



Name of Property: Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz
City, State: Keene, California
Period of Significance: 1971 - 1984
NHL Criteria: 1 & 2, Exception 8
NPS Theme(s): II. Creating Social Movements and Institutions
2. Reform Movements
IV. Shaping the Political Landscape
1. Parties, Protests and Movements
V. Developing the American Economy
4. Workers and Work Culture
5. Labor Organizations and Protests
Previous Recognition: 2011 National Register of Historic Places
National Historic Context: XXI. Social and Humanitarian Movements
H. Labor Organizations
I. Farmers' Organizations
M. Civil Rights Movements
Cesar Chavez and the Farmworker Movement in the American West Theme Study (Draft)

NHL Significance:

- Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz served as the second national headquarters for the United Farm Workers union (UFW), representing a new phase in the movement's history and Chavez's growing need for a remote location that could provide him respite and refuge while allowing him to continue serving as the head of the movement. As the second



national headquarters for the UFW, the union grew and expanded and continued to serve in the struggle for worker and civil rights, and as a voice for the poor and disenfranchised.

- As the national headquarters for the farm worker's movement, La Paz is closely associated with the movement's leader, César Estrada Chávez (1927–1993), a nationally and internationally significant union leader, labor activist, and civil rights leader. At La Paz, Chávez strategized and reflected on challenges being faced by the union, celebrated victories and mourned losses, and watched his union endure and modernize. That Chávez wished to be buried at La Paz upon his death is an enduring testament to the strength of his association with the property.
- The farm worker movement's relationships with other reform movements, its unprecedented successes, and its enduring legacies illustrate the extraordinary importance of Chávez and the United Farmworkers of America (UFWA).
- The years between 1970 and 1984 constituted a distinct chapter in both the productive life of César Chávez and the history of the United Farm Workers. During the 1970s and on through his death in 1993, La Paz was at the forefront of the American farm worker movement. Thousands of farm workers and their supporters from California, and from across the country, streamed through La Paz to meet with movement leaders, learn from other farm workers, devise strategies, negotiate contracts, receive training, volunteer their time, and celebrate meaningful events. Throughout this period, La Paz became a symbol of the movement's most significant achievements and its expanding horizons.

Integrity:

- The property as a whole retains a high level of integrity.

Owner of Property: Stonybrook Corporation

Acreage of Property: 187 Acres

Origins of Nomination: The initial draft of the Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz NHL nomination was completed as one of three studies initiated by the NPS Pacific West Region related to César Chávez and the Farmworkers Movement. The three initial studies were carried out via a CESU agreement with the University of Washington. The current version of the La Paz NHL



nomination is based on the 2011 NR nomination completed by Professor Ray Rast, who wrote the original NHL draft nomination as a graduate student at the University of Washington. The current effort to move the nomination forward was initiated as part of the Secretary of the Interior's American Latino Heritage Initiative.

Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:

- By designating La Paz an NHL the legacy of César Chávez and the farm workers movement would be honored.
- Designation would further the ongoing commitment of the National Park Service to ensure that the nationally significant contributions of groups who are underrepresented in the National Historic Landmarks Program are better represented.

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: None known.

Public Comments Favoring Designation:

Landmarks Committee Comments:

Landmarks Committee Recommendation:

Advisory Board Recommendation: