

Ad Hoc Committee on Culture and Education



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

This committee stems from recommendations made by the Citizens' Commission that met for over 18 months during 2020 and 2021.

A number of those recommendations oriented around how our city government, the school district, the local tribal government, and the Indigenous People of our area could move forward in partnership together. The idea would be for our collaboration to result in educational initiatives, policies or agreements, and especially ongoing communication and consultation.

That effort has been our committee's focus so far.

Fort Building as Learning Center: T-Mobile Grant



Building recently repainted, exterior walls repaired.

Interpretive Panel, Artwork, and Potential Plants for Front Area:

Common Name	Pomo Name	Latin Name	Use
California Spikenard/Elk Clover	kasi' zi tsō	Aralia Californica	Medicinal Tea
White Yarrow	kal' ma-ta	Achillea millefolium	Gastrointestinal Aid, Burn Dressing
Sticky Monkey	kan kan ka-li'	Mimulus aurantiacus	Seeds Food Source, gastrointestinal
Common Rush	tca-ba'	Juncus effusus	Basketry, Ceremony, Cooking, Weaving
Douglas Iris	tsi-lim' ka-li'	Iris douglasiana	Dye, lining for ovens, fiber

Plants Sources/Links:

[Sprouting Valley: Historical Ethnobotany of the Northern Pomo from Potter Valley, California](#)
[Dorothy King Young Chapter CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY](#)
[CalScape](#)
[Native American Ethnobotany: A Database of Foods, Drugs, Dyes and Fibers of Native American Peoples, Derived from Plants](#)

Fort Bragg Army Post Building Mendocino Indian Reservation

The building in front of you is the only remaining structure from the Fort Bragg Army Post, which was part of the Mendocino Indian Reservation. On March 3, 1853 (10 Stat.238), Congress authorized five military reservations throughout California. This served as a catalyst to clear the land for non-Indian settlement and land speculation. Here, the United States War Department established Mendocino Reservation and Fort Bragg.

Indian people from Marin County to the Oregon border, over to Modoc County and down through to the Sacramento Valley, would be herded to this place. Many of the able-bodied would return to their homelands. Some of the displaced married into Northern Pomo and Coast Yuki families. Some stayed under duress because their villages no longer existed or their families' lines were extinguished by one of the many renegade militias paid to hunt Indians.

Land speculators would eventually convince the California legislature to pass Joint Resolution 43, "that Mendocino Indian Reservation be abandoned, and the lands be opened for pre-emption." Subsequently, the native people here were force-marched 60 miles inland to the Round Valley Reservation. Those who risked life and limb to remain or return were regarded as squatters on their own land.

This panel was created in collaboration with members of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo



QR code
placement
Spanish
language

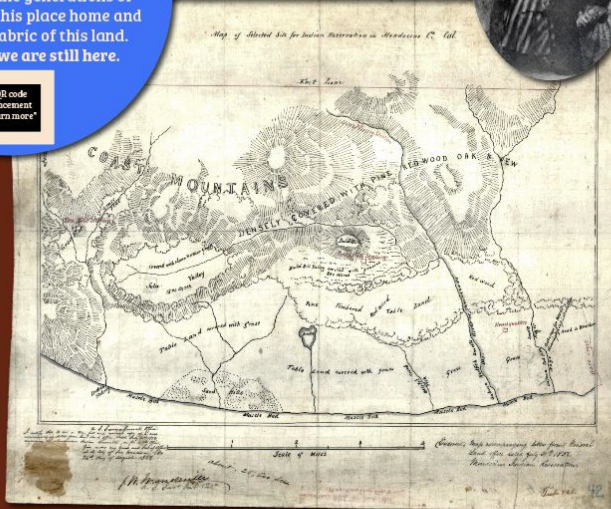
Our people, called Pomo by ethnographers, are indigenous to this land. The landscape on which you stand contains thousands of years of memories. Please respect the generations of people that call this place home and the ancestral fabric of this land. We are alive; we are still here.

QR code
placement
"learn more"

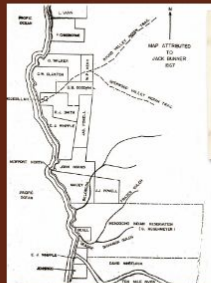


Left: Pomo People at Noyo, 1904

Below: Pomo Women



1856 Map of Mendocino Indian Reservation Natural Resources



Far Left:
Parcel Map, 1867

Left:
Enoch "E.J." Whipple
Title, 1869

After the closure of the Mendocino Reservation, and forced Indian removal to Round Valley, many former soldiers stationed at Fort Bragg would ultimately be the ones gaining title to this coastal homeland.

To own the plot they wanted, the soldiers would only need two witnesses stating there were no competing interests.



Art panel from Pomo artist and educator,
Buffie Campbell-Schmidt

Some recent updates

LED track lights have been installed
A new heater has been installed
A hook and cable hanging system has been purchased
TV Monitors have been purchased

Some elements in progress

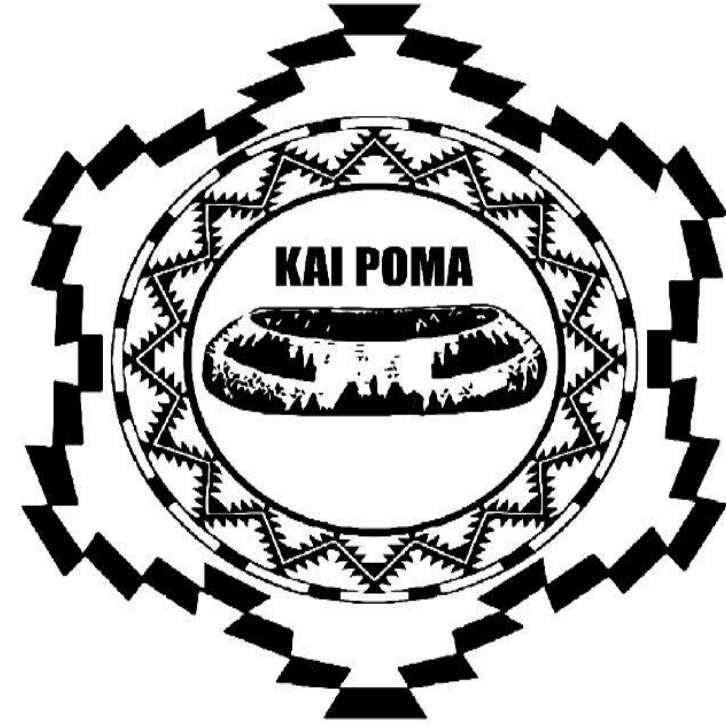
New flooring type
Window coverings
Exhibition furniture (pedestals with vitrines)
Other furniture (bookshelves, meeting/coffee table)



North Room (11x15 feet)



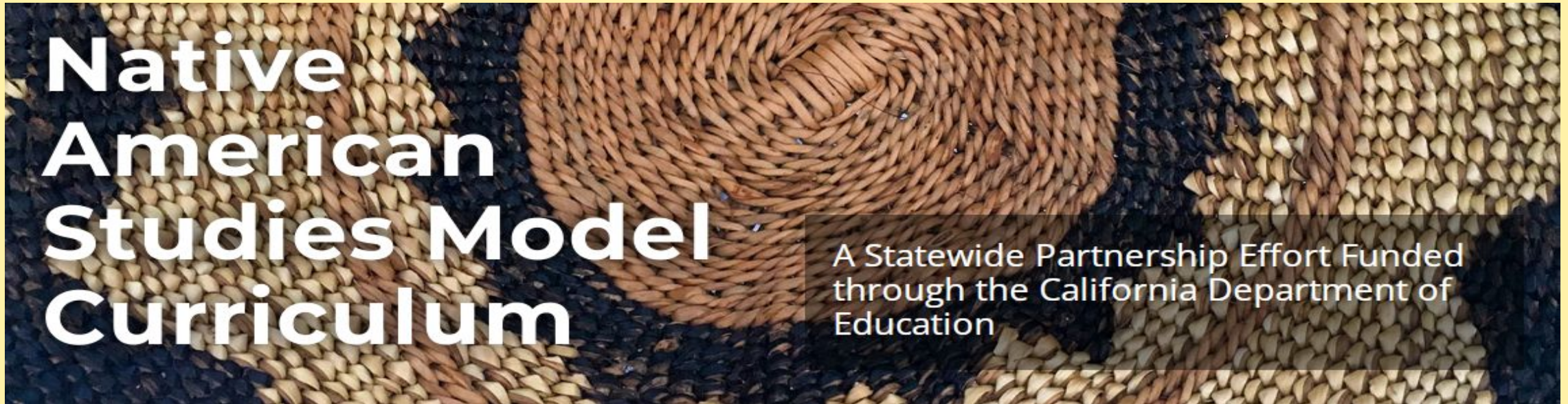
South Room (11x15 feet)



Kai Poma

Kai Poma is a tribally-incorporated nonprofit organization founded by representatives of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Round Valley Indian Tribes, and Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians. It serves as the legal entity for the return of over 130 acres of land along the Pacific coast in Yuki and Pomo lands, south of Westport.

Support local schools in doing more and deeper education related to tribal history, contemporary culture, and governance.



The Native American Studies Model Curriculum (NASMC) is lesson plans, primary source documents, planning resources, teaching strategies, and professional development activities to assist educators in teaching about Native American studies.



Land Acknowledgement and Commitments

The City of Fort Bragg acknowledges that the land on which we stand today is the unceded traditional territory of the local Indigenous People past and present. We acknowledge the critical importance of traditional Pomo methods of preservation of our land, waters, and sky. We recognize the sovereignty of the Pomo People, who are the original stewards of this land. We value, and seek to support, the many ways in which the Pomo People are working to preserve and revitalize Pomo culture, such as oral histories, dances, songs, regalia, basketry, and the Northern Pomo language.

We resolve to:

- Consult with the governing body of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians, as well as other tribal communities, on initiatives, issues, or items of concern.
- Raise visibility and public awareness of the history and contemporary presence of the Native population of our area.
- Collaborate with local Indigenous People, local schools, and State and Regional partners, to enhance education on the history and contemporary lifeways of local Indigenous People.

Follow this button for educational resources and organizations:

Learn
More