

# Ancient Campsite Found in Freeway's Path

by Deborah Crowe

A archeological team commissioned by Caltrans has unearthed a rare Native American campsite near the Hayward Little Theater that is estimated to be more than 5,000 years old.

The team also found some relatively younger sites - between 500 to 600 years old - where the San Lorenzo, Castro Valley and Little Castro Valley creeks come together.

"It doesn't look like a major village that was used all year long," said Glenn Gmoser, an archeologist and associate environmental planner for Caltrans. "It may have been a seasonal village or one used intermittently."

The archeologist concentrated their work in areas near where Caltrans wants to drive massive concrete footings into the ground to support the controversial Foothill Freeway as it passes over the theater parking lot and adjacent Japanese Botanical Gardens.

The archeological survey along the Castro Valley-Hayward border is part of the environmental review Caltrans must complete before the project can proceed.

While Gmoser considers the site "significant" from an archeologist's point of view, the discoveries by themselves are unlikely to stop or slow down construction of the bypass.

Project planners, however, will have to propose some mitigation measures to be reviewed by the State Office of Historical Preservation.

"It's possible to protect these sites if we know where they are," he said. Piles of grocery sacks and plastic bags in his cubicle are filled with hearth stones, broken



Photo - DEBORAH CROWE

Caltrans archeologist Glenn Gmoser holds a Native American cutting tool that has been dated at 5,000 years old.

*"It may have been a seasonal village or one used intermittently."*

— Glenn Gmoser

mortars, seeds, husks and other remnants of ancient meals for he and others to study.

The team confined their excavations to vacant lots and hillsides leading to the creeks. One cooking hearth was found under the garage of a recently demolished house.

Gmoser doesn't plan to do any further excavations in the area for the time being.

"We didn't want to be digging up peoples' backyards if we didn't have to since whether they will build the freeway is still an open proposition," Gmoser said.

Most of the finds appear to be 500 to 600 years old, in-



Photo - GLENN GMOSER

This pile of rocks is actually the remains of a Native American kitchen that's about 500 to 600 years old. The site has since been covered up to protect it.

cluding some cooking hearths with piles of stones nearby that apparently were heated and piled on top of food to cook it. Some seeds and husks found in the hearths are being analyzed to gain better insight on what people ate at that time. A laboratory was able to date each object through a variety of methods, such as carbon dating and comparison of the soil above and below where

the item was found.

Among the oldest of the finds are a small sandstone mortar and a chopping tool made of a type of basalt.

Gmoser said he suspected the cooking utensils were special because they looked similar to 5,000-year-old artifacts he had unearthed around Scott's Valley about a year ago as Caltrans was pre-

Cont. on pg. 4: Ancient

## Ancient Campsite Discovered in Path of Planned Foothill Freeway

**Cont. from pg. 1**

paring to earthquake retrofit a freeway interchange.

To get some perspective on how long ago these sites were in use, Gmoser points out that 9,000 to 10,000 years ago the San Francisco Bay was still a river valley created by post-Ice Age flooding.

The tribes who used the intersection of the creeks as a regular campsite likely were ancestors of the Ohlone Indians.

"What's interesting to me is the way the use of this site

appears to have been the same despite the span of time between the sites," Gmoser said.

Ironically, the area around the Little Theater was not considered to be historically interesting when Caltrans had first conducted a surface survey of it about 10 years ago.

But Rita Hall, who lives near the theater and is an opponent of the bypass project, recalled the stories her husband told of his father finding two Indian grave sites in the 1930s when he was building a garage under his

house.

She called Caltrans and told Gmoser that archeologists from California State University at Berkeley eventually took the remains away for study and the family heard nothing more about them. Gmoser says while he's found records of Hayward area discoveries dating from that period, he's been unable to pinpoint which might be from this neighborhood.

Gmoser says it's possible that the artifacts could be made available for public exhibition once his studies are

ice  
it will

endable  
visors to  
ously,"  
an at-  
o make  
ational  
priority

heordi-  
compli-  
e laws  
1 bowl-  
restau-  
smok-  
y 1998.  
visions

rs to  
e dis-  
all en-

## 4.4 CULTURAL RESOURCES

### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

This section of the EIR addresses potential impacts to historical, archeological, Native American and similar cultural resources.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

#### *Background*

Before the arrival of Spanish explorers, Hayward and much of the surrounding region was occupied by a Native American group known as the Costanoan. These people lived along the coast and bays as well as the coastal valleys of central northern California. The coastal environment served as a major source for a variety of food and building materials. In the Hayward area, main Costanoan settlements were located where streams emerged from the hills on plains adjacent to the Bay, including the site of downtown Hayward.

Archeological evidence suggests that there has been sustained human use of the general area for at least 5,000 years.

A number of buildings and associated structures from the Victorian era and early 20<sup>th</sup> century remain, including within the downtown area. Hayward's agricultural and recreational past also manifests itself in the remaining grazing land, equestrian trails, community gardens and nurseries.

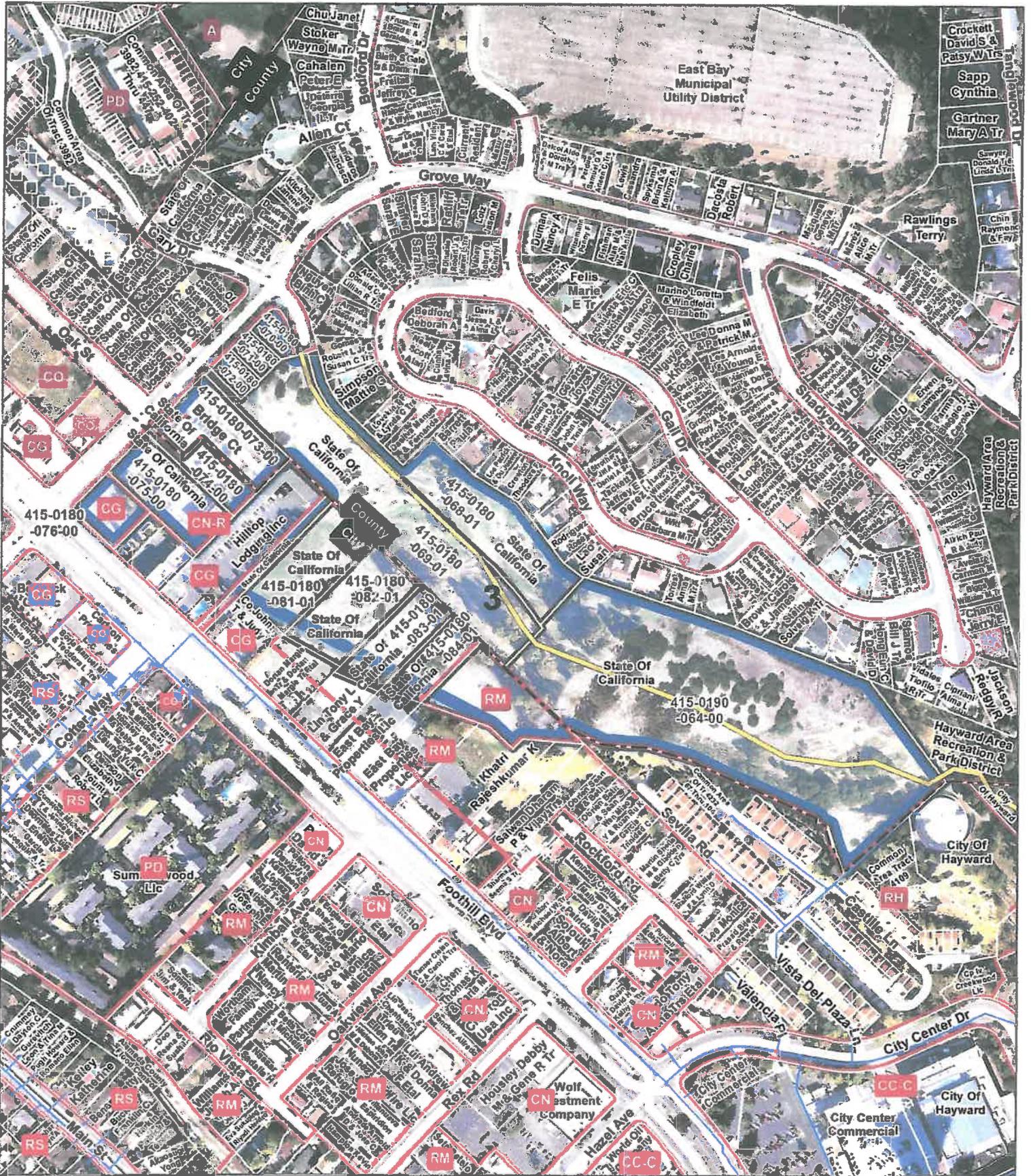
#### *Cultural resource records search*

As part of this Program EIR, the Northwest Information Center at Sonoma State University was contacted to identify recorded archeological, historical, Native American and other cultural resource sites.

Northwest Information Center records indicate the presence of one Native American archeological site within the Project area. (This is P-01-001795) a large former settlement that includes burials. Given the size and number of properties included in the Project area and the presence of a number of intermittent and perennial creeks transecting the area, there is a high potential that other unrecorded Native American and/or cultural resource sites may exist within or adjacent to the area.

Standard measures are set forth in the Hayward General Plan and other City project procedures to protect buried archeological, historic and/or Native American resources should these be discovered during grading and construction activities. These measures require that if such resources are found, grading operations shall be halted and the resources are evaluated by a qualified professional. If necessary and based on recommendations of the professional, a detailed

SITE  
ONE on N 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Prescent  
Castroville



-  Auction property boundary
-  Parcels to be auctioned
-  238 Bypass Trail Location
-  Sewer (Mains)
-  Historic Buildings
-  City limits
-  Parcels (white)
-  Zoning boundaries
-  Sewer (Easements)
-  Water (Service Laterals, Laterals, Mains)

# ALMOST 20 ACRES OF DEVELOPABLE LAND IN HAYWARD, CA!!!



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AUCTION

**Minimum Bid:**  
**\$8,000,000**

**Date & Location:**  
**October 22, 2014**

**at**  
**111 Grand Avenue,**  
**Oakland, CA 94612**  
**Floor 13, Room TBD**

**Option Deposit**  
**\$500,000**

**Open House Dates**  
**By Appointment**



**For questions or to schedule an appointment please contact**

**Van Nguyen**  
**510-517-9502**  
**van.nguyen@dot.ca.gov**

**REGISTRATION**  
**10:30 am — 10:59 am**

**AUCTION STARTS AT**  
**11:00 am**

This group of lots is located on the corner of Foothill Blvd and Grove way. Foothill Blvd is a major commercial corridor. Grove Way is in close proximity to the onramp to Interstate 580. The area above Foothill Blvd is primarily single family residential. Public transit is available on Foothill Blvd. It is in the Strobridge Elementary School, Bret Harte Middle School and Hayward High School Districts.

**Excess Lands Sales**  
**P.O. Box 23440**  
**Oakland, CA 94623-0440**

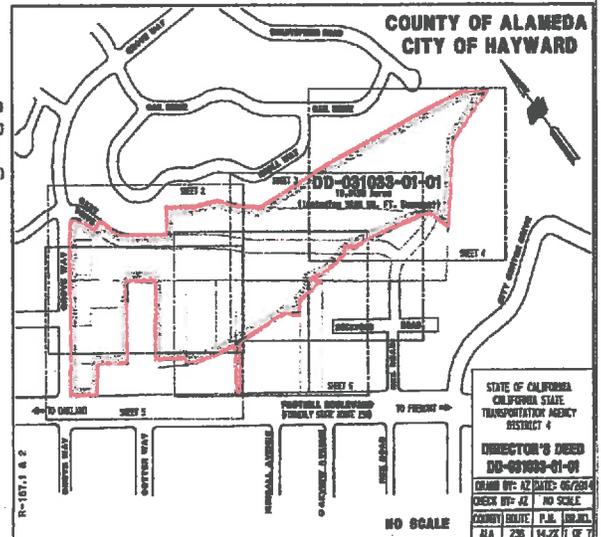
**Phone: 510-286-5352**  
**www.dot.ca.gov/property**

For sale is a group of excess land parcels by the Department of Transportation, identified as DD-031033-01, on the southeast corner of Grove Way, Bridge Ct, Gary Drive and 21502 Foothill Blvd in Hayward, CA in Alameda County. This auction will be done through the SEALED bid process at the Department of Transportation office in Oakland, CA.

- 21 Parcels in total
- Vacant parcels, commercial and multiple/single family residences
- ±19.8 acres combined
- Properties are located in two planning area: Alameda County and the City of Hayward.
- Various zoning (CG/SD7, CN-R, C-1, RS D15, RM, R1, LDR, OS). Please confirm with appropriate jurisdictions.
- For more information please visit:  
<http://www.ci.hayward.ca.us/CITY-GOVERNMENT/DEPARTMENTS/DEVELOPMENT-SERVICES/DOCUMENTS/2014/auction/Auction3.pdf>
- Potential buyers should also check with Alameda County
- Planning for additional requirements for development.
- The church (aka "Meals on Wheels") and 3 SFRs on Grove are to be demolished at State's expense by COE
- Properties are sold in "AS IS" condition. Caltrans makes no representation as to the potential use of this property.

**DD-031033-01-01**  
**19.8158 Acres**  
**(Including 3885 SQ. FT. Easement)**

- 031033-01-01: PARCEL A-139202 SQ. FT.(3.1956 Ac.)
- 031034-01-01: PARCEL B-135633 SQ. FT.(3.1137 Ac.)
- 031034-02-01: PARCEL C-1210 SQ. FT.
- 031037-01-01: PARCEL D-223392 SQ. FT.(5.1284 Ac.)
- 032590-01-01: PARCEL E-114 SQ. FT.
- 032599-01-01: PARCEL F-1462 SQ. FT.
- 032602-01-01: PARCEL G-167 SQ. FT.
- 032602-02-01: PARCEL H-2511 SQ. FT.
- 032603-01-01: PARCEL J-52046 SQ. FT.(1.1948 Ac.)
- 032604-01-01: PARCEL K-35309 SQ. FT.
- 032606-02-01: PARCEL L-5364 SQ. FT.
- 032607-02-01: PARCEL M-40421 SQ. FT.
- 032608-01-01: PARCEL N-44639 SQ. FT.(1.0248 Ac.)
- 032609-01-01: PARCEL O-24811 SQ. FT.
- 032610-01-01: PARCEL P-52769 SQ. FT.(1.2114 Ac.)
- 032610-X1-X2: PARCEL Q-3885 SQ. FT.
- 032839-01-01: PARCEL R-16136 SQ. FT.
- 032641-01-01: PARCEL S-6499 SQ. FT.
- 032642-01-01: PARCEL T-6525 SQ. FT.
- 039382-01-01: PARCEL U-7101 SQ. FT.
- 063069-01-01: PARCEL V-63982 SQ. FT.(1.4688 Ac.)



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA STATE  
TRANSPORTATION AGENCY  
DISTRICT 4  
**DIRECTOR'S DEED**  
**DD-031033-01-01**  
DRAWN BY: AZ (DATE: 06/20/14)  
CHECK BY: AZ NO SCALE  
COUNTY (ALAMEDA) P.L. (03/10)  
S.A. 235 14.22 (1 OF 7)