A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATION FOR PROPOSED VICTORVILLE RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY IN UNINCORPORATED SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

(Data presented in this report is proprietary and confidential and not for public review.)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OR TABLES

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by,

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INTRODUCTION

McKenna et al. (Appendix A) initiated this Phase I cultural resources investigation for the proposed Victorville Residential Care Facility, located in unincorporated San Bernardino County and within the sphere of influence for the City of Victorville, at the request of Lilburn Corporation, San Bernardino, California. These studies were initiated in July of 2017, and completed in September of 2017.

This study was undertaken in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, but also meets the compliance requirements for the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979 (43 CFR 7) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Class III/Section 106 studies. This report has been prepared in a format requested by the Office of Historic Preservation, San Bernardino County, and local agencies.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project will involve the development of a modern residential care facility located north of the wash dominating the southern portion of the property. The main facilities will include assisted living facilities, a medical office building, a skilled nursing facility, and a rehabilitation center. Parking and landscaping will surround these structures, leaving the northeastern portion of the property undeveloped, but available for future development (Figure 1).

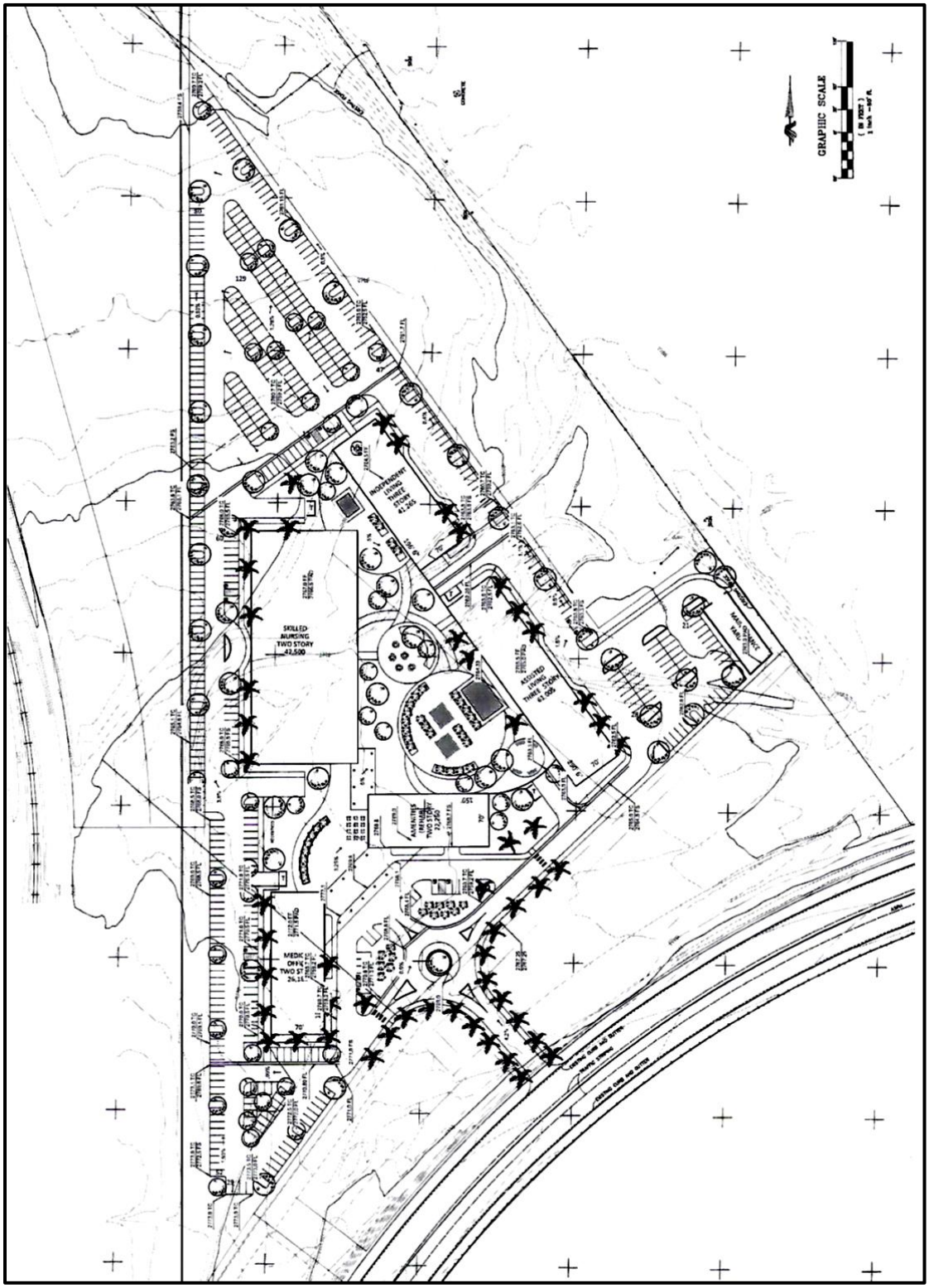


Figure 1. Currently Proposed Development Plan.

LOCATION AND SETTING

The proposed project area involves the development of approximately 23 acres of land as a residential care facility complex. More specifically, the project area is located just east of the City of Victorville; bordering the Mojave Narrows Regional Park; due south of Horseshoe Lake; due north of Spring valley Lake (Figure 2). This location is consistent with Township 5 North, Range 4 West, and the western half of Section 23 (Figure 3). Current Assessor data identified the project area as APNs 0479-121-08 and -09 (Figure 4).

A railroad alignment runs to the west of this property (in Section 22) and Spring valley Lake has been developed to the south of the property. Illustrated in Figure 4, the property is currently vacant and shows evidence of prior disturbances, including dirt road cuts and a large wash in the southern portion of the property. The project area is triangular in shape and oriented north/south. Table 1 presents the UTM Coordinates recorded for the project area boundaries. The project area is accessed from Yates Road (southern boundary) and the various direct roads cutting along and within the project area.

Table 1. Coordinates Defining the Boundaries of the Project Area (2017).

	NAD 27		NAD 83	
Point	UTM Easting	UTM Northing	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
N	474586	3818681	474506	3818876
SW	474603	3817989	474523	3818184
E	474864	3818301	474784	3818496

The area, east of the Mojave Narrows and Mojave River, is also adjacent to Apple Valley (north of Lucerne Valley) and at an average elevation of 2787 feet above mean seal level (AMSL). This area is south of Barstow, west and southwest of Apple Valley, east of Victorville, and northeast of Yucca Valley.

The area is generally bounded by the Granite Mountains to the north and northwest, the Ord Mountains to the northeast, Fairview Mountain and Bell Mountain to the Northeast. The San Bernardino Mountains are well to the south. The current project area is located just above the Mojave River (west side) and near the hills comprising the Mojave Narrows formation. With respect to the nature of the general project area, McCorkle-Apple and Lilburn (1992:1) characterize the area as:

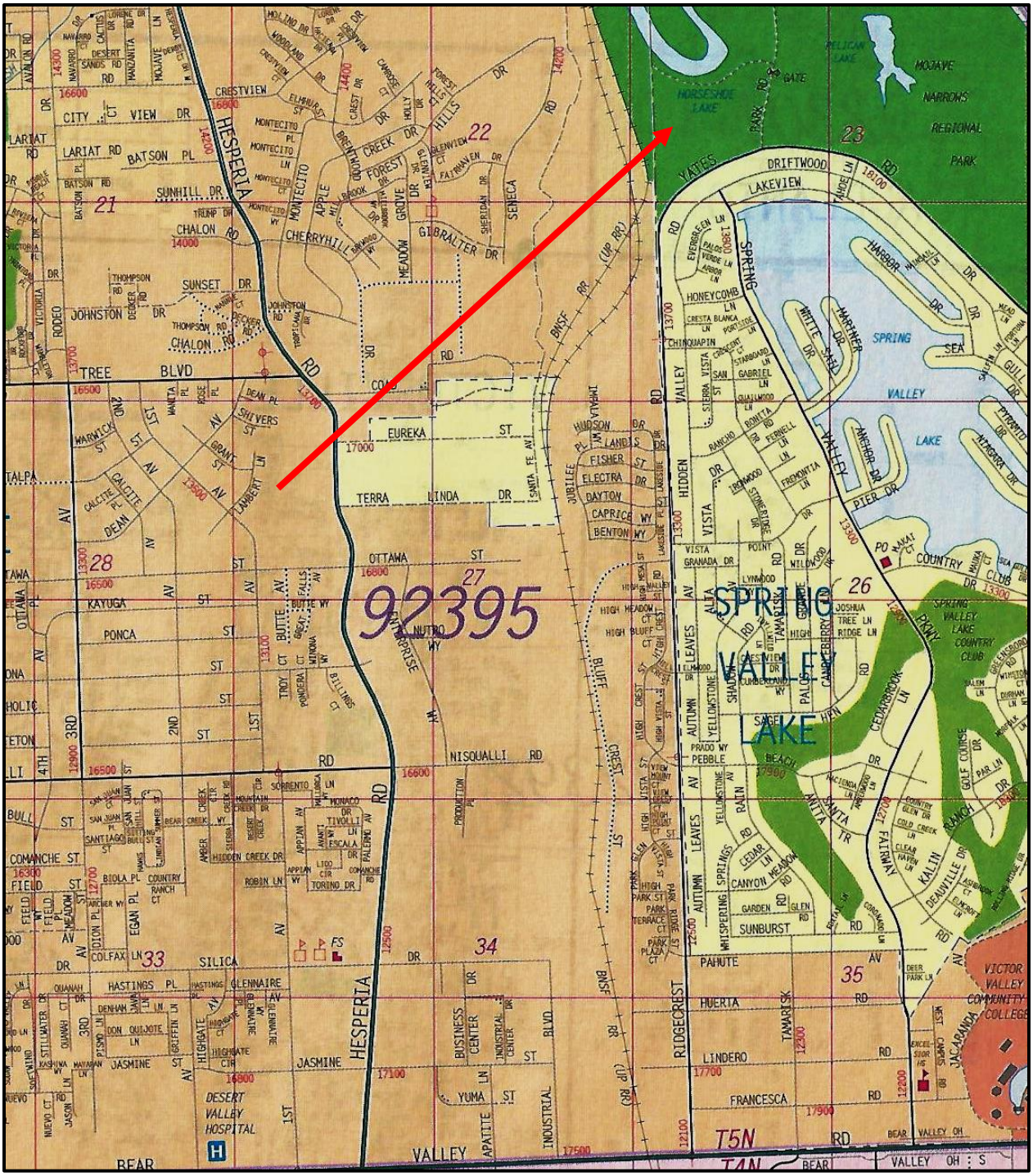


Figure 2. General Location of the Project Area.

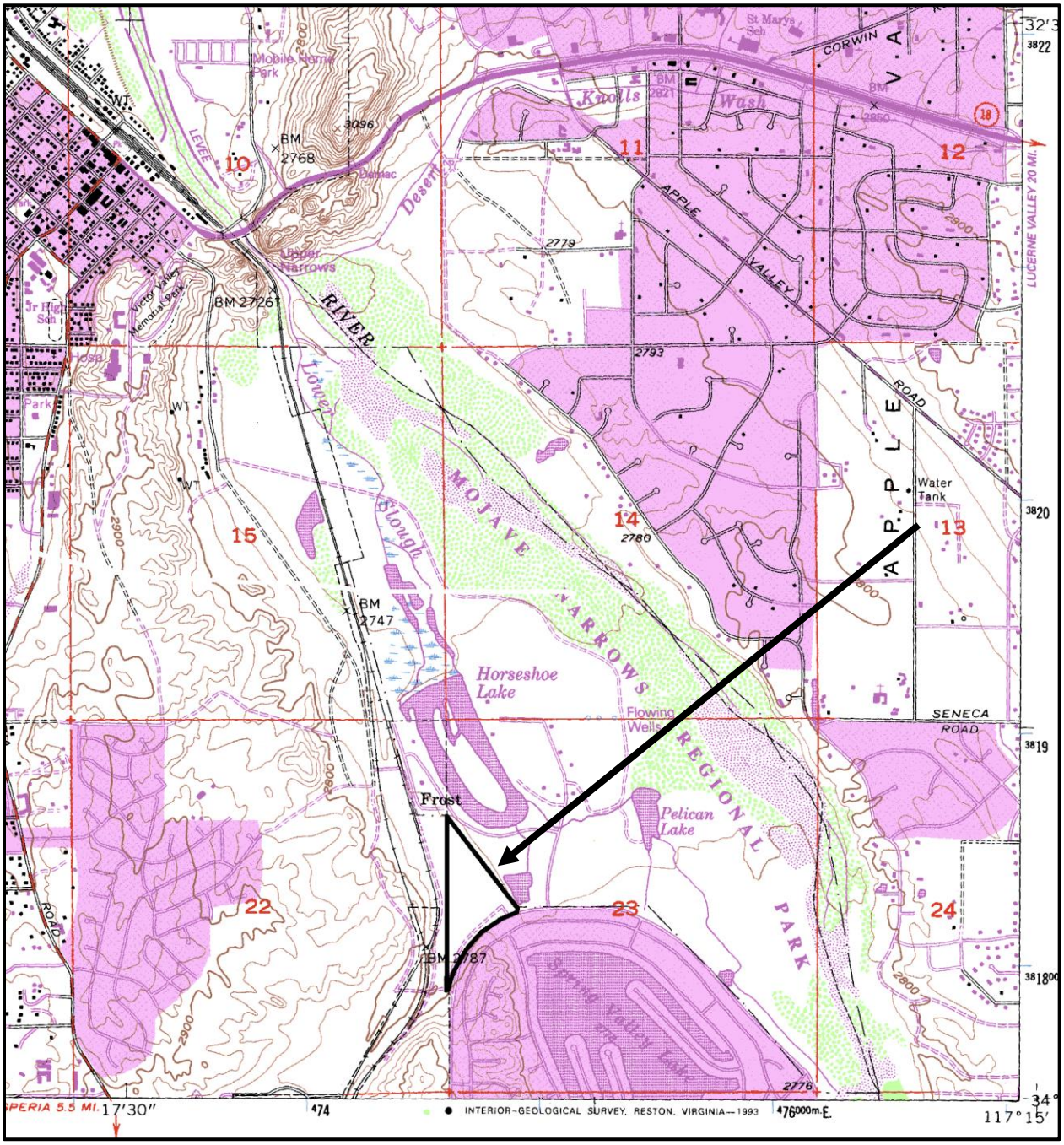


Figure 3. USGS Victorville Quadrangle Illustrating the Project Area.

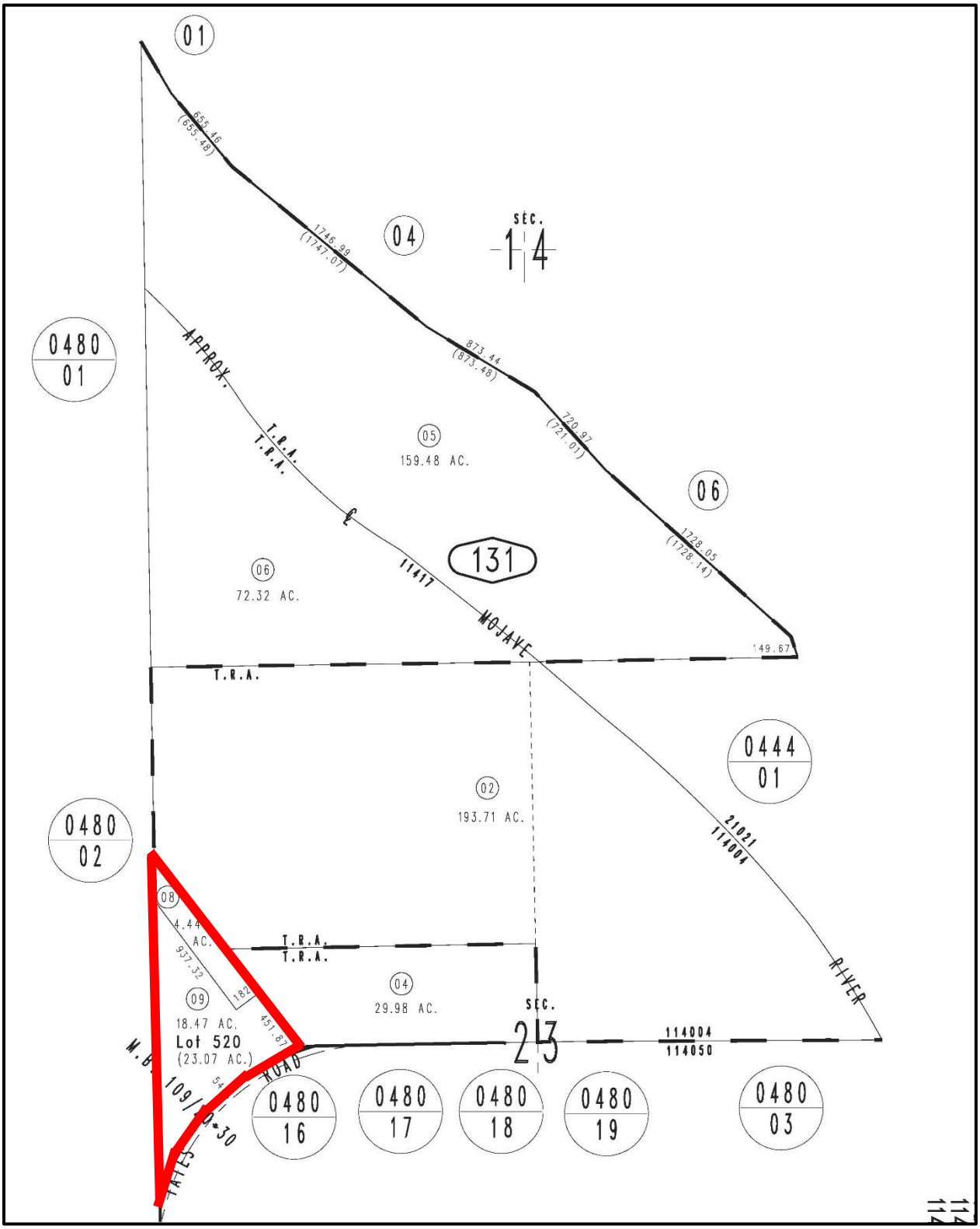


Figure 4. Assessor Parcel Map Illustrating Project Area.

> ... Formed by late Tertiary and Quaternary extensional faulting, these mountains are comprised of crystalline rocks of pre-Tertiary age; sedimentary and volcanic rocks of Tertiary age; and sediments and local basalt flows of Quaternary age (Dibblee 1967). Most of these mountain ranges are separated by basins or valleys that lack external drainages resulting in the formation of dry lakes or playas. Seasonal precipitation drains toward the alluvial basins, but is usually absorbed into the ground prior to reaching them (Wright and Frey 1965:289) …

The Mojave Desert region is geologically a great wedge-shaped fault block bounded by the San Andreas and Garlock fault zones on the southwest and north, respectively, but has no definite natural eastern limits. Mountain ranges separate the Mojave Desert from the coastal areas to the southwest and from the Basin and Range province to the north. Duke and Shattuck note this area as being associated with deposits of "… well sorted metamorphic and granitic gravels and cobbles that are eroding from the San Bernardino Mountains to the south. Apple Valley and its surrounds are rich in minerals … mining efforts are primarily concentrated on non-metal minerals such as gravel, calcium carbonate and high quality limestone for the construction industry …" (2003:4-5).

The desert itself is characterized by north-south trending mountain ranges which enclose expanses of arid valleys and low-lying basins or sinks (Harry 1992). Lithic resources are restricted to the buttes and ridges which rise above the unconsolidated alluvium. Because few systematic archaeological surveys have been conducted in the area, it is unknown how widespread are lithic materials suitable for prehistoric tool production (Harry 1992). Tugel, Woodruff, Florin, and Fischer (1986) describe the project area as being on the southern boundary of a "slough" – now Horseshoe Lake. In his 2011 study, Hosseinion described the area as "… near the southern edge of [the] Mojave Desert."

The climate of the area is described as sub-arid, transitional between the relatively colder climate of the nearby Great Basin and the subtropical climate of the Sonoran Desert (McCorkle-Apple and Lilburn 1992:2; Axelrod 1979). Seasonal temperatures vary, as do levels of rain, general humidity, and wind.

Temperatures can range from below 60^{o} Fahrenheit to over 100^{o} Fahrenheit. Sparse precipitation and high temperatures create a situation where evaporation exceeds precipitation, particularly in those areas lying below 5,000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in elevation (Warren and Crabtree 1986:183). Reliable water sources are currently available only along major rivers, intermittent streams and springs, and seasonal claypans.

During the early Holocene (10,500 to 8,000 B.P.) climatic fluctuations have been recorded. At this time, there was a trend towards warming and drying characterized by the disappearance of lakes and a reduction in the number of springs. The area became wetter in the middle Holocene (ca. 5,100 B.P.) and warmer and drier again post-2,000 B.P. Citing Weide (1982), the last 2,000 years have been characterized by considerable "climatic oscillations" ranging from extreme droughts and massive flooding.

The effects of changing paleoclimatic conditions on the hydrological, floral and faunal patterns of the western Mojave Desert and adjacent mountain areas are only partially understood. The flora and fauna of this area adjusted to the changing conditions and sparse fresh water sources. Flora is dominated by the presence of creosote bush scrub *(Larrea divaricata*) and salt bush (*Atriplex confertifolia*). Citing Barbour and Major (1977), creosote is drought-tolerant and salt bush is often found near dry playas. Blackbrush (*Coleogyne ramosissima*) and various species of cacti are also common.

Local fauna includes a variety of reptiles, rodents, small carnivores, and birds. Species of reptiles include the desert tortoise (*Gopherus Agassizi*), chuckawalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), rattlesnakes (*Crotalus*), shovelnose snake (*Chionactis occupitalis*) and several species of lizards. Carnivores include coyotes (*Canis latrans*), badger (*Taxidea taxus*), desert kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), and bobcat (*Felis rufus*). The small mammals include black-tailed jackrabbits (*Lepus californicus*), woodrat (*Neotoms* sp.), ground squirrels (*Spermophjilus* sp.), and cottontail jackrabbits (*Sylvilagus audobonii*).

Large herbivores, though not common, include the desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) - at higher elevations. Avifauna include the LeConte thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*), sage thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), cactus wren (*Heleodytes brunneicapillus*), raven (*Corvus corax*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensi*) turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), various ducks (*Anas*), and the American coot (*Fulica americana*).

CULTURE HISTORY BACKGROUND

McCorkle and Lilburn (1992:6) provided a relatively detailed discussion on the prehistory of the western Mojave Desert:

> While much is known about the prehistory of the Mojave Desert, relatively few formal archaeological investigations have been conducted in the southern portion of the central Mojave. As a result, little specific regional information on prehistory is known. General summaries can be found in Stickel

and Weinman-Roberts (1980), Warren (1980, 1984), and Warren and Crabtee (1986).

Chronological Framework

The earliest generally accepted evidence for human occupation of the Mojave desert dates from around 12,000 B.P. [although more recent studies have cited the presence of Paleo-Indian resources, including Clovis Points]. Claims have been made for much earlier dates (e.g. Simpson 1958), but as Warren and Crabtree (1986:184) note, these are controversial and bear little relationship to later cultural developments in the region.

Sites dating to the Lake Mojave period (12,000 to 7,000 B.P.) serve as the basis for our understanding of the earliest undisputed occupation of the Mojave Desert. Sometimes considered a Paleo-Indian assemblage, the Lake Mojave complex is thought by some researchers to be directly ancestral to the subsequent early Archaic cultures (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Lake Mojave period sites are usually open air sites and are limited to the surface, although sites with substantial subsurface deposits have been recently identified in the central Mojave (Jenkins 1985).

Since sites of the Lake Mojave period are often found in association with Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene lake stands and outwash drainages, some researchers have suggested that lacustrine resources were a subsistence focus. Others argue that grasslands suitable for the grazing of Late Pleistocene mega-fauna would have surrounded the terminal Pleistocene lakes, and that this was the main subsistence focus of the Lake Mojave cultural groups (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Regrettably, few sites dating to the early part of the Lake Mojave period have been excavated and little direct evidence of subsistence practices has been reported. Recent excavations of sites dated to the latter part of the period have revealed an unexpectedly high incidence of small mammal bone relative to large mammal bone. This suggests that we may need to refine our ideas about the subsistence focus of Lake Mojave cultures, or at least grant that substantial subsistence change occurred during the period.

Artifacts typical of the period include leaf-shaped points and long-stemmed, narrow-shouldered points of the Lake Mojave series and the short-bladed, shouldered points of the Silver Lake series. A variety of large scrapers and

flaked stone crescents are also considered diagnostic of the period. Milling equipment is thought to be rare or absent (Amsden 1937). Fluted points are sometimes found impossible association with Lake Mojave sites, but their cultural and chronological relationship to the stemmed point series remains questionable.

Relatively little material from the Lake Mojave period has been documented in the southern Mojave. Some of the earliest widely accepted finds come from the Black Butte site (CA-SBR-1554). This site is located on the south side of Black Butte, a volcanic plug approximately 6km west of the Troy Lake portion of Lake Manix. The site assemblage is dominated by later period Pinto points but also contains a Lake Mojave point, a Silver Lake point and two items tentatively identified as crescents (Lord 1987).

The next identifiable period in the Mojave Desert is that associated with Pinto series points (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Although period markers, some questions remain concerning their placement in time. Two scenarios exist, both of which are tied to the transition to arid conditions in the middle Holocene. Some archaeologists (Donnan 1964; Kowta 1969; Wallace 1962) have proposed by the desert was essentially abandoned between 7,000 and 5,000 B.P. Other researchers (Susia 1964; Tuohy 1974; Warren 1980) argue that no evidence of an occupational hiatus of any great magnitude exists within the archaeological record. Central to this debate are the definition and dating of Pinto points (Warren and Crabtree 1986). The problem is complicated by the fact that points morphologically similar to Pinto points occur generally later in time in the central and eastern Great Basin than do true Pinto points in the Mojave (Thomas 1981; Vaughan and Warren 1986).

Like sites of the preceding period, Pinto sites are typically found in open settings in relatively well-watered locales. Early Pinto sites have been found in close association with late Lake Mojave sites, lending support to Warren and Crabtree's suggestion that the Pinto cultures developed directly from the preceding Lake Mojave ones. The Pinto period signals the beginning of cultural adaption to the desert, an adaptation to the more arid conditions. Grinding tools were incorporated into the artifact assemblage, suggesting that the processing of hard seeds became more important in the subsistence system. It is, however, generally thought that Pinto peoples maintained a mobile subsistence strategy, focused primarily on hunting large mammals.

A time of greater effective moisture in the Mojave dates to approximately 4,000 B.P. This time period, sometimes referred to as the Little Pluvial (Warren 1980), also corresponds to a new era in Mojave Desert prehistory. It was during this time, the Gypsum Period (4,000 to 1,500 B.P.), that more favorable environmental conditions allowed an increase in the population (Elston 1982). Ritual items such as zoomorphic rock art and split-twig figures are thought to indicate a continued emphasis on hunting, while the increased importance of processing of plant foods is indicated by an increase in the frequency and diversity of groundstone implements (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Open sites are in evidence, along with rock shelters and caves. Such sites have yielded perishable goods including basketry and atlatls from the Gypsum period. Habitation sites with well developed middens are found in association with water and near resource areas. During this period shell beads from coastal California are found in the desert for the first time. Trade activity appears to have been greater in many parts of the Great Basin during the Gypsum period (Bennyhoff and Hughes 1987) … Eastgate and Rose Spring points began to dominate artifact assemblages in the Mojave sometime after 2,000 B.P. (Lyneis 1982:176). In the chron-ology presented by Warren and Crabtree (1986) these are assigned to the Saratoga Springs period (1,500 B.P. to 750 B.P.). This time period was marked by an increase in regional differences, except in the northwestern Mojave where sociocultural continuity seems to have occurred (Whitley 1988).

Basketmaker III and Anasazi developments occurred along the tributaries of the Colorado River. Anasazi “influence” in the form of painted ceramics extended well into the eastern Mojave. Although the exact nature of this influence is not completely understood (Lyneis 1982), it seems probable that the increased distribution of these painted ceramics resulted from exchange rather than by Anasazi attempts to greatly expand their territory. Different influences were felt in the southern Mojave. Here Hakatayan (or Yuman) ceramics similar to those originating in the lower Colorado River occur, along with Cottonwood points. This interaction is most evident along the Mojave River, supporting the widely held conclusion that the Mojave River served as a major trade corridor connecting the coastal portion of California with regions to the east (Warren and Crabtree 1986).

The Oro Grande site in the western Mojave [near Victorville] may be a key site in understanding varying cultural influences during the Saratoga

Springs period. Situated on the Mojave River near Victorville, this site contains a midden deposit dated to the period between 1,100 and 650 B.P. (Rector 1979). Cottonwood series points dominate the point assemblage. Significantly, no ceramics were recovered. Other materials at the site, however, were similar to those found in other sites along the river. The more gradual development of Lower Colorado River influences may account for the lack of pottery at Oro Grande although Warren (1984) considers the absence of ceramics to be strong evidence for the presence of Rogers' (1945) "nonceramic Yuman" pattern. The Oro Grande complex would then be the "initial phase" of the Hakataya influence in the upper Mojave. Warren (1984:403) proposes that the complex may not have developed in the Mojave Sinks, because the Anasazi influence may have persisted there until it was replaced by fully developed Hakatayan cultures.

The next period, the Protohistoric period (750 B.P. to contact), was marked by the presence of Desert Side-notched projectile points. The Numic influence during this period is identified with the presence of brownware, considered typical of the Paiute and Shoshone. Based on the distribution of this brownware, the contact between the Numic and the Lower Colorado (Patayan or Hakatayan) traditions was located north of Soda Lake and Cronise Lake basins (Warren 1984:425). Recent work in the region appears to support this conclusion (Schneider 1988; Jenkins 1986; York 1989). Protohistoric period sites include habitation sites with developed middens, located near reliable water sources. Temporary camps and a variety of resource procurement and processing stations also occur.

While the western Apple Valley area, itself, and Mojave Narrows are associated with the Mojave Desert region, the current project area is located on the periphery of the Valley and Desert. As such, this area has been claimed by the Serrano. The Serrano are a relatively small ethnic group of Native Americans occupying the area now known as the San Gabriel/San Bernardino Mountains and foothills (Bean and Smith 1978:570), but their ancestral territory extends well to the north (north of Barstow) and east along the Mojave River.

Citing Kroeber (1976:611), the term "Serrano" is derived from the Spanish word for "mountaineer" or "those of the Sierras"; an appellation assigned by the early Spanish explorers (McKenna 1991:3). The Serrano are culturally associated with their surrounding neighbors (the Gabrielino, Luiseno, Cahuilla, and Cupeno), but distinguished by their

linguistic associations with Takic speakers of the eastern desert regions - of Shoshonean stock (e.g. the Kitanemuk and Vanyume; see Bright 1975; Kroeber 1907 and 1925). Known as hunters and gatherers, there are no truly definitive boundaries for Serrano territory. Kroeber (1976:615) states:

> Their territory was, first the long San Bernardino Range culmination in the Peak of that name, and in Mount San Gorgonio, more than 11,000 feet high. Next, they held a track of unknown extent northward. In the east this was pure desert, with an occasional water hole and two or three flowing springs. In the west it was a region of timbered valleys between rugged mountains. Such was the district of Bear Lake and Creek. In the third place they occupied the San Gabriel Mountains or Sierra Madre west to Mount San Antonio. This range is almost a continuation of the San Bernardino Range ...

Although their exact territorial boundaries were/are undefined, the Serrano are known to have identified definitive or favored territories for the exploitation of Native resources (Strong 1929). Bean and Smith suggest that the Serrano territory was somewhat restricted to the San Bernardino Mountains, east of the Cajon Pass and between Yucaipa and Victorville (1978:570).

The Serrano developed a sophisticated social scheme interpreted as a semi-sedentary lifestyle. Serrano villages were generally small and located in the foothills of the Upper Sonoran life zone - where potable water was available - or in the mountains (Benedict 1924:368). Implements identified within such habitation sites include metates and manos, mortars and pestles, knives, scrapers, ceramic bowls and trays, baskets, and bone implements (e.g. spoons or stirrers). Technologically, the implements used by the Serrano were quite similar to those of the surrounding populations.

Dwellings were constructed of natural resources and are described as circular, domed structures built of willow frames and tule thatching. The structures were substantial enough to facilitate occupation of high altitudes during winter months in the San Gabriels. They also constructed ceremonial structures.

The Serrano were patrillocal and small encampments generally consisted of a nuclear family and the married sons' families. The dwelling was used primarily for sleeping and included a central hearth for heat. Most cooking and other residential chores were conducted outside in the open or under a ramada-like structure. If the encampment was large enough to be considered a village, a ceremonial house may also be present. The

ceremonial house (the religious center of the community) housed the community leader for each lineage.

Secondary structures included storage houses (granaries) and sweat lodges (Strong 1929; Bean 1962).The Serrano recognized totemic moieties and a series of band or local subdivisions - though not necessarily associated with clan systems. The Serrano acknowledged the power of Shamanism. Citing Bean and Smith (1978: 573):

> The Serrano shaman *h^{w}öm_*, like most southern California shamans, was "psychically" predisposed for his possessions and acquired his various power through dreaming, assisted in the process by the ingestion of datura (Strong 1929; Bean 1962-1972). Shamans were mainly curers, healing their patients through a combination of sucking out the disease-causing agents and administering herbal remedies (Benedict 1924).
>
> Serrano cosmogony and cosmography closely parallel that of the Cahuilla. There are twin creator gods, a creation myth told in "epic poem: style, each local group having its own origin story, water babies whose crying foretells death, supernatural beings of various kinds and on various hierarchically arranged power-access levels, and Orpheus-like myth, mythical deer that no one can kill, and tales relating the adventures (and misadventures) of Coyote, a tragicomic trickster-transformer culture hero (Bean 1962-1972; Benedict 1924).

Fauna exploited by the Serrano include mountain sheep, antelope (suggesting exploitation further north), deer, rabbits, small rodents, birds, and occasionally fish (Bean 1962 and 1972). Meats were generally prepared in earthen ovens and watertight baskets, although hot coals and trays were also used (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Surplus meats were dried for future use.

Serrano women were responsible for the greater amount of gathering. Flora utilized by the Serrano include: acorns, seeds, pinon nuts, bulbs, tubers, shoots, roots, berries, and mesquite (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925). Other primary resources included yucca roots, cacti fruits, and chia (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925; Drucker 1937; and Benedict 1924).

European contact with the Serrano dates to 1771, with the founding of the Mission San Gabriel de Arcangel, and 1772 (Pedro Fages' California expedition). Contact was mini-

mal until ca. 1819, when the Redlands *Asistencia* were established. Between 1819 and 1824, the majority of Serrano were physically relocated to the Mission properties (Beattie and Beattie 1939:336). With Secularization (beginning in 1824), the remaining Serrano returned to their traditional territories – predominantly the foothills and mountains.

The recognized Serrano of today are associated with the San Manuel and Morongo Reservations in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, respectively. It is estimated that fewer than 3,000 Serrano remain in Southern California (Banning; see Robinson 1990:16-17).

The contact period with Native American populations was initiated with Spanish explorations of the Mojave Desert and the coastal regions of Southern California. Historically, the San Bernardino Mountains have been explored by Spanish and Mexican populations prior to the early 1850s exploitation by U.S. citizens looking for lumber, gold, and/or recreational purposes (Lawton 1965 - reprinted from 1883). Prior to 1883, a minimum of four roads were established in the San Bernardino Mountains - all associated with the lumber industry (Lawton 1965:94). The first road was built by Mormon settlers of the Mormon fort at San Bernardino. Settlements in the Desert – specifically near present-day Victorville, Apple Valley, and Hesperia, were first associated with travel routes and the transportation of supplies, not towns or communities. Citing Duke and Shattuck (2003:6-7):

> Although the Spanish explorer Francisco Garces visited the Mojave Desert and took note of its native inhabitants during the 1700s, the area remained largely unsettled by European descendents [sic] until the American Period of 1848 … By 1884 the way stations played a vital role for teamsters who were moving building materials from Victorville to the dam being constructed in Big Bear. By the turn of the century homesteaders began to make their way into the valley, but the harsh desert conditions forced many to resettle elsewhere. Only a small number of rugged individuals persevered …

With respect to the areas of Apple Valley and Victorville, Gudde (1998:15 and 411, respectively) states:

> **APPLE VALLEY** [San Bernardino Co.]. The post office established on Apr. 16, 1949, at the resort city developed by Newt Bass bears the name applied

> at the turn of the century by Mrs. Ursula M. Pastes, a long-time resident of the Mojave Desert. To convince buyers that fruit could be grown in the desert, Mrs. Pastes planted three apple trees in her greasewood-covered yard.
>
> **VICTORVILLE; VICTOR VALLEY** [San Bernardino Co.]. The station was named Victor in 1885 for J. N. Victor, construction superintendent of the California Southern Railroad, 1888-1889. At the request of the Post Office Dept., the name was changed in 1901 to Victorville, in order to avoid confusion with Victor, Colorado.

A search of the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office files identified Township 5 North, Range 4 West, and the northern 75% of Section 23 as being held by the Southern Pacific Railroad in ca. 1918. This reference is in conflict with data acquired at the San Bernardino County Archives, which documents the property ownership from 1895 to ca. 1950.

In 1895, all of Section 23 was listed as being owned by James Brown and valued at $1000 (with no improvements). James Brown claimed Section 23 in 1870, adding to the family's relatively extensive holdings. James Brown was a relative of John Brown and Joseph Brown – John Brown being credited with the establishment of the toll road through the Cajon Pass and often associated with a crossing at what would become Victorville. John Brown (and his family) reported purchased 4,000 acres of land surrounding present-day Victorville from "Benis and Hancock" – who arrived in the area in 1860. The Browns began acquiring land in 1867, having reportedly relocated to Southern California after the Civil War.

James Brown held the property (Section 23) until 1896, when references to the Columbia Colonization Company appear. In 1899, the Brown's became involved in a financial crisis and a court case ensued. This case was settled in 1903, when the Rancho Verde Company took official possession of the property. MojaveHistory.com states:

> The end of the Brown ownership of the ranch is covered in some rather sad newspaper accounts. The Browns had used the property as a piggy bank for many years, mortgaging it for various ventures. It is not the purpose of this history to go into all the details, but James and Joseph and Newton's interests kept going up and down.

In the 1890s there was a severe financial recession, and many businesses throughout the nation began to fail. James tried to sell the property to a developer, as detailed in a May 8, 1896, story subtitled, "The Brown Ranch at Victor Provisionally Transferred," which appeared in the San Bernardino *Times-Index*:

> The deeds have been placed on file by which James Brown grants to the Columbian Colonization company between 3000 and 4000 acres of land, situated in the basin about the Victor narrows, and which, according to the plans of the colonization company, is to be the site of a reservoir....

This was probably a desperate attempt to either raise money or salvage something from his estate. Joseph's fortunes were inextricably tied up in the First National Bank of San Bernardino, and in 1894 the bank was forced to close its doors. Two years later, a receiver began to foreclose on the bank's mortgages in order to recoup depositors' funds. These proceedings eventually reached the Brown Ranch partners and both brothers were financially ruined.

On March 4, 1898, the *Weekly Times-Index* announced, "Jim Brown Ranch Sold." The article was subtitled "Result of a Foreclosure of Mortgage Forced by a Bank Failure," and opened with these words:

> The failure of the First National Bank in 1894 has resulted in forcing many to the wall. Jim Brown, brother of the President of the defunct institution, is one of the recent indirect victims. He was one of the most prosperous men in the county.

The story goes on to detail how the property was auctioned off on the court house steps.

The area now encompassing the project area was generally known as Brown's Ranch (not Rancho Verde). References to "Rancho Verde" appear after 1903, when the mortgage holders (John A. Cole, H.E. Harris, and Milo M. Potter) took possession, following the incorporation of the Rancho Verde Company in 1901. The Rancho Verde Company held all of Section 23 until 1923, when the 640 acres was sold to the Grier Ranch, Inc., separating all of Section 23 from the Rancho Verde properties. With scant data available for the years between 1923 and 1946, the portion of Section 23 now associated with the

proposed project was sold to the Kings County Land and Cattle Company, with some indications cattle were present on the property.

In 1947, following the Depression and WWII, the southwestern 260 acres of Section 23 were sold to Louise Kennedy Kalin and assessed at $3250 (no improvements). In 1952, Kalin sold the property to Donald K. Brokaw. The property was never significantly improved, but there was some evidence of fencing.

In 1970, the boundaries of the project area were defined as a part of Tract No. 8027, owned by Boise Cascade Properties, Inc. Boise Cascade Properties, Inc. owned additional properties in the area, but broke out the current project area as Lot 520 (23.07 acres; Figure 5).

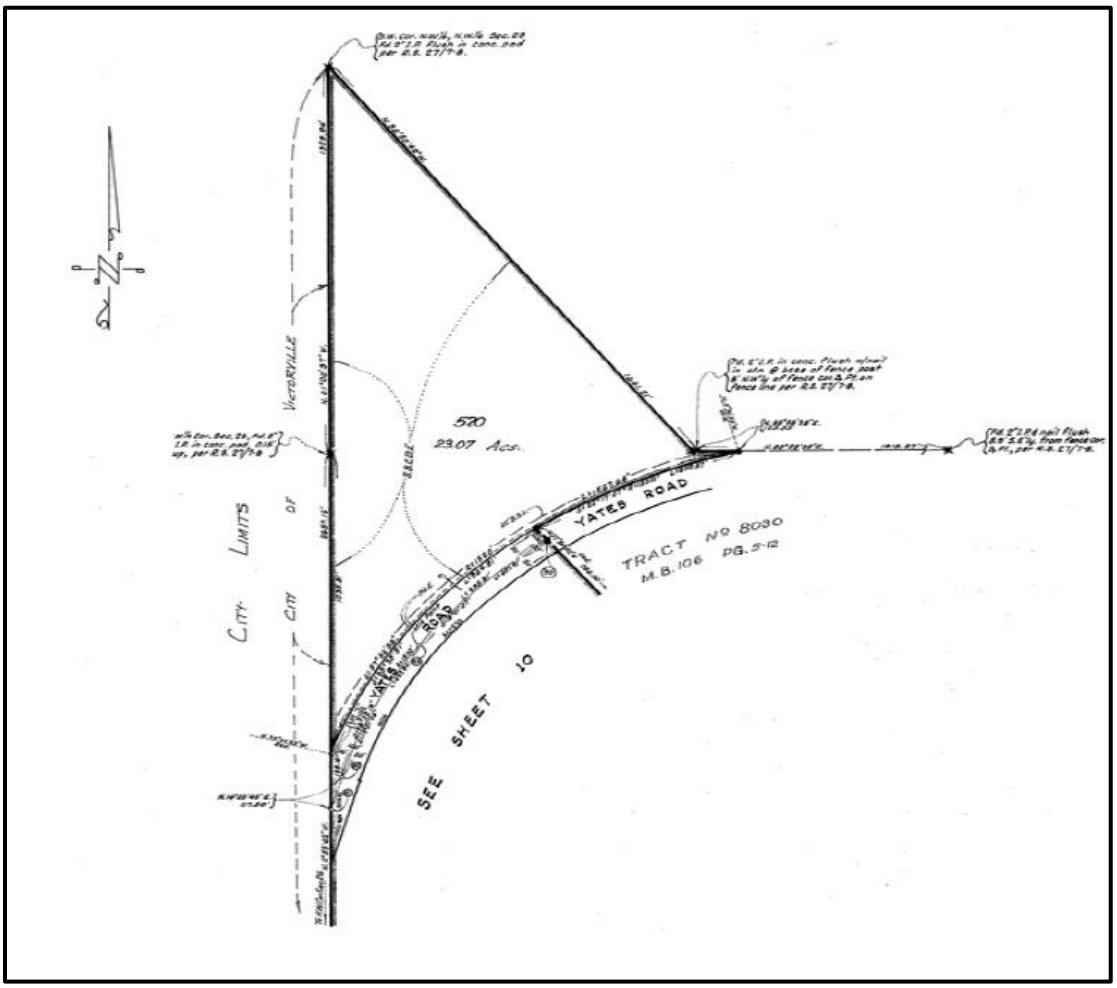


Figure 5. A Portion of Tract No. 8027, Illustrating the current Project Area.

Eventually, by 2014, Lot 520 was subdivided into two parcels: 0479-131-08 and -09. In the case of Parcel -08, the legal definition reads:

> That portion of Lot 520, Tract No. 8057, as per plat recorded in Book 109 of Maps, Pages 20-30 inclusive, records of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, said portion described as follows: an irregular shaped parcel of land bounded as follows: on the northeast by the northeasterly line of said Lot 520 as shown on said map on the west by the westerly line of said lot 520 on the southwest by a line that is parallel with and 182.00 feet south-westerly, measured at right angles, from the northeasterly line of said Lot 520 on the southeast by a line that is perpendicular to the northeasterly line of said lot 520 ad 1189.34 feet from the north corner of said lot 520, as meas-ured along said northeasterly line of said Lot 520.

Parcel -08 has been owned by the County of San Bernardino since ca. 2014, having acquired the property from Fairway Equity, LLC. No improvements were recorded, but the justification for the subdivision of Lot 520 references a road right-of-way issue.

With respect to Parcel -09, the legal description reads:

> Tract No. 8027 Lot 520 except portion described as follows: an irregular shaped parcel of land bounded as follows: on the northeast by the northeast-erly line of said Lot 520 as shown on said map on the west by the westerly line of said lot 520 on the southwest by a line that is parallel with and 182.00 feet southwesterly, measured at right angles, from the northeasterly line of said Lot 520 on the southeast by a line that is perpendicular to the northeast-erly line of said lot 520 ad 1189.34 feet from the north corner of said lot 520, as measured along said northeasterly line of said Lot 520.

Between 2014 and 2016, Parcel -09 was owned by Fairway Equity, LLC. Subsequently, in 2016, the property was transferred to Mojave Narrows Chateau Management, LLC. Again, no improvements are listed.

In summarizing the history of Parcels -08 and -09, they were once part of a larger holding used for ranching. The actual subdivision and defining of the property began with the

assignment of Lot 520 of by the Boise Cascade Company. In 2014, Lot 520 was subdivided into two properties (Parcels -08 and -09) and owned by Fairway Equity, LLC. Lot -08 was transferred to the County for future road development. Lot -09 was sold to Mojave Chateau Management, LLC. Both properties have reverted back to Fairway Equity, LLC, the current project applicant. The proposed improvements will be limited to Parcel -09.

METHODOLOGY

To complete these studies in compliance with the data requirements for CEQA compliance and, by default, also NHPA Section 106 resource evaluations, McKenna et al. completed the following tasks:

1. **Archaeological Records Search**: McKenna et al. completed an archaeological records search through the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center, Fullerton, Orange County, California (Appendix B). This research was completed as an in-house search conducted by Jeanette A. McKenna, Principal Investigator for McKenna et al. The research was designed to compile data on previously completed studies within one mile of the project area. McKenna et al. obtained copies of all recorded site forms and the historic maps covering the area. In addition, McKenna et al. reviewed the listing of properties in the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest. Locally recognized resources were also investigated. McKenna et al. obtained copies several technical reports listed for the area and reviewed each. This research was complete on July 13, 2017, and analysis of the data was completed at the offices of McKenna et al. in Whittier.

2. **Project Description and Understanding**: McKenna et al. was provided a preliminary project description by Lilburn Corporation, San Bernardino, California. This data included project-related maps, an aerial photograph with the project boundaries, and a brief written description.

3. **Native American Consultation**: McKenna et al. contacted the Native American Heritage Commission on June 30, 2017, and inquired into the presence or absence of known religious or sacred Native American sites within or near the project area. A response was received on July 6, 2017. McKenna et al. also obtained a listing of local Native American representatives wishing to consult with respect to projects in the general area. Letters were mailed to all listed persons on July 18, 2017 (Appendix C). Responses have been incorporated into this document.

4. **Paleontological Overview**: McKenna et al. obtained a paleontological overview for the area through the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (Appendix D). This overview was designed to place the project area in a context for the preliminary assessment of the relative sensitivity for the area to yield evidence of fossil specimens.

5. **Historic Background Research**: Background research and land use history was researched through the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office files; the San Bernardino County Archives, Redlands; the San Bernardino County Recorder's Office, San Bernardino; the San Bernardino County Museum; and the in-house library at McKenna et al. Local histories were perused and articles relating to the area were researched on-line. Historic aerial photographs were research on-line. All pertinent data was compiled and assessed for application to the current research and supplemental research data has been included in Appendix F of this report.

6. **Field Studies**: McKenna et al. scheduled and completed the field survey on August 10 and 11, 2017. The 23 +/- acres was surveyed intensively over the course of two field days by Richard S. Shepard, MA/RPA and Archaeological Associate for McKenna et al. The original field schedule was augmented by the second day in response to the findings.

   The survey was completed by walking transects averaging 15 meters apart, where vegetation permitted such transects. In areas where artifacts were identified, the survey transects were significantly narrowed to insure adequate coverage (less than 5 meters apart). McKenna et al. conducted the survey in a manner conducive to the conditions. Landmarks, such as dirt access roads, trails, or clearings, were used to subdivide the survey area into manageable units. The property was accessed from the Yates Road (southern boundary) and an adjacent un-named dirt road along the eastern boundary. The northern boundary was marked along Horseshoe Lane. All accessible areas were surveyed and areas associated with previously recorded resources were given additional attention.

   Field notes are on file at McKenna et al. A photographic record is presented in Appendix E. All data required to complete DPR-523 resource forms (new or continuations) was compiled. These forms are presented in Appendix G.

7. **Analysis and Report Preparation**: McKenna et al. complete the analysis for this project in compliance with the criteria for significance presented in both the NHPA/NEPA and CEQA guidelines. This report was prepared in a format requested by the Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento; and San Bernardino County. McKenna et al. included all required data and formatted this report in a manner conducive to understanding the proposed project and potential impacts to cultural resources. All supplemental and

supporting data deemed important to this study has been presented in the attached appendices. Additional supporting data is on file at McKenna et al.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

As noted, McKenna et al. completed the archaeological records search for this project on July 13, 2017, at the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center. This research confirmed the majority of the project area was previously surveyed for cultural resources (studies 1061041, 1061044, and 1067167). Additional studies completed within one mile of the project area are listed in Table 2.

Figure 2. Cultural Resources Reports and Studies Completed within One Mile of the Project Area.

Report	Citation	Description	Resources
1060037	Mosley 1958	Hidden Valley	Yes
1060052	Smith et al. 1961	Indian Picture Writing	Yes
1060078	Walker 1967	Mojave River Trail	Yes
1060287	Bowers 1976	Victorville Narrows Site	
1060288	Steele 1976	Victorville Narrows	
1060321	Farrell 1976	Desert Knolls Wash	
1060392	Hearn 1976	Road Construction	
1060398	Hearn 1976	Fire Protection Facilities	
1060403	Hearn & Simpson 1976	Road Construction	
1060448	Hearn 1976	74 Acres in Victorville	
1060519	Hearn 1977	13 Acres in Victorville	
1061041	Drover 1980	TTM 11623	Yes
1061044	Smith 1980	Hesperia Interceptor	Yes
1061269	Love 1982	General Plan Amendment	
1061620	Sutton et al. 1987	Providence Mountains	Yes
1061706	Macko 1987	TTM 13736	Yes
1061707	Macko 1987	Kemper Campbell Ranch	Yes
1061742	Macko 1987	TTM 13783	
1061820	Peak & Associates 1988	Fiberoptics Alignment	Yes
1061857	Macko 1989	23 Acres in Apple Valley	
1061915	Smith 1963	Mojave River Region	Yes
1061923	McLean & Cooper 1989	40 Acres in Victorville	Yes
1061982	Kinney 1989	Apple Valley Water District	Yes
1062147	Heizer & Clewlow 1973	Prehistoric Rock Art	Yes
1062147	Unknown	Chambers Well	
1062543	McKenna 1992	Mojave Narrows, Apple Valley	Yes
1062656	McKenna 1992	20 Acres in Victorville	

Table 2. Cultural Resources Reports and Studies Completed within One Mile of the Project Area (cont'd.).			
Report	Citation	Description	Resources
1063266	Cheever 1994	Mojave Crossing	Yes
1063711	Shepard 2000	Level 3 Fiberoptics Alignment	Yes
1063771	Brock 2002	Village at Victorville	Yes
1063776	Cotterman 2001	Cell Tower Site	
1063786	Lerch & Bricker 1995	Valley Transit Center	Yes
1063791	Bonner 1998	Cell Tower Site	
1063792	Love 2000	Cell Tower Site	
1063794	Maxon 1999	6 Acres in Apple Valley	Yes
1063859	Kallenberger 1998	Bridges at Upper Narrows	Yes
1063877	Dahdul 2000	Apple Valley Road Improve.	
1064280	Alexandrowicz & Webb 2001	Monitoring – Tract 16087	
1064451	Cerreto & Malan 2004	Village at Victorville	Yes
1065491	Aislin-Kay 2005	Cell Tower Site	
1065192	Billat 2005	Cell Tower Site	
1065193	Tang & Hogan 2006	Historic Property Evaluations	
1065340	McLean 1999	Northside Commons	
1065435	Not in File		
1065439	Not in File		
1065553	Malan et al. 2004	Commercial Parcel No. 2	Yes
1065766	Love 1997	Fiberoptic Alignment	
1065832	Bean et al. 1992	Transmission Line Alignment	
1066002	Not in File		
1067024	Not in File		
1067156	Tang et al. 2011	Water Supply System Impr.	
1067164	Not in File		
1067167	Hosseinion 2001	Yucca Loma Rd./Yates Rd.	Yes
1067543	Tang et al. 2011	Upper Narrows Pipeline	Yes
1067734	Fulton 2013	Mojave Riverwalk	Yes

As a result of the reports presented above, a minimum of 33 resources have been recorded within one mile (+/-) of the project area (Table 3). Of these, two are either within or directly adjacent ot the project area.

P36-010154 (CA-SBR-10154) was recorded by James and Briggs in 1999 and described as a historic foundation with an associated scatter of historic refuse. This site was mapped as being just west of the project area boundary and near the northern point of the project area. It is adjacent to the railroad alignment (in Section 22). The concrete foundation measured 10 feet by 15 feet and the presence of a basement was suggested.

The historic refuse scatter was dominated by glass fragments indicative of turn-of-the-century – amethyst, aqua, amber, and clear fragments. Window glass was also identified. Although not specifically stated, this site appears to be related to the presence of the railroad and may have served as a watchman's building or other type of maintenance structure. This site will not be impacted by the currently proposed project.

Table 3. Cultural Resources Identified within One Mile (+/-) of the Project Area.

Primary No.	Other No.	Citation	Description
P36-003033	CHL-963	Peterson 2014 (et al.)	National Old Trails Highway; Mojave Trail; Old Government Rd.; Old Mojave Rd.
P36-013879	CA-SBR-58	Mohr and Bierman 1949; McKenna 1992	Lithic and Groundstone Scatter
P36-013879	CA-SBR-59	Bierman and Mohr 1949; McKenna 1992	Bedrock Metates and Handstone Scatter
P36-013879	CA-SBR-60	Bierman and Mohr 1949; Smith 1965; Bowers 1969; McKenna 1992	Bedrock Mortar and Metate Site with Lithic Scatter
	CA-SBR-61	Mohr and Bierman 1949 McLean and Lanier 1989	Lithic Scatter with Groundstone
	CA-SBR-62	Bierman and Mohr 1949	Lithic Scatter with Groundstone
	CA-SBR-63	Smith 1941; Mohr 1949; Haneszel 1964; Bowers 1969; McKenna 1992	Petroglyph Site
	CA-SBR-64	Haenszel 1964; Bowers 1969; Heizer and Clewlow 1973; McKenna 1992	Petroglyph Site
P36-000180	CA-SBR-180	Smith (n.d.)	Rock Cairns and Lithic Scatter with Groundstone
P36-000572	CA-SBR-572	Turner 1971	Pictograph Site
P36-000966	CA-SBR-966	Turner 1971	Pictograph Site
P36-000967	CA-SBR-967	McDougall et al. 2007; McKenna 1992; Smith 1977	Village Site with Developed Midden
P36-000968	CA-SBR-968	Smith 1971	Isolated burial

Table 3. Cultural Resources Identified within One Mile (+/-) of the Project Area (cont'd.).			
Primary No.	Other No.	Citation	Description
P36-004313	CA-SBR-4313	Hosseinion 2011; James and Briggs 1999; Drover 1980	Lithic Scatter with Groundstone
P36-004451	CA-SBR-4451	Meighan and Scalise 1988	Obsidian Testing Results
P36-006301	CA-SBR-6301	McLean and Lanier 1989	Historic Refuse Scatter (2 loci)
P36-007146	CA-SBR-7146	McKenna 1992	Rock Alignments
P36-007147	CA-SBR-7147	McKenna 1992; McDougal et al. 2007	Historic Refuse Scatter
P36-007148	CA-SBR-7148	McKenna 1992	Historic Refuse Scatter
P36-010154	CA-SBR-10154	James and Briggs 1999	Historic Foundation and Refuse Scatter
P36-010870	CA-SBR-10870	Brock and di Iorio 2002	Historic Refuse Scatter
P36-010871	CA-SBR-10871	Brock and di Iorio 2002	Historic Foundation and Refuse Scatter
P36-012837		Smallwood 2011	Isolated Mano
P36-013515	CA-SBR-12502	Malan and Ward 2004	Historic Refuse Scatter
P36-013879	CA-SBR-12706	McDougall et al. 2007	Prehistoric Village Site Previously Recorded as CA-SBR-58, -59, and -60
P36-018731		Bricker 1995	Trailer Park (1945)
P36-018732		Bricker 1995	Service Station (1939)
P36-018733		Bricker 1995	Commercial Building (1940) and Residence with Garage (1932)
P36-018734		Bricker 1995	Commercial Building (1927)
P36-018735		Bricker 1995	Commercial Building (1918)
P36-061291	AI-1584-22	McKenna 1992	Isolated Mano Fragment
P36-061292	AI-1584-23	McKenna 1992	Isolated Mano Fragment
P36-064297		James and Briggs 1999	Isolated Chalcedony Debitage

P36-004313 was recorded numerous times, beginning with the Drover (1980) identification. In 1980, the site was described as a "[S]urface and subsurface distribution of artifacts located on upper Mohave River terrace, southwest of Upper Mohave River Narrows Park. Site includes historic irrigation canal."

Drover also reported the presence of “dark soil localities” that may be representative of hearth locations. The artifact scatter included fire-affected rock, jasper and quartzite debitage, cobble manos (5), a schist metate, quartzite scraper, and quartzite chopper. There was also an added reference to “pottery.” When mapped, Driver identified the site as an oval covering an area of 112,500 square feet with approximately 40 cm of depth (based on a single test unit).

In 1999, James and Briggs revisited the site and prepared a supplemental site form. They defined the site as “… located on the east side of the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe right-of-way … on the west edge of the Mojave Narrows Regional Park and 300 meters south of the historic location of the town of Frost.” As described, this suggests the structural remains referenced as P36-010154 (see previous discussion) may be a portion the site of “Frost.”

James and Briggs also describe P36-004313 as a “prehistoric habitation site or temporary camp containing one metate fragment and 10+ pieces of debitage, and a historic refuse scatter including about 200 assorted items, with the dimensions of 80 meters EW by 230 meters NS.” This site area equates to 46,000 square feet – significantly smaller than the size reported by Drover (40% of Driver’s site area). Despite the size discrepancy, James and Briggs mapped the site as covering a larger area (oriented north/south) with the prehistoric concentration being north of the historic scatter and the identified metate being isolated to the south. James and Briggs noted the presence of dirt roads through the site and a trail running through the center of the site, but made no mention of the historic irrigation canal. The eastern half of the site was mapped as being within Section 23, while the western half was identified as being within Section 22 (outside the current project area boundaries).

P36-004313 was revisited by Hosseinion in 2011. In his updated site form, P36-004313 was described as “… a prehistoric lithic scatter containing one metate fragment and 10+pieces of debitage. Additional isolated pieces of debitage were found in the surrounding area. Further south of the prehistoric site there is a historic refuse scatter including about 200 assorted items, with the dimensions of 80 meters EW by 230 meters NS.” Hosseinion appears to simply repeat the 1999 description, including the James and Briggs map. Hosseinion notes there was evidence that some of the historic (possibly modern) refuse had been “removed” from the property. A dirt road was mentioned, but the previously referenced trail was not mentioned.

In assessing P36-004313, McKenna et al. has tentatively concluded the Drover (1980) record provided the most comprehensive description of the site and the subsequent rec-

ords indicate fewer artifacts with no references to depth. Being located on the west side of the Mojave River and directly opposite a large village site, McKenna et al. concurs with the Drover description of a habitation site with the potential for subsurface components. The presence, as suggested, of hearths and depth of deposits would render this site more of a village than a temporary camp. Without the benefit of a formal evaluation, the site should be considered potentially significant (NEPA/CEQA) until proven otherwise.

It is further noted, as presented in Table 3, the presence of burials and rock art in the Mojave Narrows area attests to the use of this are by prehistoric populations, emphasizing the potential for P36-004313 to yield additional and potentially significant scientific data pertaining to the use and understanding of the cultural lifeways of the Native American populations.

The paleontological overview for this project was prepared by McLeod (2017) and presented in Appendix D. McLeod states:

> In almost all of the proposed project area the surface deposits consist of younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived as alluvial fan deposits from the slightly more elevation terrain adjacent to the west. In the very southeastern portion of the proposed project area though the surface deposits consist of older Quaternary Alluvium, derived as fluvial deposits from the ancestral Mojave River that currently flows just to the east. These older Quaternary deposits may occur at relatively shallow depth beneath the younger Quaternary Alluvium exposed in most of the proposed project area. Our closest fossil vertebrate locality in these older Quaternary deposits in LACM 1224, just west-southwest of the proposed project area along Dean Avenue south of Green Tree Boulevard, that produced a specimen of fossil camel, *Camelops*. Additionally, south-southeast of the proposed project area, on the west side of the Mojave River below the bluffs, an otherwise unrecorded specimen of mammoth was collects in 1961 from older Quaternary Alluvial deposits. Further northwest of the proposed project area, between Adelanto and the former George Air Force Base, our older Quaternary locality LACM 7786 produced a fossil specimen of meadow vole, *Microtus*.
>
> Shallow excavations in the uppermost few feet of younger Quaternary Alluvium exposed in the proposed project area are unlikely to uncover significant vertebrate fossils. Deeper excavations there that extend into finer-grained older Quaternary deposits, or any excavations in the exposures of older Quaternary Alluvium in the very southeastern portion of the proposed

project area, however, may well encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be monitored closely to quickly and professionally recover any fossil remains discovered while not impeding development. Sediment samples should also be collects and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

RESEARCH DESIGN

In 1993, Rosenthal prepared a relatively brief research design for the investigations for the Crystal Creek Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Facility in the Lucerne Valley. McKenna et al. has used this research design as a template for the current study and adapted the design for project-specific application. Based on information compiled over the course of this project, the research design was also prepared in a manner to address the presence of three different types of resources: 1) prehistoric archaeological resources; 2) historic archaeological resources; and/or 3) resources associated with the post-1965 improvements to the general area, including recreational uses.

In accordance with standard practices and both NEPA/NHPA and CEQA guidelines, resources over 50 years of age (pre-1965) should be identified and assessed for significance through the listed criteria. To provide time for review and project development, resources over 45 years of age (pre-1969) should be included in the assessments and should be taken into consideration when addressing potential impacts.

Given the potential for the three types of resources presented above (isolates, prehistoric archaeological resources, and historic archaeological resources), McKenna et al. has developed the following research questions/statements (hypotheses) and data requirements.

Hypothesis: The types of prehistoric archaeological resources expected for the area include habitation sites with identifiable features and/or smaller limited use area.

Data: To determine whether or not these resources are present, the survey must be completed at an intensive level and with an understanding of the physical remains that would result in the identification of the resources.

- Be aware of the presence of lithic materials commonly used by Native Americans (granities, chert, jasper, chalcedony, quartz, etc.);
- Be aware of the types of bedrock conducive to use as ground stone surfaces and/or for the preparation of rock art;
- Be aware of surface vegetation changes or alterations that may indicate the location of buried resources and/or features;
- Be aware of evidence of disturbances indicating vandalism to identified cultural resource sites; and
- Revisit locations of previously identified resources to assess the current conditions of the resources and confirm the location(s) with respect to the current project.
- Be aware that isolated artifacts may be located anywhere and are often moved as a result of natural forces.

Hypothesis: The general area has been associated with homesteads, land purchases, and/or mining patents. Evidence of these activities may be expected in specific areas, but also identified between areas identified as sensitive for such resources.

Data: Physical evidence of these types of properties should be easier to identify. Such features associated with these properties and activities may include, but not be limited to: roads, landscaping, structures, surface features (e.g. hearths, fence lines, utilities, etc.), property markers, and/or refuse deposits.

- Be aware of dirt access roads within or near the Area of Potential Effects (APE);
- Be aware that roads were developed to access areas and resources may be identified along roads or at the terminus of a road;
- Be aware that rural (unpaved) roads are often damaged by natural forces and may be moved, shifted, maintained, or abandoned;
- Be aware of the presence of structures or structural remains;
- Be aware of secondary features that may be indicative of the activities associated with a site;
- Be aware of the potential for buried resources (e.g. refuse deposits, privies, basements, etc.);
- Be aware of the types of materials that may be present and take care not to expose anyone to danger (e.g. unsafe flooring, unsafe roofs, contaminated soils, etc.);
- Record enough data to adequately assess the resource for significance and/or research potential.

Hypothesis: Ranching has been conducted in this general area for decades. Although evidence of ranching may be identified as fairly recent, there is a potential for earlier activities to be present and identifiable.

Data: The separation of various periods of activity and to understand the importance or lack of importance for certain physical remains, data must be compiled and understood in a manner that allows conclusions to be made and the separations to be explained. Historic research into the earlier land uses is a beginning point, supplemented with field data.

- Be aware of locations known to have been used for ranching or agriculture;
- Be aware of the roads that were specifically associated with property boundaries and/or access to use areas;
- Be aware of the methods of ranching or agriculture (e.g. fencing, corrals, tilled fields) and any equipment being used – to differentiate resources that do or do not belong to the historic or modern activities;
- Be aware of modern activities that may have impacted evidence of earlier activities.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The approach to the current research was designed to address the potential eligibility of any identified cultural resource for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (**Section 106**) and/or the California Register of Historic Resources (CEQA, as amended). This level of investigation is based on the federal criteria presented in the Code of Federal Regulations 36 CRF 60.4, as follows:

> The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structure, and objects that possess integrity of locations, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
>
> (a) That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
> (b) That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

(c) That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

(d) That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The state (**CEQA**, Section 15064.5) criteria for evaluation mirror the federal guidelines and read as follows:

a) For purposes of this section, the term “historical resources” shall include the following:

1) A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code §5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Sec-tion 4850 et seq.).

2) A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrate that it is not historically or culturally significant.

3) 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 may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency’s determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be “historically significant” if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code§5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) including the following:

A) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;

B) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;

C) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
D) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATIONS

The recent investigations of the proposed Victorville Residential Care Facility resulted in a preliminary conclusion that the project area was sensitive for both prehistoric and paleontological resources. Specifically, Site P36-004313 was identified as being within the project area, as first identified in 1980.

The field survey for the 23 +/- acre property was conducted on August 10 and 11, 2017, by Richard S. Shepard, MA/RPA and Associate Archaeologist working for McKenna et al. At the time of the survey, the project area was defined by landmarks (e.g. road alignments, fence lines, and UTM coordinates. The property (2 parcels) was found to be easily accessible and vacant, although there was some evidence of disturbances from off-road vehicle traffic, pedestrian traffic, and the discarding of a storage container. Surface soils were found to consists mainly of coarse sands with underlying finer-grained sands in areas where water has washed away the top soil (e.g. the southern portion of the property where an active wash is present). As noted by McLeod (2017), the coarser sands are indicative of younger Quaternary Alluvium while the finer grained sands are associated with the older Quaternary Alluvium.

Vegetation with the property consists of a basic desert scrub biotic community, but without the standard creosote bushes. The existing flora is dominated by desert sagebrush and an occasional Joshua Tree. Cottonwood riparian vegetation is present along the wash in the southeastern portion of the property.

The field survey was initiated on the northern point of the property, along Horseshoe Lane and near Ridgecrest Road. A fence line defined the eastern boundary and Yates Road defined the southern boundary. Transects were initiated along the western boundary and proceeded from west to east (oriented north/south) at intervals of 5 meters apart. This tight spacing was based on the presence of P36-004313 and to better identify the site boundaries. Deviations around vegetation were kept to a minimum, whenever possible. Evidence of P36-004313 was encountered along immediately and described as consisting of debitage, a large broken metate (4 pieces present), and formal tools (Figure 6):

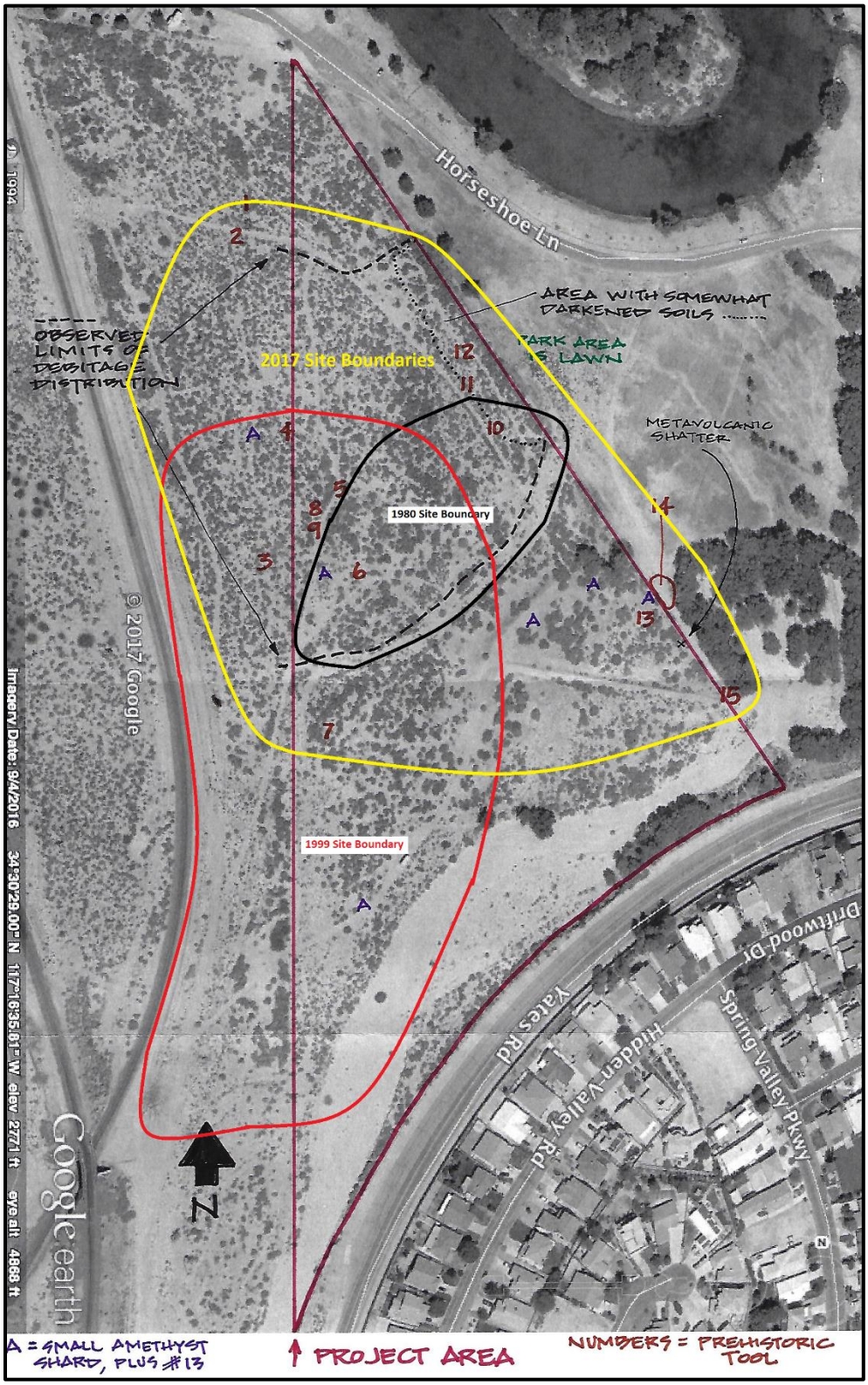


Figure 6. Survey Results Identifying Locations of Artifact Scatter and Site Boundaries.

Field No. 1: A fragmented metate (four pieces) representing approximately 50% of the artifact; red granite; located at NAD 27 UTMs 474578E/3818576N. As mapped, this artifact is just west of the project area boundary.

Field No. 2: A pestle fragment (distal end) of tan granite; located along a dirt bike trail and just west of the project area boundary – near Field No. 1. NAD 27 UTMs = 474572E/3818560N.

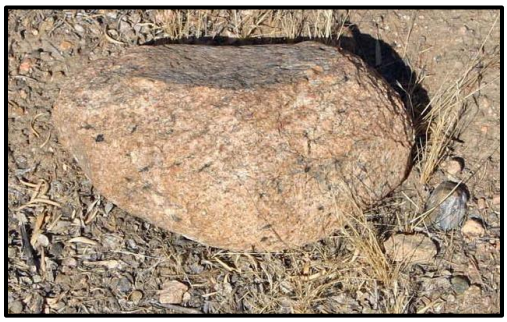
Field No. 3: Consisting of a tight cluster of three small biface fragments in an area of 1.5 meters. A mano fragment was identified two meters to the east of these bifaces. Item “A” is a small, tan, chert biface. Item “B” is the lower section of a projectile point (white chert). Item “C” is a projectile point mid-section of tan chert. As mapped, these items are just west of the project area boundary.

Field No. 4: A schist mano (referenced above), unifacial and relatively large. UTMs = 474609E/3818466N.

Field No. 5: A small, schist metate fragment identified in a dirt bike trail. UTMs = 474631E/3818435N.

Field No 6: A heavy, thick, tan granite metate fragment located along the edge of a dirt bike trail. UTMs = 474635E/ 3818382N.

Field No. 7: A mono or abrader, kidney-shaped, unifacial, of tan granite. UTMs = 474624E/818287N.3



Field No. 8: A small, gray, granite metate fragment. UTMs = 474620E/3818412N.

Field No. 9: A very small biface/projectile point fragment – near complete. White chert and located along the edge of a dirt bike trail. UTMs = 474621E/3818408N.

Field No. 10: A mono fragment, unifacial and of coarse granite. Appear to be fire affected. Located along the edge of a dirt bike trail at UTMs 474707E/3818476N.

Field No. 11: A small, unifacial mano (nearly complete) of beige granite. UTMs = 474690E/3818498N.

Field No. 12: Two items – a heavy, thick granitic metate fragment (fire affected) and a metavolcanic core (approximately 3 meters to the north). Metate identified at UTMs 474693E/3818510N.

Field No. 13: A heavy amethyst bottle finish (turned) spatially associated with a small unifacial mano fragment of beige granite. At UTMs 474805E/ 3818363N.

Field No. 14: A cluster of lithics including a chalcedony projectile point fragment (lower portion with concave base); 12-15 fragments of chalcedony and red jasper debitage. These items were found on and near a dirt access road associated with the adjacent park property (at UTMs 474816E/ 3818377N). One fragment of dark metavolcanic shatter was noted on fence line (at UTMs 474841E/ 3818340N). These items are just outside the project area.

Field No. 15: A chalcedony flake with evidence of edge modification; unifacial, retouch fragment. Located outside project area boundaries (UTMs 474858E/ 3818621N.

In addition to the fifteen field numbers assigned above, the surveyor noted the presence of at least six fire affected rocks scattered in the area. Darkened soils were noted along the eastern property boundary, possibly suggesting the presence of midden soils. No ceramics were observed, but there was a thin scatter of historic/modern glass. There were a few sanitary cans scattered throughout the area.

As previously noted, dirt roads and trails cross the property in various directions, but do not appear to be historic. Likewise, the various fence lines along the property boundaries appear to be early modern and not historic, as the eastern property lines were not defined until fairly recently. They consist of a mix of old railroad ties, steel posts, and chain link, with some areas of barbed wire.

A low and straight earthen flood control berm is present in the southeastern portion of the project area. This berm appears to be modern. There are modern telephone poles dumped on the property, along with the single abandoned storage container. There are five locations within the wash area where transite pipe was noted. This material is hazardous and was avoided by the surveyor. No paleontological resources were identified during the survey.

In interpreting the recent findings, McKenna et al. has concluded the presence of P36-004313 to be confirmed. This site, as currently identified, covers the northern portion of the property (north of the wash) and extends to the east and west of the property. The surface materials include metates, manos, a pestle, flakes, utilized flakes, projectile points, a core, and fire affected rock. Many items were identified in disturbed areas (e.g. along roads or trails where the surface soils were disturbed).

McKenna et al. suggests this is a strong indication of subsurface deposits that area only identified once the surface sands have been removed. The area along the fence line in the northeastern portion of the property exhibits darkened soils, suggesting madden soils or burned soils. With the added data presented by Drover (1980) and others, indications of hearths and materials as deep as 40 cm. below surface may be present.

The size and estimated depth of this site is indicative of a site that is more than a temporary campsite, but more in line with a village. The presence of groundstone, including the pestle, suggests an occupation period indicative of the Late Prehistoric era and, possibly, earlier.

Although no evidence of human remains was identified, a burial has been reported within one mile and burials cannot be ruled out. Overall, the site should be considered highly sensitive for significant cultural resources.

CONCLUSIONS

Over the course of the recent investigations, McKenna et al. completed Native American consultation, a paleontological overview, research, a field survey, and an assessment of resources identified within the Area of Potential Effects.

Native American Consultation

McKenna et al. conducted Native American consultation through contact with the Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento, and inquired into the presence or absence of known sacred or religious sites in or around the APE (Appendix C). The Native American Heritage Commission reported that no known sacred sites or religious resources were identified with the specific project area or its surrounding areas, but noted resources were known and recorded for the general area. Additional research identified rock art sites and at least one burial.

In addition to consultation with the Commission, McKenna et al. received a listing of local Native American representatives wishing to comment on projects within their sphere(s) of influence or cultural affiliation. McKenna et al. send letters to all identified individuals, describing the project and included maps illustrating the specific location of the project.

As of this writing, no formal written responses have been received. However, McKenna et al. exchanged a series of emails with representatives of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. McKenna et al. informed the San Manuel of the recent findings and preliminary conclusions and the need for a Phase II testing program, should the project move forward. The San Manuel concurred. McKenna et al. recommended they participate in formal AB-52 consultation with the Lead Agency (County) and assist in defining the scope of the Phase II testing program.

Paleontological Resources

The relatively sensitivity for the presence of paleontological resources was addressed through an overview prepared by McLeod (2017; Appendix D). McLeod identified the area as consisting of shallow younger Quaternary Alluvium over older Quaternary Alluvium. As evidenced in the wash defining the southern portion of the project area, older Quaternary Alluvium is quite shallow and, therefore, the potential for identifying fossil specimens is considered to be relatively high. Given the nature of the proposed devel-

opment, it is likely older Quaternary Alluvial deposits will be encountered within the entire project area and, therefore, McLeod recommends the property be monitored during site preparation activities. The monitoring program should conform to the standards and protocols of the San Bernardino county Museum and approved by the Lead Agency prior to the initiation of ground disturbing activities.

Results of the Field Survey

McKenna et al. completed the intensive survey of the 23+/- acre project area and also included a small buffer to the east and west of the property. As a result, McKenna et al. revisited the recorded site of P36-004313 and confirmed its presence. Metates, manos, pestle(s), flaked tools, projectile points, core(s), and debitage are scattered over an area that dominates the project area. UTM coordinates for the identified artifacts range from 3818576 Northing to 3818321 Northing, or 225 meters north/south (765 feet), and 474578 Easting to 474858 Easting, or 280 meters east/west (840 feet). This equates to approximately 63,000 square feet within the project area, with additional evidence of the side extending both east and west. The adjusted site boundaries for P36-004313 are presented in Table 4, below.

Table 4. Adjusted Site Boundary Coordinates for P36-004313.

	NAD 27		NAD 83	
Point	UTM Easting	UTM Northing	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
N	474581	3818591	474501	3818787
S	474709	3818253	474629	3818449
W	474516	3818489	474436	3818685
E	474881	3818316	474801	3818512

As noted, the artifact scatter was identified on the surface, but generally in areas where there was some surface disturbance, indicating these items were buried at some point. As such, the potential for additional buried artifacts is relatively high. In addition, darkened soils suggest the potential for midden deposits and fire affected rock may be evidence of buried hearths. Drover (1980) noted materials to a depth of -40 cm in the one test unit he excavated.

In completing a preliminary assessment of P36-004313, McKenna et al. has concluded this site would qualify for recognition as a significant resource under federal NRHP Crite-

rion (d) and CEQA Criterion (D), for the potential to yield significant scientific data. Until proven otherwise, any impacts to this area would be considered adverse and require mitigation of adverse impacts. All data required to complete the updated DPR-523 resource forms was compiled. These forms are presented in Appendix G.

FINDING OF FACT

McKenna et al. relocated P36-004313 and confirmed the aerial distribution of surface artifacts and assessed the potential for buried resources. The conclusion was P36-004313 is still present and identifiable and the artifact scatter is indicative of a village site with a strong potential for buried deposits. The site fulfills the requirements for recognition as a potentially significant cultural resource.

The project area is also sensitive for the presence of paleontological resources. These resources may be present in a relatively shallow context and, therefore, the entire property is considered sensitive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

At this time, given the nature of the resources presented in this report, McKenna et al., is recommending two main mitigation measures:

1. Completion of a Phase II testing archaeological program; and
2. Completion of a paleontological monitoring program during ground altering activities.

Archaeological Phase II Testing

A Phase II archaeological testing program generally consists of a surface collection, subsurface testing, analyses, and preparation of a technical report documenting the methodology and results. There are a variety of ways to complete a testing program and each researcher would present their own approach t the investigations.

In this case, the site area is relatively large and exhibits a sparse, but consistent surface scatter. The site area also suggests buried deposits associated with a small village site. The extent of the testing program may vary, but the basic requirements would or should include:

1. A mapping of the surface area within the project area. This can be done by establishing a grid or point-proveniencing the identified artifacts. All recovered surface artifacts must to adequately identified by location and content.

2. Based on the results of the mapping, a series of shovel test pits should be excavated to assess the presence/absence of shallow deposits. The number of shovel test pits is negotiable, but should represent a statistically valid sampling.

3. Controlled excavation units should be excavated in areas of potential subsurface sensitivity and/or randomly to insure adequate sampling. Again, the number of pots may vary, but should be a statistically valid sample.

4. Controlled trenching (e.g. backhoe) may be employed, However, given the sensitivity of the site area and the potential for shallow deposits, the use of a backhoe and the extent of impacts caused by heavy machinery should be discussed and approved prior to any implementation.

5. The extent of analysis would be determined by the nature of the materials recovered. In this case, the lowest level of analysis would be an artifact inventory. However, to adequately address the site, McKenna et al. recommends the Phase II program include spatial analysis, functional analysis, and, if possible, special studies – such as c14 analysis, obsidian sourcing, or other chronological studies.

6. The Phase II testing program should also include the participation of the Native American community. In this case, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians has a direct interest in this area and has requested additional consultation and consideration in the Phase II planning process.

Based on the results of the Phase II testing program, a Phase III data recovery program may be warranted. Whether or not a Phase III program is undertaken, an archaeological monitoring program should be initiated, should the proposed project move forward.

The extent and duration of the monitoring program would be dependent upon the grading plans and consultation between the local Native American representatives, Lead Agency, and archaeological consultant.

Paleontological Monitoring Program

The project area is sensitive for paleontological resources and, therefore, McKenna et al. is recommending the planning and execution of a paleontological monitoring program that meets the guidelines and protocols of the San Bernardino County Museum.

The extent of the monitoring program would be discretionary and in consultation between the Lead Agency and consultant. All recovered specimens must be prepared for permanent curation as a condition of the approvals.

CERTIFICATION

CERTIFICATION. I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this archaeological/ cultural resources report, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jeanette A. McKenna _____ Oct. 4, 2017

Jeanette A. McKenna, Principal Investigator, McKenna et al.Date

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