level of significance as a rare and early example of a roadside tree planting in the community of Bardsdale. This resource is also eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources and has been designated as a Ventura County Landmark, and therefore, is it is also a historical resource for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

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Attachment A – Maps

Project Vicinity Map, Project Location Map, Area of Potential Effects Map

Attachment B – DPR 523 Forms

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1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1.1 Description of the Undertaking

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing the State Route (SR) 23 Drainage Restoration Project on SR 23/Chambersburg Road between Bellevue Avenue and East Guiberson Road (postmile 22.5 to postmile 22.9) near the community of Bardsdale in Ventura County, California (see Appendix A, Figures 1 and 2, for Project Vicinity and Location maps). The project would rehabilitate the existing earthen drainage channels on the northbound and southbound sides of SR 23. On the northbound side, the project would regrade the existing channel, place rock slope protection along the side of the roadway, replace existing cross-pipe culverts with reinforced concrete box culverts at three driveways, construct a transition structure to join the existing box culvert at Guiberson Road, clear and grub vegetation as needed, and trim the roots of existing palm trees. On the southbound side of SR 23, the project would construct a concrete rectangular drainage channel, replace the existing double cross pipe culverts with reinforced concrete box culverts at Bellevue Avenue and Chambersburg Road, and replace the existing cross box culverts with reinforced concrete box culverts at Pasadena Avenue and Guiberson Drive. All work would take place within the existing state right-of-way.

1.2 Area of Potential Effects

In accordance with the Section 106 PA Stipulation VIII.A, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project was established in consultation with Jeff Carr, Caltrans PQS Principal Architectural Historian and David Miraaney, Caltrans District 7 Project Manager, on September 20, 2022 (see Figure 3 in Attachment A). In accordance with Section 106 PA Stipulation VIII.A, the APE was delineated to include all cultural resources that could be potentially affected by the proposed undertaking.

The APE includes state right-of-way along SR 23/Chambersburg Road between Bellevue Avenue and East Guiberson Road (postmile 22.5 to postmile 22.9) near the community of Bardsdale in Ventura County, California. Additionally, the APE includes an area that extends approximately five feet beyond the right-of-way line on the east side of SR 23 to include the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road, a cultural resource that could be potentially affected as a result of root trimming that may be required to implement the project.

The setting of the APE is characterized by sparse residential development and agricultural fields.

2.0 RESEARCH METHODS

2.1 Background Research

Background research was undertaken to determine the proximity of previously documented cultural resources to the APE and to help establish a context for the potential significance of historic properties. The following sources were consulted in the process of the current study:

- District 7 Caltrans Cultural Resources Database (CCRD)
- National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- National Historic Landmarks (NHL)
- California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)
- California Historical Landmarks (CHL)
- Caltrans State and Local Bridge Survey (July 2019)
- *Ventura County Historical Landmarks & Points of Interest*, prepared by Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board Staff, May 2016.
- *Geologic map of the Fillmore quadrangle, Ventura County, California*. Dibblee Geological Foundation. Dibblee Foundation Map DF-27. Dibblee, T.W., and John A. Minch, ed., 2010.
- *Geologic map of the Moorpark quadrangle, Ventura County, California*. Dibblee Geological Foundation. Dibblee Foundation Map DF-40. Dibblee, T.W., and John A. Minch, ed., 2010.
- *The Names and Locations of Historic Chumash Villages Map* (King 1975).
- *Archaeological Sensitivity Map*, in Ventura County General Plan: Resources Appendix (2011).
- *Sites of Merit and Cultural Heritage Surveys Map* prepared by Ventura County Resource Management Agency (2015).
- *County of Ventura Cultural Heritage Survey Phase IV Santa Clara Valley 1987-1988*. Prepared for Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board by Judith P. Triem, San Buenaventura Research Associates (1988).
- Historic USGS topographic quadrangle maps: Camulos 1903; Piru 1921 and 1941; Fillmore 1951, 1969; Moorpark 1951 and 1969.
- Historic Aerial photos from UC Santa Barbara Map and Imagery Library: Flight C-688, Frame Z-151, Year 1929, Scale 1:20400; Flight AXI-1938, Frame 21-83, Year 1938, Scale 1:20000.

The search of these sources did not identify cultural resources within the right-of-way of where work is proposed. No historical resources/historic properties were listed on the NRHP, NHL, CRHR, nor the CHL within the project area. However, review of local registers identified County Landmark 122 (Palm Trees along

Chambersburg Road) on the Ventura County Historical Landmarks & Points of Interest list. Ventura County Landmark 122 was designated in 1988 as the tallest visual landmark in Bardsdale and the surrounding area and are over 115 years old. They span the entire length from Bellevue Road to West Guiberson Road, on the adjacent parcels to the project limits. Further review of the County of Ventura Cultural Heritage Survey Phase IV Santa Clara Valley (Triem 1988) found that it recommended the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road be declared a local landmark. The recommendation for the trees were presumably accepted as Landmark 122.

Analysis of tribal territory and village location maps identified Maxaxal as the nearest documented Chumash village (King 1975), located approximately between three and four miles away. Ventura County's Archaeological Sensitivity Map does not classify the project limits as sensitive nor very sensitive. Geological maps reveal that the project contains Holocene age alluvium sediment (Qa) from floodplain and valley deposits (Dibblee and Minch 2010). These would potentially contain buried soils. Examination of historic maps and aerials did not identify other potential resources dating to the historic period. Little had appeared to change on the project limits since the 1929 aerial and early maps.

In addition to the sources described above, general and specific research on the project area was performed to identify significant historical events, people, and development patterns. Additional research included the following:

The Research Library at the Museum of Ventura County – Online collections and finding aids

Ventura County Library, E.P. Foster Library – Local history collection and local newspaper collections (online and in person October 2022)

2.2 Consulting Parties and Public Participation

On April 26, 2022, Caltrans sent letters via email to organizations and agencies that were identified as potentially having an interest in the undertaking. The purpose of the letters was request information regarding potential and/or designated historically significant properties within the vicinity of the project. The letters also served as an opportunity for the parties to participate as a consulting party within the context of Section 106. Parties contacted included the following:

- County of Ventura, Division of Planning/Cultural Heritage Board
- San Buenaventura Conservancy for Preservation
- Museum of Ventura County

- Fillmore Historical Museum

Dillan Murray, Assistant Planner with the County of Ventura, responded with an April 26, 2022 email to Jeff Carr, Caltrans Architectural Historian, stating that Cultural Heritage Board staff would provide a response to the April 26, 2022 Caltrans letter; however the County provided no further response around that time. Mr. Carr followed up via email on February 13, 2023 explaining that Caltrans was currently preparing cultural resources studies and had recently contracted a certified arborist to examine the health of the trees and to make recommendations to incorporate into the project that would ensure the continued preservation of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road (Ventura County Landmark 22). Mr. Murray responded in a February 14, 2023 email asking that Caltrans provide him a digital copy of cultural resources reports and the arborist report prepared for the project. Mr. Carr responded via email the same day saying that he would provide Mr. Murray the requested reports as they become available.

Stephen Schafer, President of San Buenaventura Conservancy for Preservation, responded to the Caltrans letter via a May 16, 2022 email to Jeff Carr. In the email, Mr. Schafer asked whether a Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form for recording and evaluating historic resources was prepared for the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road. He also mentioned that an archaeological site, a quarry used by the Chumash, was located in the area. Mr. Carr responded via email on May 18, 2022, explaining that a decision to evaluate the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road had not been made yet and that he would forward the information about the archaeological site to the Caltrans archaeologist assigned to the project. On February 15, 2023, Mr. Carr emailed Mr. Schafer with a project update, explaining that Caltrans was currently preparing cultural resources studies and had recently contracted a certified arborist to examine the health of the trees and to make recommendations to incorporate into the project that would ensure the continued preservation of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road. Mr. Schafer responded via email the same day thanking Mr. Carr for keeping him informed of the project status.

Deya Terrafranca, Museum of Ventura County Research Library and Archives Director, responded to the Caltrans letter via email on April 26, 2022, stating that museum staff do not have knowledge of the site or vicinity and suggested that the library may have materials that would be helpful.

The Fillmore Historical Museum did not provide an initial response to Caltrans' April 26, 2022 letter. Mr. Carr followed up with an email on February 15, 2023,

explaining that cultural resources studies were underway and welcomed any questions or comments on the project. Martha Gentry, President and Executive Director of the Filmore Historical Museum, respond via email the same day acknowledging that the project is needed and expressing concerns about the potential effects of root trimming on the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road. She recommended enlisting the help of a professional arborist in assessing the effects of the project. Mr. Carr responded via email and indicated that Caltrans had contracted a certified arborist, whose recommendations were being incorporated into the project design to ensure the continued preservation of the trees. Ms. Gentry responded with appreciation for Caltrans' care for local historic resources.

3.0 FIELD METHODS

Caltrans Principal Architectural Historian Jeff Carr conducted a field survey on October 12, 2022. The purpose of the survey was to identify built environment resources within the APE that would require evaluation for historic significance. Photographs were taken from the public right-of-way, and notes were taken on resources within the APE.

4.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The initial development of the community of Bardsdale is associated with the extension of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) branch line from Newhall down the Santa Clara Valley toward Ventura and Santa Barbara beginning in 1886, which also spurred the largest land and population boom in Ventura County's history up to that time. During that time, companies (including the SPRR) and individuals waged promotional campaigns seeking to entice land buyers and tourists to Ventura County. One such individual was Roys G. Surdam a land entrepreneur who had undertaken land and oil business ventures in Ventura County since the 1860s, sometimes with his friend and business associate Thomas Bard. Among Bard's ventures was the promotion of Ojai as a health resort and the construction of a brick kiln in Ventura. In 1887, Surdam purchased from Bard 1300 acres south of the Santa Clara River and laid out the community of Bardsdale in 10-acre parcels intended for citrus cultivation and city blocks set aside for other community services. To secure water for the area, the Southside Improvement Company formed in 1887 with Bard as president and purchased rights from local ditch owners. Despite efforts to promote Bardsdale, investors were difficult to secure.

However, Bardsdale began to gradually grow somewhat in the 1890s with the settlement of several German families. Oil discovered by the Union Oil Company

near Bardsdale lead to additional settlement during that decade. Bardsdale continued to develop as a ranching community focused on the cultivation of apricots and later citrus. While the community was laid out with city blocks reserved, the community did not develop as a business or municipal center, rather residents relied on the nearby town of Fillmore for business needs. Today, Bardsdale remains a sparsely developed agricultural community consisting of agricultural fields and orchards, farmhouses, and two churches. The Elkins Ranch Golf Course operated to the southeast of the community from 1961 until 2020, when the owners decided to lease the land to a produce company.

5.0 DESCRIPTION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

Background research, interested party outreach, and field survey resulted in the identification of one property within the APE that required evaluation for the NRHP: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road, which is also locally designated as Ventura County Landmark 122. Located along the east side of Chambersburg Road (SR 23) from Guiberson Road to Bellevue Avenue in the community of Bardsdale, Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road have been determined eligible for listing the NRHP under Criterion C at the local level of significance as an important and rare example of a roadway tree row in the community. Please see the DPR 523 form in Appendix B for a detailed discussion of the property's significance, integrity, character-defining features, and boundary.

8.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Findings

The following is a summary of resources identified within the APE:

1. Properties listed in the NRHP: None
2. Properties previously determined eligible for the NRHP: None
3. Properties previously determined not eligible for the NRHP: None
4. Properties determined eligible for the NRHP as a result of the current study (refer to evaluation in Appendix B):

Name	Address/Location	Community	OHP Status Code	Map Ref. #
Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road	East side of Chambersburg Road (SR 23) from Guiberson Road	Bardsdale	2S2	MR #1

to Bellevue
Avenue

- 5. Properties determined not eligible for the NRHP as a result of the current study: None
- 6. Properties for which further study is needed because evaluation was not possible: None
- 7. Resources that are historical resources for the purposes of CEQA:

Name	Address/Location	Community	OHP Status Code	Map Ref. #
Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road (Ventura County Landmark 122)	East side of Chambersburg Road (SR 23) from Guiberson Road to Bellevue Avenue	Bardsdale	2S2	MR #1

- 8. Resources that are not historical resources under CEQA, per CEQA Guidelines 15064.5, because they do not meet the California Register criteria outlined in PRC 5024.1: None

8.2 Conclusions

There is one resource within the APE that has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP and is also a locally listed historical resource: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road (Ventura County Landmark 122). This historic property has been determined to be eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level of significance under Criterion C as an important and rare example of a roadway tree row within the community of Bardsdale. Character defining features of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road include the trees, themselves, as well as their linear alignment and the regular spacing between the trees. The eligible NRHP boundary for the historic property corresponds to a strip of land extending approximately five feet beyond (east of) the existing right-of-way line, beginning approximately five feet south of the southernmost palm tree (approximately 175 feet north of Bellevue Avenue) and ending approximately five feet north of the northernmost palm tree (approximately 60 feet south of Guiberson Road).

9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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10.0 PREPARER'S QUALIFICATIONS

Jeff Carr is an Associate Environmental Planner/Architectural Historian with Caltrans, District 7 in Los Angeles. Caltrans PQS level is Principal Architectural Historian and specific qualifications are on file in the Caltrans Division of Environmental Analysis Community and Cultural Studies Office, Sacramento.

ATTACHMENT A
MAPS

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Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map
SR-23 Drainage Restoration Project
07-VEN-23 PM 22.5/22.9
EA 37630/EFIS 07 2100 0094



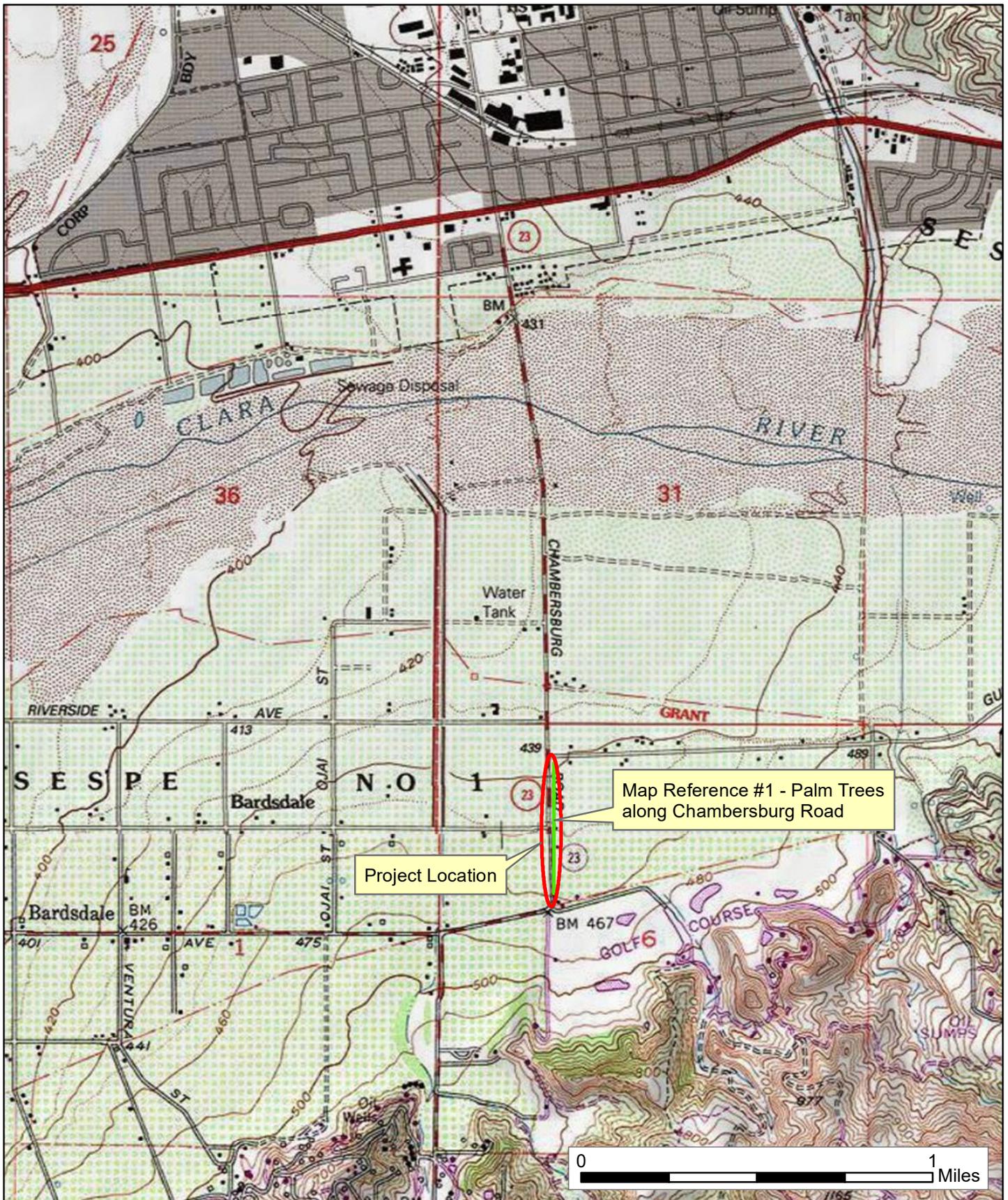
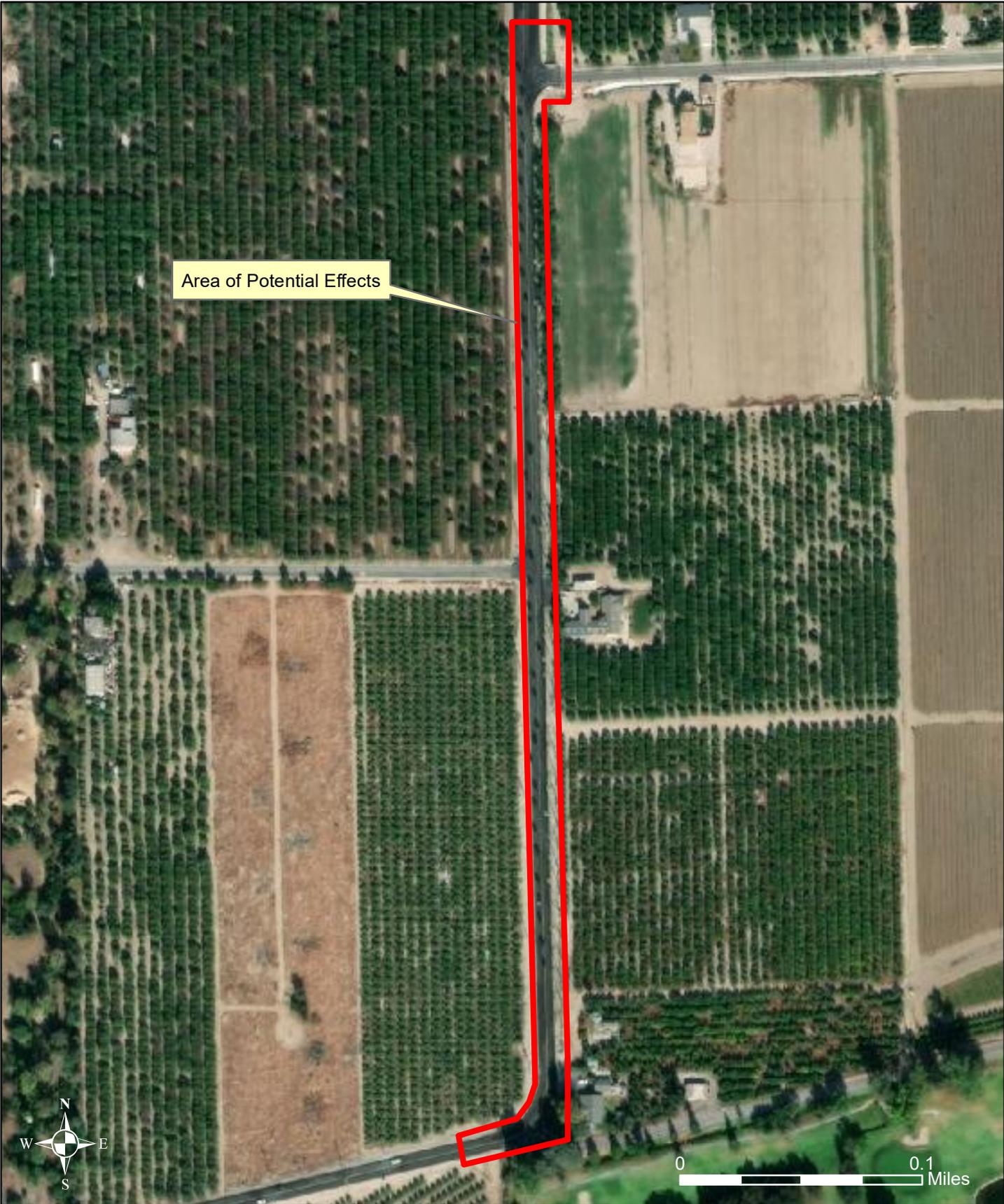


Figure 2. Project Location Map
SR-23 Drainage Restoration Project
07-VEN-23 PM 22.5/22.9
EA 37630/EFIS 07 2100 0094





Area of Potential Effects



0 0.1 Miles



Figure 3. Area of Potential Effects
SR-23 Drainage Restoration Project
07-VEN-23 PM 22.5/22.9
EA 37630/EFIS 07 2100 0094

Jeff Carr 9/20/22
 Jeff Carr Date
 PQS Principal
 Architectural Historian

David Miraaney 9/20/2022
 David Miraaney Date
 Project Manager

ATTACHMENT B
DPR 523 FORMS

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PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
 HRI # _____
 Trinomial _____
 NRHP Status Code: 2S2
 Other Listings _____
 Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

*Resource Name or #: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road Caltrans Map Reference No.: MR #1
 P1. Other Identifier: Ventura County Landmark No. 122
 *P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted
 *a. County: Ventura County/Route/Postmile: VEN-23-PM 22.5-22.9
 *b. USGS 7.5' Quad: Fillmore Date 1988 T 4N ;R 19W of _____ of Sec 00 ; B.M. _____
 c. Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 d. UTM:: Zone 11S, 322883 mE/ 3805610 mN
 *e. Other Locational Data (APN #, etc.): APN 500-0-010-050, 500-0-010-060, and 500-0-010-085
 *P3a. Description: (Briefly describe resource below)

This resource is a row of 38 Mexican fan palm trees extending along the east side of Chambersburg Road (SR 23) from Guiberson Road to Bellevue Avenue in the community of Bardsdale in Ventura County. The setting is characterized by rural agricultural and sparse residential development. The trees are spaced approximately 40 feet apart, measure 17.5 to 22 inches in diameter at breast height (approximately 54 inches above the ground), and are in excess of 100 feet tall. There are gaps in the tree row, which suggest approximately three trees were removed in the past. According to a August 2022 arborist survey, 13 of the trees are in fair condition, and 25 are in poor condition. The trees in poor condition have their roots exposed due to erosion of the adjacent roadside channel, some of which have had their rootballs undercut from erosion, compromising the stability of the palm trees.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP29 Landscape Architecture / HP30 Trees
 **P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District
 Elements of District Other



P5b. Description of Photo: View looking northeast
 *P6. Date Constructed/Age: Ca. 1900
 Historic Prehistoric Both
 *P7. Owner and Address: Jennifer Derwin, 130 E Santa Maria St, Santa Paula
Robert Hammond, 1002 Chambersburg Rd, Fillmore
William Burgett, 1150 Chambersburg Rd, Fillmore
 *P8. Recorded by: Jeff Carr
Caltrans, District 7
100 S. Main Street, MS 16A
Los Angeles, CA 90012
 *P9. Date Recorded: 10/12/2022
 *P10. Type of Survey: Intensive Reconnaissance Other

Historic Resources Evaluation Report for the SR 23 Drainage System Restoration Project, 07-VEN-23
 *P11. Report Citation: PM 22.5/22.9 EFIS 07 2100 0094 / EA 37630K (Caltrans, February 2023)
 *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): _____

*Resource Identifier: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road *NRHP Status Code: _____

B1. Historic Name: _____

B2. Common Name: _____ County/Route/Postmile: _____

B3. Original Use: _____ B4. Present Use: _____

*B5. Architectural Style: N/A

*B6. Construction History: Planted before 1905

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

*B8. Related Features (describe below): N/A

B9a. Architect: _____ B9b. Builder: _____

*B10. Significance: Theme: Landscape Architecture Area: Bardsdale

Period of Significance: Ca. 1900 Property Type: Landscape Applicable Criteria: C

The initial development of the community of Bardsdale is associated with the extension of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) branch line from Newhall down the Santa Clara Valley toward Ventura and Santa Barbara beginning in 1886, which also spurred the largest land and population boom in Ventura County’s history up to that time. During that time, companies (including the SPRR) and individuals waged promotional campaigns seeking to entice land buyers and tourists to Ventura County. One such individual was Roys G. Surdam, a land entrepreneur who had undertaken land and oil business ventures in Ventura County since the 1860s, sometimes with his friend and business associate Thomas Bard. Among Bard’s ventures was the promotion of Ojai as a health resort and the construction of a brick kiln in Ventura. In 1887, Surdam purchased from Bard 1300 acres south of the Santa Clara River and laid out the community of Bardsdale in 10-acre parcels intended for citrus cultivation and city blocks set aside for other community services. To secure water for the area, the Southside Improvement Company formed in 1887 with Bard as president and purchased rights from local ditch owners. Despite efforts to promote Bardsdale, investors were difficult to secure. (See continuation sheet.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: _____

B12. References: _____

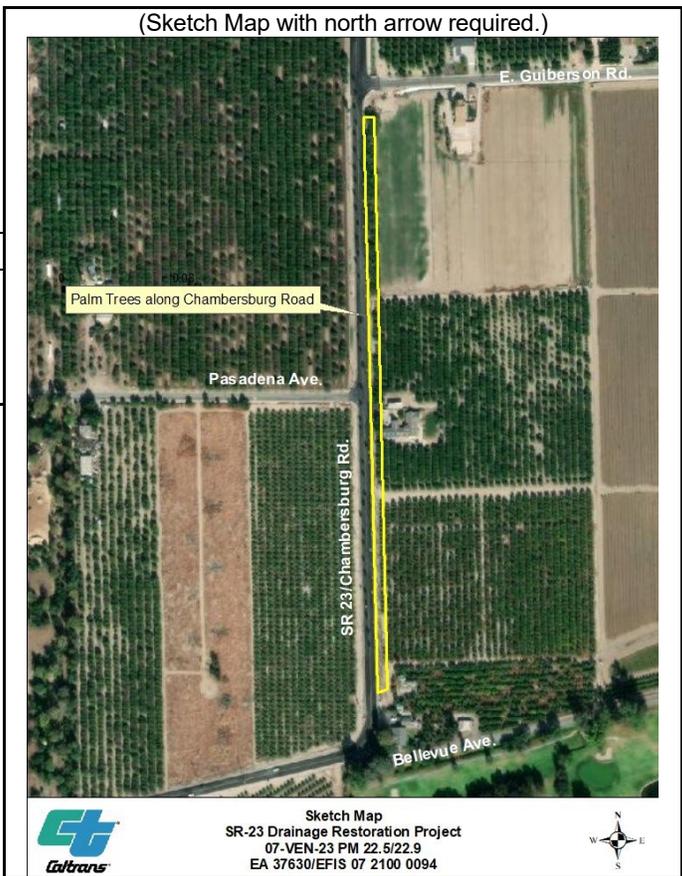
See Continuation Sheet.

B13. Remarks:

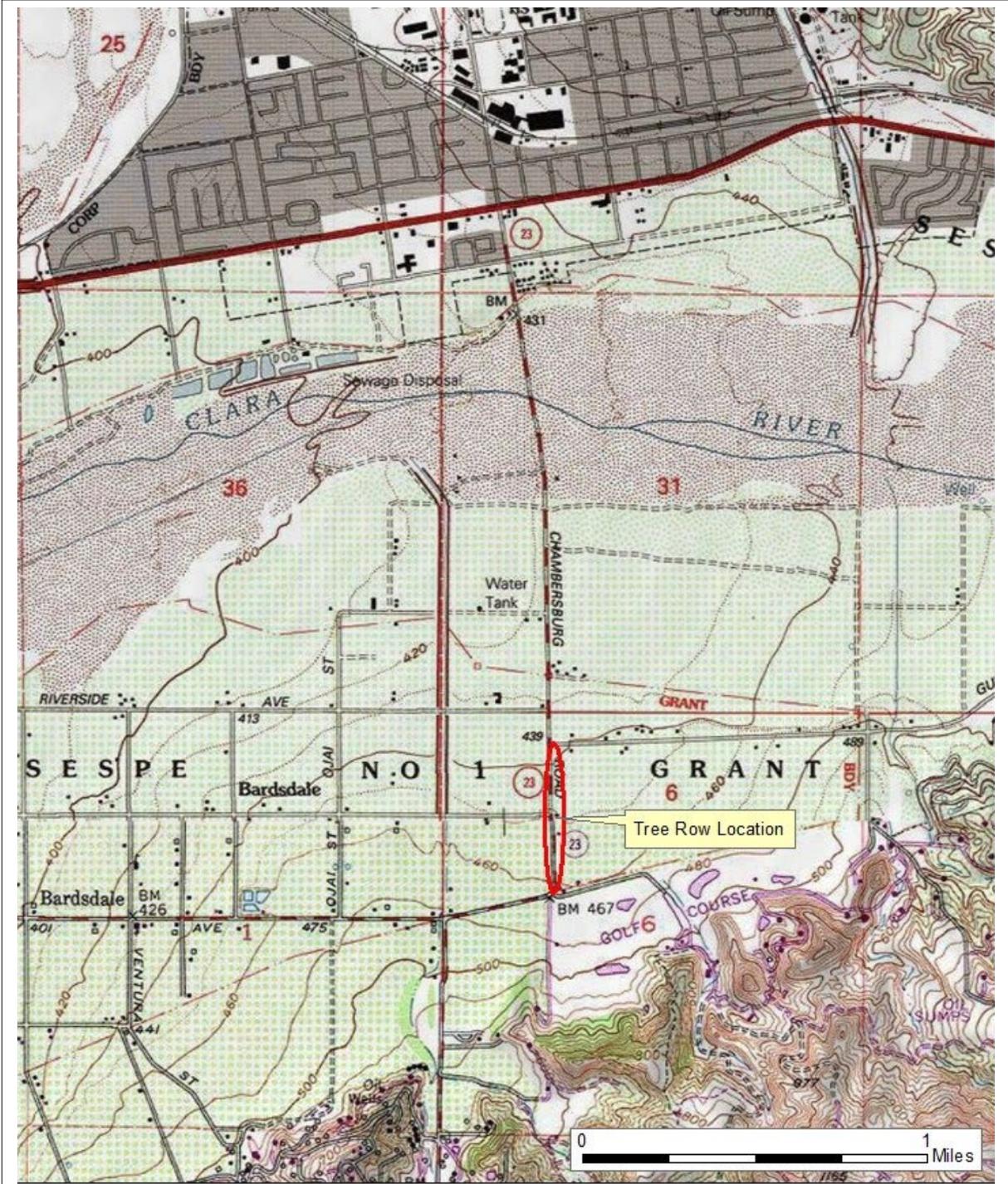
B14. Evaluator: Jeff Carr

Date of Evaluation: October 10, 2022

(This space reserved for official comments.)



Resource Identifier: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road **Caltrans Map Reference No.:**
 County/Route/Postmile: VEN-23-PM 22.5-22.9
 Map Name: Fillmore *Scale: 1:24,000 *Date of Map: 1988
 Moorpark 1:24,000 1974



Project Vicinity Map
SR-23 Drainage Restoration Project
 07-VEN-23 PM 22.5/22.9
 EA 37630/EFIS 07 2100 0094



CONTINUATION SHEET

Resource Identifier: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Rd. County/Route/Postmile: VEN/23/22.5-22.9 Continuation Update

***B10. Significance:** (Continued from page 2)

However, Bardsdale began to gradually grow somewhat in the 1890s with the settlement of several German families. Oil discovered by the Union Oil Company near Bardsdale lead to additional settlement during that decade. Bardsdale continued to develop as a ranching community focused on the cultivation of apricots and later citrus. While the community was laid out with city blocks reserved, the community did not develop as a business or municipal center, rather residents relied on the nearby town of Fillmore for business needs. Today, Bardsdale remains a sparsely developed agricultural community consisting of agricultural fields and orchards, farmhouses, and two churches. The Elkins Ranch Golf Course operated to the southeast of the community from 1961 until 2020, when the owners decided to lease the land to a produce company.

The Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road extend along the western edge of two 8-acre parcels and one 10-acre parcel. According to a 1987 interview with Bismark Basolo, whose family owned most of the land where the trees are located, the trees were present when he attended grammar school around 1905, indicating they were planted during community’s initial period of development. A review of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century newspaper articles mentioning Bardsdale did not reveal any additional information related to the planting of these palm trees, nor did a review of several histories written about Ventura County and the local area. An article on an influential Ventura County family (The Fosters) in *The Ventura County Historical Society Quarterly* did mention the effort by the family to promote the planting of trees along highways, including palms planted along “the road leading to Bardsdale;” however, this was in reference to plantings that occurred after the establishment of the state law creating county forestry commissions in 1914, which would have postdated the planting of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road.

The Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road were evaluated for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) using the National Register Criteria for Evaluation as outlined in 36 CFR Part 60.4 and have been determined to be eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level of significance under Criterion C as an important and rare example of a roadway tree row.

Under NRHP Criterion A, there are no known important associations with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. While the events associated with initial period of development of the community of Bardsdale could be considered a significant historic trend at the local level, archival research has not resulted in the identification of an important association between the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road and the early development of the community. According to National Register Bulletin *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, mere association between a property and historic events or trends is not enough to qualify a property under Criterion A; the property’s association must be demonstrably important as well. Without historical evidence of a specific reason or circumstance through which the trees were planted, it is not possible to demonstrate an important association with the significant pattern of events.

Likewise, under Criterion B, this property does not have associations with the lives of persons important to history. There are no known associations with individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented with this property. No associations were indicated or suggested as a result of background reach on the project, in any response to Caltrans’ consultation correspondence received from potentially interested parties, or in an interview with a member of the family who owned most of the land where the trees are located.

The Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road were evaluated under Criterion C and have been determined to possess significance in the area of landscape design at the local level. This planting of trees possesses distinctive characteristics of a particular class of designed landscape, the roadway tree row. Roadway plantings have been designed and installed historically for a number of reasons, including to provide shade, serve as windbreaks, or mark important travel ways. As the lone tree row planted within the community of Bardsdale, this property is an important and rare example of a roadway tree planting at the local level and embodies the characteristics of a type of historic landscape. Moreover, the tree row predates both the establishment of county forestry commissions in 1914 and the California Highway Tree Planting Program in 1921, making it an early example of a roadway tree row. For these reasons, the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road are considered eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Under Criterion D, there are no indications that the property is likely to yield information on important research questions in history or prehistory. The trees do not have the potential to be the principal source of important information. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion D.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Continuation Update

Resource Identifier: Palm Trees along Chambersburg Rd. **County/Route/Postmile:** VEN/23/22.5-22.9

The integrity of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road has been evaluated using the seven NRHP aspects of integrity. The resource has been determined to possess integrity in terms of location and setting. The trees are likely located in their original planted location, and the overall character of surrounding area remains as it did at the turn of the twentieth century, sparsely populated and agricultural in nature. While it appears approximately three trees have been removed from the tree row, the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road appear substantially intact with 38 trees total, and the spacing and visual rhythm remains evident. Therefore, the historic property retains integrity in terms of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Character defining features of the Palm Trees along Chambersburg Road include the trees, themselves, as well as their linear alignment and the regular spacing between the trees. The eligible NRHP boundary for the historic property corresponds to a strip of land extending approximately five feet beyond (east of) the existing right-of-way line, beginning approximately five feet south of the southernmost palm tree (approximately 175 feet north of Bellevue Avenue) and ending approximately five feet north of the northernmost palm tree (approximately 60 feet south of Guiberson Road).

B12. References: (Continued from page 2)

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