CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Mesquite Street Project

Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California

Prepared for:

Chris Connors
CJC Holdings, LLC
17260 Bear Valley Road, Suite 110
Victorville, California 92395

Prepared by:

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA
BCR Consulting LLC
Claremont, California 91711

Project No. CJC2102

Data Base Information:

Type of Study: Intensive Survey
Resources Recorded: None
Keywords: Hesperia
USGS Quadrangle: 7.5-minute *Hesperia, California* (1980)

BCRCONSULTING LLC

August 30, 2021

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to CJC Holdings to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Mesquite Street Project (Tentative Tract Map No. 20434; the project) located in the City of Hesperia (City), San Bernardino County, California. A cultural resources records search, intensive pedestrian field survey, Sacred Lands File search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and paleontological overview were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The cultural resources records search revealed that 11 cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of eight cultural resources (all historic-period) within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has been subject to four previous cultural resources assessments and one cultural resource (a historic-period utility pole alignment designated P-36-4255) has been previously identified partially within its boundaries. The previously-identified utility pole alignment had been removed by 2010. No cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic-period archaeological sites or historic-period buildings) were identified within the project site during the field survey. Based on these results BCR Consulting recommends that no additional cultural resource work or monitoring is necessary for any earthmoving proposed within the project site. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

Findings were positive during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC, and the NAHC has recommended further communication with the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for more information. Since the City will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary.

According to CEQA Guidelines, projects subject to CEQA must determine whether the project would “directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource”. The appended Paleontological Overview provided in Appendix D has recommended that:

> The geologic units underlying this project are mapped entirely as old alluvial fan deposits dating from the Pleistocene epoch (Dibblee & Minch, 2008). Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one mile radius, but does have numerous localities throughout the region in similarly mapped sediments. Southern California Pleistocene units are well known to produce fossil localities and specimen including those associated with mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*), sabertooth cats (*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus sp.*), and many other Pleistocene megafauna and microfauna.

> Any fossils recovered from the Mesquite Avenue Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate and recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If human remains are encountered during any proposed project activities, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to CJC Holdings to conduct a complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Mesquite Street Project (Tentative Tract Map No. 20434; the project) located in the City of Hesperia (City), San Bernardino County, California. The project site is located in Section 25 of Township 4 North, Range 5 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Hesperia, California* (1980) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

Regulatory Setting

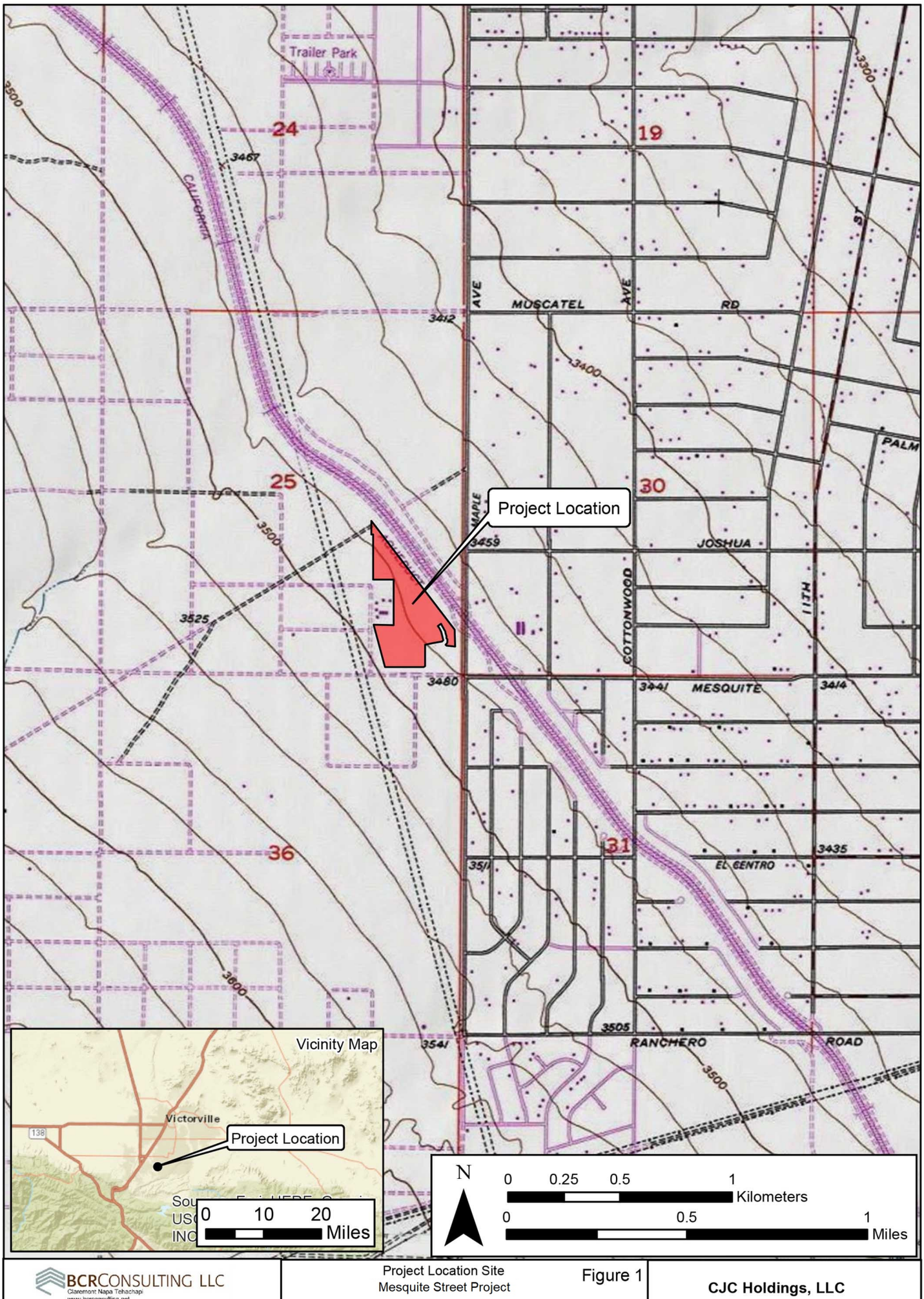
The California Environmental Quality Act. CEQA applies to all discretionary projects undertaken or subject to approval by the state's public agencies (California Code of Regulations 14(3), § 15002(i)). Under CEQA, "A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(b)). State CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(a) defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register)
- Listed in a local register of historical resources (as defined at Cal. Public Res. Code § 5020.1(k))
- Identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of § 5024.1(g) of the Cal. Public Res. Code
- Determined to be a historical resource by a project's lead agency (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a))

A historical resource consists of "Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California…Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)).

The significance of a historical resource is impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for the California Register. If an impact on a historical or archaeological resource is significant, CEQA requires feasible measures to minimize the impact (State CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4 (a)(1)). Mitigation of significant impacts must lessen or eliminate the physical impact that the project will have on the resource.

Section 5024.1 of the Cal. Public Res. Code established the California Register. Generally, a resource is considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), §



BCR CONSULTING LLC
Claremont Napa Tehachapi
www.bcrconsulting.net
909-625-7078

Project Location Site
Mesquite Street Project

Figure 1

Reference: ESRI; USGS Quad: Hesperia (1980), California

CJC Holdings, LLC

15064.5(a)(3)). The eligibility criteria for the California Register are similar to those of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), and a resource that meets one of more of the eligibility criteria of the National Register will be eligible for the California Register.

The California Register program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural significance, identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes, determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding and affords certain protections under CEQA. Criteria for Designation:

1. 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.
2. Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). Fifty years is normally considered sufficient time for a potential historical resource, and in order that the evaluation remain valid for a minimum of five years after the date of this report, all resources older than 45 years (i.e. resources from the "historic-period") will be evaluated for California Register listing eligibility, or CEQA significance. The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Assembly Bill 52. California Assembly Bill 52 was approved on September 25, 2014. As stated in Section 11 of AB 52, the act applies only to projects that have a notice of preparation or a notice of negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration filed on or after July 1, 2015.

AB 52 establishes "tribal cultural resources" (TCRs) as a new category of resources under CEQA. As defined under Public Resources Code Section 21074, TCRs are "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe" that are either: (1) included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the CRHR; included in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k); or (2) determined by the lead agency to be significant pursuant to the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c), if supported by substantial evidence and taking into account the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. A "historical resource" as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21084.1, a "unique archaeological resource" as defined in

Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g), or a "nonunique archaeological resource" as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(h) may also be TCRs.

AB 52 further establishes a new consultation process with California Native American tribes for proposed projects in geographic areas that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with that tribe. Per Public Resources Code Section 21073, "California Native American tribe" includes federally and non-federally recognized tribes on the NAHC contact list. Subject to certain prerequisites, AB 52 requires, among other things, that a lead agency consult with the geographically affiliated tribe before the release of an environmental review document for a proposed project regarding project alternatives, recommended mitigation measures, or potential significant effects, if the tribe so requests in writing. If the tribe and the lead agency agree upon mitigation measures during their consultation, these mitigation measures must be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document (Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and 21084.3).

Paleontological Resources. CEQA provides guidance relative to significant impacts on paleontological resources, indicating that a project would have a significant impact on paleontological resources if it disturbs or destroys a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature. Section 5097.5 of the California Public Resources Code specifies that any unauthorized removal of paleontological remains is a misdemeanor. Further, California Penal Code Section 622.5 sets the penalties for damage or removal of paleontological resources. CEQA documentation prepared for projects would be required to analyze paleontological resources as a condition of the CEQA process to disclose potential impacts. Please note that as of January 2018 paleontological resources are considered in the geological rather than cultural category. Therefore, paleontological resources are not summarized in the body of this report. A paleontological overview completed by professional paleontologists from the Western Science Center is provided as Appendix D.

NATURAL SETTING

Geology

The subject property is located in the southwestern portion of the Mojave Desert. Sediments within the subject property boundaries include older alluvium that have been subject to intermittent flooding and sheetwashing from southwest to northeast (Dibblee, Jr. 1965). Field observations during the current study are basically consistent with these descriptions although some disturbances related to road building and maintenance were evident.

Hydrology

The subject property elevation ranges from approximately 3,470 to 3,490 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sheetwashing occurs generally from southwest to northeast across the subject property. To the south, the peaks of the San Bernardino Mountains rise above 10,000 feet and are often capped with snow until late spring or early summer. The area currently exhibits a relatively arid climate, with dry, hot summers and cool winters. Rainfall ranges from five to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer.

Biology

The mild climate of the late Pleistocene allowed piñon-juniper woodland to thrive throughout most of the Mojave (Van Devender et al. 1987). The vegetation and climate during this epoch attracted significant numbers of Rancho labrean fauna, including dire wolf, saber-toothed cat, short-faced bear, horse, camel, antelope, mammoth, as well as birds which included pelican, goose, duck, cormorant, and eagle (Reynolds 1988). The drier climate of the middle Holocene resulted in the local development of complementary flora and fauna, which remain largely intact to this day. Common native plants include creosote, cacti, rabbit bush, interior golden bush, cheesebush, species of sage, buckwheat at higher elevations and near drainages, Joshua tree, and various grasses. Common native animals include coyotes, cottontail and jackrabbits, rats, mice, desert tortoises, roadrunners, raptors, turkey vultures, and other bird species (see Williams et al. 2008).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistory

The prehistoric cultural setting of the Mojave Desert has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for the Mojave are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the Mojave and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, Mojave chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study synthesizes Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

Paleoindian (12,000 to 10,000 BP) and Lake Mojave (10,000 to 7,000 BP) Periods. Climatic warming characterizes the transition from the Paleoindian Period to the Lake Mojave Period. This transition also marks the end of Pleistocene Epoch and ushers in the Holocene. The Paleoindian Period has been loosely defined by isolated fluted (such as Clovis) projectile points, dated by their association with similar artifacts discovered in-situ in the Great Plains (Sutton 1996:227-228). Some fluted bifaces have been associated with fossil remains of Rancholabrean mammals approximately dated to ca. 13,300-10,800 BP near China Lake in the northern Mojave Desert. The Lake Mojave Period has been associated with cultural adaptations to moist conditions, and resource allocation pointing to more lacustrine environments than previously (Bedwell 1973; Hester 1973). Artifacts that characterize this period include stemmed points, flake and core scrapers, choppers, hammerstones, and crescentics (Warren and Crabtree 1986:184). Projectile points

associated with the period include the Silver Lake and Lake Mojave styles. Lake Mojave sites commonly occur on shorelines of Pleistocene lakes and streams, where geological surfaces of that epoch have been identified (Basgall and Hall 1994:69).

Pinto Period (7,000 to 4,000 BP). The Pinto Period has been largely characterized by desiccation of the Mojave. As formerly rich lacustrine environments began to disappear, the artifact record reveals more sporadic occupation of the Mojave, indicating occupants' recession to the more hospitable fringes (Warren 1984). Pinto Period sites are rare, and are characterized by surface manifestations that usually lack significant in-situ remains. Artifacts from this era include Pinto projectile points and a flake industry similar to the Lake Mojave tool complex (Warren 1984), though use of Pinto projectile points as an index artifact for the era has been disputed (see Schroth 1994). Milling stones have also occasionally been associated with sites of this period (Warren 1984).

Gypsum Period. (4,000 to 1,500 BP). A temporary return to moister conditions during the Gypsum Period is postulated to have encouraged technological diversification afforded by the relative abundance of resources (Warren 1984:419-420; Warren and Crabtree 1986:189). Lacustrine environments reappear and begin to be exploited during this era (Shutler 1961, 1968). Concurrently a more diverse artifact assemblage reflects intensified reliance on plant resources. The new artifacts include milling stones, mortars, pestles, and a proliferation of Humboldt Concave Base, Gypsum Cave, Elko Eared, and Elko Corner-notched dart points (Warren 1984; Warren and Crabtree 1986). Other artifacts include leaf-shaped projectile points, rectangular-based knives, drills, large scraper planes, choppers, hammer stones, shaft straighteners, incised stone pendants, and drilled slate tubes. The bow and arrow appears around 2,000 BP, evidenced by the presence of a smaller type of projectile point, the Rose Spring point (Rogers 1939; Shutler 1961; Yohe 1992).

Saratoga Springs Period (1,500 to 800 BP). During the Saratoga Springs Period regional cultural diversifications of Gypsum Period developments are evident within the Mojave. Basketmaker III (Anasazi) pottery appears during this period, and has been associated with turquoise mining in the eastern Mojave Desert (Warren and Crabtree 1986:191). Influences from Patayan/Yuman assemblages are apparent in the southern Mojave, and include buff and brown wares often associated with Cottonwood and Desert Side-notched projectile points (Warren 1984:423). Obsidian becomes more commonly used throughout the Mojave and characteristic artifacts of the period include milling stones, mortars, pestles, ceramics, and ornamental and ritual objects. More structured settlement patterns are evidenced by the presence of large villages, and three types of identifiable archaeological sites (major habitation, temporary camps, and processing stations) emerge (McGuire and Hall 1988). Diversity of resource exploitation continues to expand, indicating a much more generalized, somewhat less mobile subsistence strategy.

Shoshonean Period (800 BP to Contact). The Shoshonean period is the first to benefit from contact-era ethnography –as well as be subject to its inherent biases. Interviews of living informants allowed anthropologists to match artifact assemblages and particular traditions with linguistic groups, and plot them geographically (see Kroeber 1925; Gifford 1918; Strong 1929). During the Shoshonean Period continued diversification of site assemblages, and reduced Anasazi influence both coincide with the expansion of Numic

(Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers across the Great Basin, Takic (Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers into southern California, and the Hopi across the Southwest (Sutton 1996). Hunting and gathering continued to diversify, and the diagnostic arrow points include desert side-notch and cottonwood triangular. Ceramics continue to proliferate, though are more common in the southern Mojave during this period (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Trade routes have become well established across the Mojave, particularly the Mojave Trail, which transported goods and news across the desert via the Mojave River, to the west of the subject property. Trade in the western Mojave was more closely related to coastal groups than others.

Ethnography

The Uto-Aztecan "Serrano" people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term "Serrano" to four groups, each with distinct territories: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. Bean and Smith (1978) indicate that the Vanyume, an obscure Takic population, was found along the Mojave River near Apple Valley at the time of Spanish contact. The Kitanemuk lived to the north and west, while the Tataviam lived to the west. The Serrano lived mainly to the south (Bean and Smith 1978). All may have used the western Mojave area seasonally. Historical records are unclear concerning precise Serrano territory, although archaeologists have recorded evidence of a number of prehistoric sites (including some villages), particularly along the Mojave River. It is doubtful that any group, except the Vanyume, actually lived in the region for several seasons yearly.

History

Historic California is divided into three periods: the Spanish/Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican/Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

Spanish Period. The first European to pass through the area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, they camped at the headwaters of the Mojave River, one night less than a day's march from the mountains. Today, this is estimated to have been approximately 11 miles southeast of Victorville (Marenczuk 1962). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed the mountains into the Mojave, then west to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

Mexican Period. In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

American Period. The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19th century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study and wrote the technical report. South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) staff completed the cultural resources records search. BCR Consulting Archaeological Crew Chief Nicholas Shepetuk, B.A. and Archaeologicla Field Technicians John DeFachelle, B.A., and Fabi Martinez, B.A. completed the field assessment.

METHODS

This work was completed pursuant to the CEQA, Public Resources Code (PRC) Chapter 2.6, Section 21083.2, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5. The pedestrian cultural resources survey is intended to locate and document previously recorded or new cultural resources, including archaeological sites, features, isolates, and historic buildings, that exceed 45 years in age within defined project boundaries. The subject property was examined using 10 to 15 meter transect intervals. This study is intended to determine whether cultural resources are located within the subject property boundaries, whether any cultural resources are significant pursuant to the above-referenced regulations and standards, and to develop specific mitigation measures that will address potential impacts to existing or potential resources. Tasks pursued to achieve that end include:

- Sacred Lands File Search through the Native American Heritage Commission
- Vertebrate paleontology resources report through the Western Science Center
- Cultural resources records search to review any studies conducted and the resulting cultural resources recorded within a one-mile radius of the subject property
- Systematic pedestrian survey of the entire subject property
- Development of recommendations, following CEQA guidelines

Research

Prior to fieldwork, a cultural resources records search was conducted by the SCCIC. This included a review of all prerecorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, as well as a review of known cultural resource surveys and excavation reports generated from projects

located within one mile of the subject property. In addition, a review was conducted of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register, and documents and inventories from the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) including the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

Field Survey

An intensive-level cultural resources field survey of the subject property was conducted on August 6, 2021. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 10-15 meters apart across 100 percent of the subject property. Digital photographs were taken at various points within the subject property boundaries, including overviews as well as detail photographs of field conditions. Hand-held Global Positioning Systems (GPS) were available for mapping purposes.

RESULTS

Research

The records search revealed that 11 cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of eight cultural resources (all historic-period) within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has been subject to four previous cultural resources assessments and one cultural resource (a historic-period utility pole alignment designated P-36-4255) has been previously recorded partially within its boundaries. The previously-identified utility pole alignment had been removed by 2010 (Coleman 2010). A summary of the records search is included below, and the complete records search bibliography and map is provided in confidential Appendix A.

Table A. Cultural Resources Located Within One Half-Mile of the Project Site

USGS 7.5 Min Quad	Cultural Resources Within One Mile	Reports Within One Mile
Hesperia, California (1980)	P-36-2910, 4255*, 4276, 7740, 7741, 10315, 10316, 21351	SB-1025**, 1026**, 1027**, 4187, 5211, 5779, 6333, 6536, 6652**, 7406, 7953

*Recorded within project boundaries.
**Previously assessed project site (or a portion) for cultural resources.

Field Survey

The project site exhibited approximately 85 percent surface visibility. Disturbances related to sheet washing and a dirt road are present. The project site exhibits a northeasterly aspect and runoff flows towards intermittent drainages surrounding the project area. Soils include sandy silt, and vegetation includes creosote scrub, Joshua trees, and mixed seasonal grasses. No prehistoric or historic-period archaeological resources or architectural historical resources were identified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

BCR Consulting did not identify any historical resources during the research and field survey. Therefore, no significant impacts related to archaeological or historical resources is anticipated and no further investigations are recommended for the proposed project unless:

- the proposed project is changed to include areas not subject to this study.
- the proposed project is changed to include the construction of additional facilities.
- cultural materials are encountered during project activities.

Although the current study has not indicated sensitivity for cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface during previous surveys. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist shall have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- historic artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements;
- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks.

Findings were positive during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC, and the NAHC has recommended further communication with the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for more information. Since the City will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary.

According to CEQA Guidelines, projects subject to CEQA must determine whether the project would “directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource”. The appended Paleontological Overview provided in Appendix D has recommended that:

> The geologic units underlying this project are mapped entirely as old alluvial fan deposits dating from the Pleistocene epoch (Dibblee & Minch, 2008). Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one mile radius, but does have numerous localities throughout the region in similarly mapped sediments. Southern California Pleistocene units are well

known to produce fossil localities and specimen including those associated with mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*), sabertooth cats (*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus sp.*), and many other Pleistocene megafauna and microfauna.

Any fossils recovered from the Mesquite Avenue Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate and recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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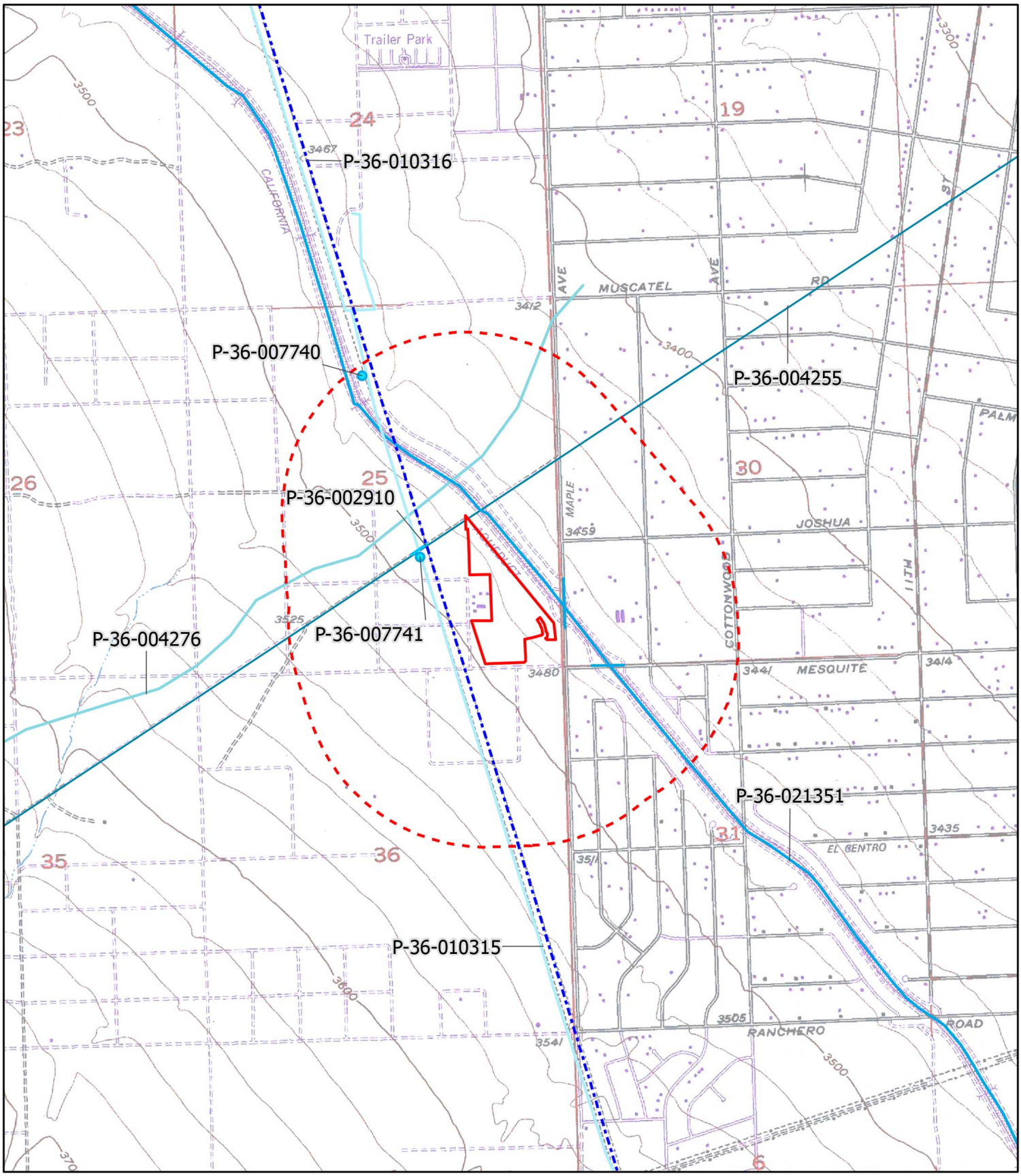
APPENDIX A

RECORDS SEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY



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Resources within the project area: P-36-004255
7 additional resources within a 1/2-mile radius

Hesperia, CA
USGS 7.5' PR: 1980
1:24,000
INV #22453
July 2021

South Central Coastal Information Center

May depict confidential cultural resource locations. Do not distribute.

All listed resources have been previously verified by SCCIC staff.

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-36-002910	CA-SBR-002910H	Resource Name - National Old Trails Highway; Other - Old Trails Highway/Road; CHL - 781; Other - US Highway 66; Resource Name - Historic Route 66; Other - EM-364; Other - SBd-66-0.0/4.08; Other - SRI-4153; Other - Cajon Blvd; Other - National Old Trails Monument, N K St, Needles; USFS - 05-12-53-074	Structure, Site	Historic	AH04; AH06; AH07; AH11; HP11; HP19; HP37	1962; 1963 (L. Burr Belden, Desert Magazine); 1974 (Terry Suss, SBCM); 1977 (Gallegos, BLM); 1978 (F. Berg, BLM); 1980 (J. Arbuckle); 1982 (Maggie McShan, Neddles Desert Star); 1982 (Mac & Maggie McShan, Footprints); 1982; 1986 (T. Van Bueren, Infotec); 1989 (J. Berg, Far Western); 1989; 1990; 1990 (M. Lerch, Michael K. Lerch & Associates); 1991 (J. Petersen, UC Riverside); 1993 (Kevin Rafferty, Archaeological Research of Southern Nevada); 1993 (L. Glover, Far Western); 1993 (Kenneth Becker, RMW Paleo Associates); 1993 (Laurie White, Archaeological Associates); 1994 (Lauren Weiss, The Keith Co); 1995 (Lauren Bricker); 2000 (John d. Goodman, SBNF); 2000 (J. Underwood and S. Rose, KEA Environmental); 2001 (John Dietler, Tierra Environmental); 2001 (Jeffrey Wedding, Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies); 2003 (Christie Hammond, Caltrans District 8); 2003 (Christie Hammond, Caltrans); 2004 (Dr. Jackson Underwood`, EDAW, Inc); 2004 (D. McDougall, Applied Earthworks); 2004 (J. Underwood, EDAW, Inc); 2004 (B. Gothar, Applied Earthworks); 2005 (Jeanette A. McKenna, McKenna et al);	SB-02201, SB-02388, SB-02447, SB-02450, SB-02710, SB-02731, SB-02791, SB-02795, SB-02796, SB-02854, SB-02862, SB-02917, SB-02918, SB-03000, SB-03020, SB-03062, SB-03146, SB-03187, SB-03203, SB-03306, SB-03539, SB-03568, SB-03674, SB-03725, SB-03728, SB-03729, SB-03786, SB-03872, SB-04212, SB-04214, SB-04427, SB-04551, SB-04861, SB-05230, SB-05498, SB-05553, SB-05636, SB-05637, SB-05644, SB-05890, SB-05989, SB-06038, SB-06310, SB-06316, SB-06652, SB-06812, SB-06855, SB-06954, SB-06969, SB-06971, SB-07068, SB-07156, SB-07187, SB-07366, SB-07381, SB-07416, SB-07495, SB-07504, SB-07543, SB-07570, SB-07571, SB-07712, SB-07815, SB-07870, SB-07990, SB-08021, SB-08031, SB-08094, SB-08208,

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
						2006 (David Brunzell, LSA Associates, Inc); 2007 (Andrew M. Walters, Caltrans District 8); 2007 (Casey Tibbet, LSA); 2007 (Koji Tsunoda, Jones & Stokes); 2008 (D. McDougall, Applied Earthworks); 2008 (Kurt McLean, URS); 2009 (J. Berg, Far Western); 2009 (J. George, Applied Earthworks); 2009 (Katherine Anderson, ESA); 2010 (M. Colleen Hamilton, Applied Earthworks); 2010 (Kristen Erickson, URS); 2010; 2010 (S. Jow, AECOM); 2011 (Andrew Belcourt, LSA); 2011 (C. Higgins, Far Western); 2011 (J. Lev-Tov, SRI); 2011 (McKenna, Mckenna et al.); 2011 (James J. Schmidt, Compass Rose); 2011 (K. Chmiel, ICF); 2011 (D. Winslow, ASM); 2012 (B. Bartram, Chambers Group, Inc); 2013 (J. Castells, URS); 2013 (R. Kellawan, Far Western); 2013 (M. O'Neill, Pacific Legacy); 2014 (Josh Smallwood, Helix); 2014 (P. McGinnis, AECOM); 2015; 2015 (John Goodman, CRM Tech); 2016 (Kristina Lindgren, ECORP Consulting, Inc); 2017 (Shannon Davis, ASM); 2017 (Chris Powell, ASM); 2017 (Colleen Davis, ICF); 2018 (Shannon Davis, ASM); 2018 (Anna Hoover, L&L); 2018 (none, Urbana Preservation & Planning); 2019 (Mark Bowen, Jacobs, Jacobs)	SB-08210, SB-08221, SB-08224, SB-08269

Resource List

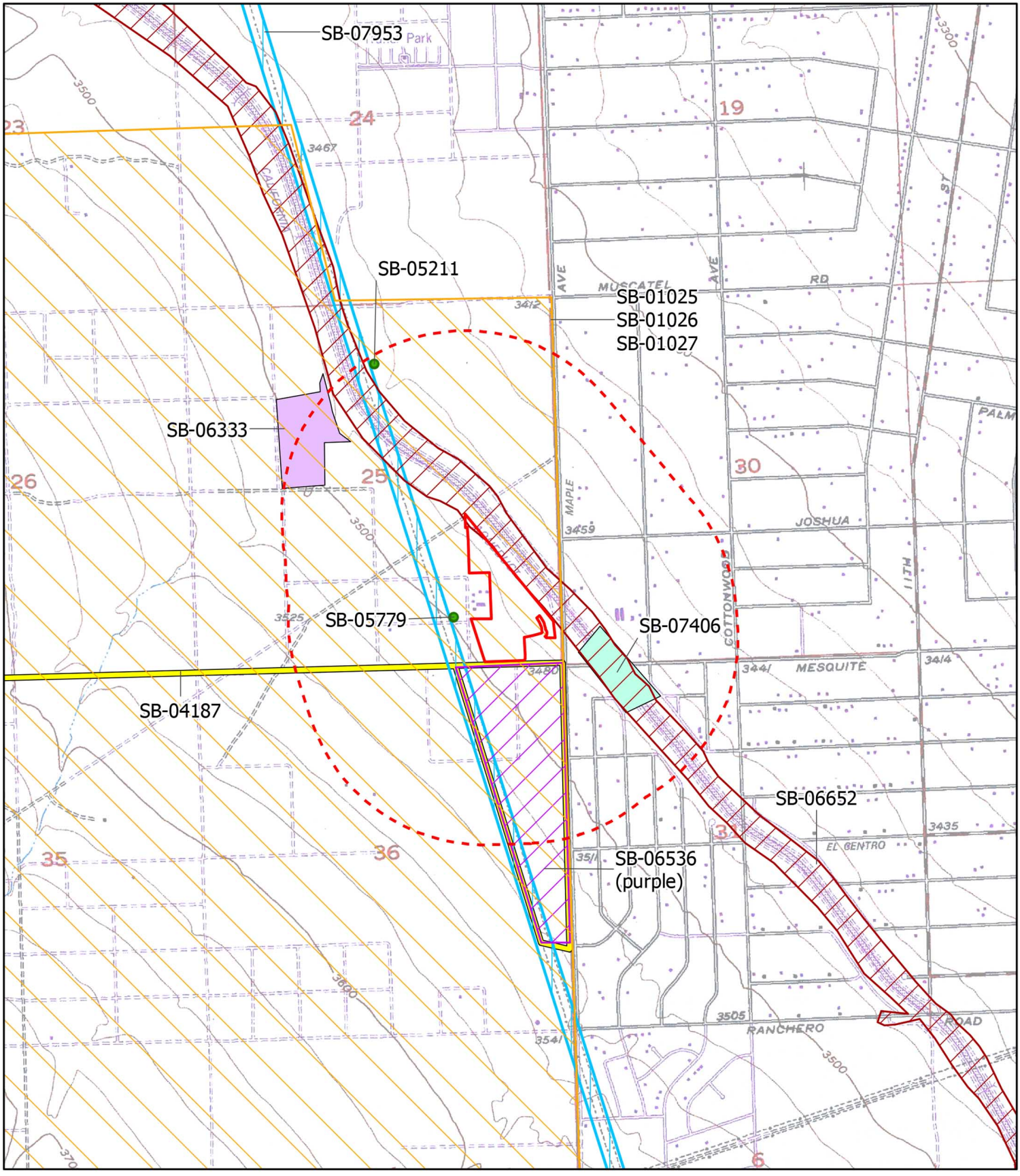
Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-36-004255	CA-SBR-004255H	USFS - 05-12-53-0086; Resource Name - Hesperia Pole Line; Resource Name - SBCM-4645	Structure, Site	Historic	AH04; AH07; HP11; HP39	1980 (R.Reynolds); 1991 (Petersen, Archaeological Research Unit); 1993 (Becker, RMW Paleo); 2009 (ESA); 2010 (Solano)	SB-01027, SB-01670, SB-01734, SB-01899, SB-02447, SB-02795, SB-02796, SB-03020, SB-03418
P-36-004276	CA-SBR-004276H	Resource Name - Van Dusen Road; Resource Name - Coxey Road; USFS - FS 05-12-52-0138; SBCM-4666; PHI - CPHI-SBR-17	Structure	Historic	AH04; AH07; AH11; HP37	1972 (PHI Nom); 1980 (R.Reynolds, SBCM); 1993 (Kenneth Baker & Jodie Phillps, RMW Paleo); 1999 (Daniel McCarthy, USFS); 2009 (S Campbell, L Honey, J Moss, K Frank, Garcia and Associates); 2010; 2011 (Joshua Trampier, Statistical Research); 2012 (L. Schrader, Pacific Legacy); 2017 (S. Andrews, ASM); 2018 (Laura Voisin George, ASM)	SB-01027, SB-03020, SB-03364, SB-03513, SB-03672, SB-04127, SB-07948
P-36-007740	CA-SBR-007740H	Resource Name - 354+19	Site	Historic	AH04	1993 (BECKER & PHILLIPS, RMW)	SB-03020
P-36-007741	CA-SBR-007741H	Resource Name - 390+66	Site	Historic	AH04	1993 (BECKER & PHILLIPS, RMW)	SB-03020

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-36-010315	CA-SBR-010315H	Resource Name - Edison Company Boulder Dam-San Bernardino Electrical Transmission Line; Other - San Bernardino-Boulder Dam 132 Kv Line; Other - Boulder Dam-San Bernardino 115Kv Line; Other - SRI-451; Other - IF-88-25, AT&T 6; Other - PSBR-38H; Other - 132kV Hoover Dam Transmission Line	Structure, Site	Historic	AH04; AH07; AH11; AH16; HP11; HP37	1988 (N. Neuenschwander, Peak & Associates, Inc); 1989 (J. Brock, Archaeo Advisory Group); 1993; 1997 (Neal Neuenschwander, Peak & Associates); 1997 (Carrie Wills, WSA); 2006 (Roger Hatheway, Hatheyway & Associates); 2008 (Jay K. Sander, Chambers); 2009 (Stephen Pappas, ECORP); 2010 (J. Howard, ECORP); 2011 (S. Kremkau, SRI); 2011 (Justin Lev-Tov, SRI); 2012 (C. Bodmer, Chambers Group, Inc); 2012 (N. Lawson, CH2M Hill); 2013 (C. Higgins, Far Western); 2013 (M. O'Neill, Pacific Legacy); 2014 (Wendly L. Tinsley Becker, Urbana Preservation & Planning); 2015 (Audry Williams, SCE); 2018 (Carole Denardo, L&L)	SB-02315, SB-03668, SB-03729, SB-03789, SB-03795, SB-03799, SB-03842, SB-03843, SB-04427, SB-04861, SB-04878, SB-04898, SB-05335, SB-06042, SB-06517, SB-06893, SB-07523, SB-07623, SB-07870, SB-08031, SB-08083

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-36-010316	CA-SBR-010316H	Other - Arrowhead-Mojave Siphon-Devil Canyon-Shandin 115kv; Resource Name - Kramer-Victorville Transmission Line; Other - AE-Shapiro-2H; Other - Southern Sierras Tower Line; Other - PSBR-39 H; Other - SRI-3459; Other - Bishop Creek Control - San Bernardino Transmission Line	Structure	Historic	HP11; HP37; HP39	2000 (J Underwood, S Rose, KEA Environmental); 2004 (Allen Estes, WSA); 2005 (B Sheets, M Linder, Applied Earthworks); 2007 (Daniel Ballester, CRM Tech); 2007 (Daniel Ballester, CRM Tech); 2007 (Christeen Taniguichi, Galvin Preservation Assoc); 2008 (Gina Austerman, Caprice Harper, SWCA); 2008 (Koji Tsunoda, Unknown); 2008 (Ahmet, K., SCE); 2009 (Katherine Anderson, ESA); 2010 (S. Jow, AECOM); 2011 (S Kremkau, Statistical Research); 2013 (Linda Honey, Great Basin Sage, Inc); 2013 (C. Higgins, Far Western); 2013 (Wendy L. Tinsley Becker, Pacific Legacy); 2013 (Fatima Clark, SCE); 2018 (Eric Martin, Far Western)	SB-03725, SB-04272, SB-05225, SB-05698, SB-06224, SB-06536, SB-07156, SB-07381, SB-07495, SB-07570, SB-07944, SB-07953, SB-07971, SB-08031
P-36-021351	CA-SBR-015913H	Resource Name - East Branch of the California Aqueduct; Other - Goodwin Drive/Goss Road Bridge; Other - Duncan Road Bridge; Other - Maple Avenue Bridge; Other - Mesquite Street Bridge; Other - Ranchero Road Bridge; Other - SRI-5124; Other - CNX-19	Structure	Historic	AH06; HP19; HP20	2008 (Jeremy Hollins, URS); 2009 (ESA); 2011 (Kremkau, SRI); 2011 (Ambacher, AECOM); 2011 (Anderson, ESA); 2012 (M. O'Neill, Pacific Legacy); 2018 (Laura Voisin George, ASM)	SB-06652, SB-07405



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Reports within the project area: SB-01025, SB-01026, SB-01027, SB-06652
7 additional reports within a 1/2-mile radius

Hesperia, CA
USGS 7.5' PR: 1980
1:24,000
INV #22453
July 2021

South Central Coastal Information Center

May depict confidential cultural resource locations. Do not distribute.

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
SB-01025	NADB-R - 1061025; Paleo - ; Voided - 80-9.13A	1973	HARRIS, RUTH	ARCHAEOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL, AND PALEONTOLOGICAL SITE SURVEY FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 70 IMPROVEMENT ZONE "J", ASSESSMENTS OF IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION	36-002208
SB-01026	NADB-R - 1061026; Paleo - ; Voided - 80-9.13B	1974	HARRIS, RUTH	ARCHAEOLOGICAL, HISTORICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL SITE SURVEY FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 70, IMPROVEMENT ZONE "J", ASSESSMENTS OF IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION	36-002208
SB-01027	NADB-R - 1061027; Voided - 80-9.13C	1980	REYNOLDS, ROBERT E.	CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT: BALDY MESA WATER LINES, COUNTY SERVICE AREA 70, IMPROVEMENT ZONE J, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION	36-001081, 36-003698, 36-004179, 36-004203, 36-004251, 36-004252, 36-004253, 36-004254, 36-004255, 36-004256, 36-004257, 36-004258, 36-004259, 36-004260, 36-004261, 36-004262, 36-004263, 36-004264, 36-004265, 36-004266, 36-004267, 36-004268, 36-004269, 36-004270, 36-004271, 36-004272, 36-004273, 36-004274, 36-004275, 36-004276, 36-004277, 36-004278, 36-004279
SB-04187	NADB-R - 1064187	2002	BALLESTER, DANIEL	MESQUITE ST PAVING. 17PP	CRM TECH	
SB-05211	NADB-R - 1065211	2005	BONNER, WAYNE H. and AISLIN-KAY, MARNIE	CULTURAL RESOURCE RECORDS SEARCH AND SITE VISIT RESULTS FOR CINGULAR TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY PALM STREET AND MAPLE AVENUE, HESPERIA, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA		
SB-05779		2006	Garcia, Esteban J.	New Tower Submission Packet FCC Form 620 Section 106 Review, Tamarisk SCE	Calvada Environmental Services, Inc.	
SB-06333	NADB-R - 1066333	2005	HORNE, MELINDA C.	CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY FOR THE MOJAVE WATER AGENCY WATER BANKING PROJECT		36-000176
SB-06536	NADB-R - 1066536	2010	Alexandrowicz, John Stephen and Ian Craig Alexandrowicz	Historical and Paleontological Resources Monitoring at the Maple Park Phase I Project, 7700 Maple Avenue, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California.	Archaeological Consulting Services	36-010316

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
SB-06652	NADB-R - 1066652	2010	ESA	PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT FOR 98 LINEAR MILES OF THE EAST BRANCH EXTENSION OF THE CALIFORNIA AQUEDUCT FOR THE DWR EAST BRNACH ENLARGEMENT PROJECT LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES (CA)		36-002910, 36-021351, 36-021352, 36-021353, 36-021354, 36-021355, 36-021359, 36-021360, 36-021361, 36-021362, 36-021370, 36-021371, 36-021372
SB-07406		2012	Brewster, Brad	Finding of No Adverse Effect for the Seismic Retrofit of Six Bridges over the California Aqueduct, San Bernardino County and Kern County, California	Cultural Resources Group	
SB-07953		2007	Estes, Allen, Thomas Young, Nazih Fino, Aimee Arrigoni, Eric Strother, and James Allan	Cultural Resource Assessment Report Victorville 2 Hybrid Power Project San Bernadino County, California	William Self Associates, Inc.	36-010316, 36-010951

APPENDIX B

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

June 28, 2021

Joseph Orozco
BCR Consulting LLC

Via Email to: josephorozco513@gmail.com & david.brunzell@yahoo.com

Re: Mesquite Ave Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Orozco:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians on the attached list for information. Please note that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. A SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites, such as the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) archaeological Information Center for the presence of recorded archaeological sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. Please contact all of those listed; if they cannot supply information, they may recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
6/28/2021

Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Sierra Pencille, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1976 1990 Palo Verde Drive — Chemehuevi
Havasu Lake, CA, 92363
Phone: (760) 858 - 4219
Fax: (760) 858-5400
chairman@cit-nsn.gov

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
Phone: (951) 755 - 5110
Fax: (951) 755-5177
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Ann Brierty, THPO
12700 Pumarra Road — Cahuilla
Banning, CA, 92220 — Serrano
Phone: (951) 755 - 5259
Fax: (951) 572-6004
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 1899 — Quechan
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (760) 572 - 2423
historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman
Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee
P.O. Box 1899 — Quechan
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (928) 750 - 2516
scottmanfred@yahoo.com

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
Donna Yocum, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838 — Kitanemuk
Newhall, CA, 91322 — Vanyume
Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 — Tataviam
Fax: (503) 574-3308
ddyocum@comcast.net

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources
26569 Community Center Drive — Serrano
Highland, CA, 92346
Phone: (909) 864 - 8933
jmauck@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343 — Serrano
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (909) 528 - 9032
serranonation1@gmail.com

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians
Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343 — Serrano
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (253) 370 - 0167
serranonation1@gmail.com

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Darrell Mike, Chairperson
46-200 Harrison Place — Chemehuevi
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760) 863 - 2444
Fax: (760) 863-2449
29chairman@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Mesquite Ave Project, San Bernardino County.

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
46-200 Harrison Place Chemehuevi
Coachella, CA, 92236
Phone: (760) 775 - 3259
amadrigal@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Mesquite Ave Project, San Bernardino County.

APPENDIX C

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

WESTERN SCIENCE CENTER

BCR Consulting LLC
Joseph Orozco
505 West 8th Street
Claremont, CA 91711

June 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Orozco,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for the Mesquite Avenue Project in the city of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California. The project site is located west of Maple Avenue, north of Mesquite Street in Section 25 of Township 4 North and Range 5 West on the *Hesperia, CA* USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles.

The geologic unit underlying the project area is mapped entirely as old alluvial fan deposits dating from the Pleistocene epoch (Dibblee & Minch, 2008). Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or a one mile radius, but does have numerous localities throughout the region in similarly mapped sediments. Southern California Pleistocene units are well known to produce fossil localities and specimen including those associated with mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*) sabertooth cats (*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus sp*.) and many other Pleistocene megafauna and microfauna.

Any fossils recovered from the Mesquite Avenue Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at dradford@westerncentermuseum.org

Sincerely,

Darla Radford
Collections Manager

APPENDIX D

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: Project overview from central area of project (View SW)

Photo 2: Project overview from central area of project (View NW)

Photo 3: Project overview (View SE)

Photo 4: Project overview (View SW)