

**APPENDIX 3**

**HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT**

**MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT  
VISTA RESERVOIR PROJECT**

**Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005  
City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California**

**For Submittal to:**

Mission Springs Water District  
66575 Second Street  
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240

**Prepared for:**

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February 9, 2021  
CRM TECH Contract No. 3655

**Title:** Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Mission Springs Water District Vista Reservoir Project, Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005, City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California

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**USGS Quadrangle:** Seven Palms Valley, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle; Section 19, T2S R5E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian

**Project Size:** Approximately 1.23 acres

**Keywords:** Northwestern Coachella Valley, Colorado Desert region; Phase I historical/archaeological resources survey; steel water reservoir built in 1966; no "historical resources" under CEQA

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Between August 2020 and February 2021, at the request of Tom Dodson and Associates, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on an existing water reservoir site in the City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California. The subject property of the study, Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005, consist of approximately 1.23 acres in total and is located at the northern end of Valencia Drive, in the southeast quarter of Section 19, T2S R5E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian.

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed addition of a new 300,000-gallon reservoir to the site. Other associated improvements to the site will include the construction of a new access road, a retaining wall, and a wrought iron fence around the perimeters as well as hillside stabilization, a stormwater management system, and relocation of the existing hydropneumatics station and electrical cabinet. The Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The purpose of the study is to provide the MSWD with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area. In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey.

The research results indicate that the existing steel reservoir in the project area dates to 1966 and therefore meets the age threshold to be considered historical in origin (i.e., more than 50 years of age). The reservoir was recorded into the California Historical Resources Inventory as a site and is designated temporarily as CRM TECH 3655-1H, pending the assignment of an official site number. As a late-historic-period infrastructure component of standard design and construction, the reservoir is utilitarian in character and demonstrates no notable historical, architectural, archaeological, engineering, artistic, or aesthetic merits. As such, it does not appear to meet any of the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources and does not qualify as a "historical resource" under CEQA provisions.

No other potential "historical resources" were encountered within or adjacent to the project area. Based on these findings, CRM TECH recommends to the MSWD a finding of *No Impact* regarding cultural resources. No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for the project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are encountered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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## INTRODUCTION

Between August 2020 and February 2021, at the request of Tom Dodson and Associates, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on an existing water reservoir site in the City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California (Fig. 1). The subject property of the study, Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005, consist of approximately 1.23 acres in total and is located at the northern end of Valencia Drive, in the southeast quarter of Section 19, T2S R5E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (Figs. 2, 3).

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed addition of a new 300,000-gallon reservoir to the site. Other associated improvements to the site will include the construction of a new access road, a retaining wall, and a wrought iron fence around the perimeters as well as hillside stabilization, a stormwater management system, and relocation of the existing hydropneumatics station and electrical cabinet. The Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; PRC §21000, et seq.).

The purpose of the study is to provide the MSWD with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in or around the project area. In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. The following report is a complete account of the methods, results, and final conclusion of the study. Personnel who participated in the study are named in the appropriate sections below, and their qualifications are provided in Appendix 1.

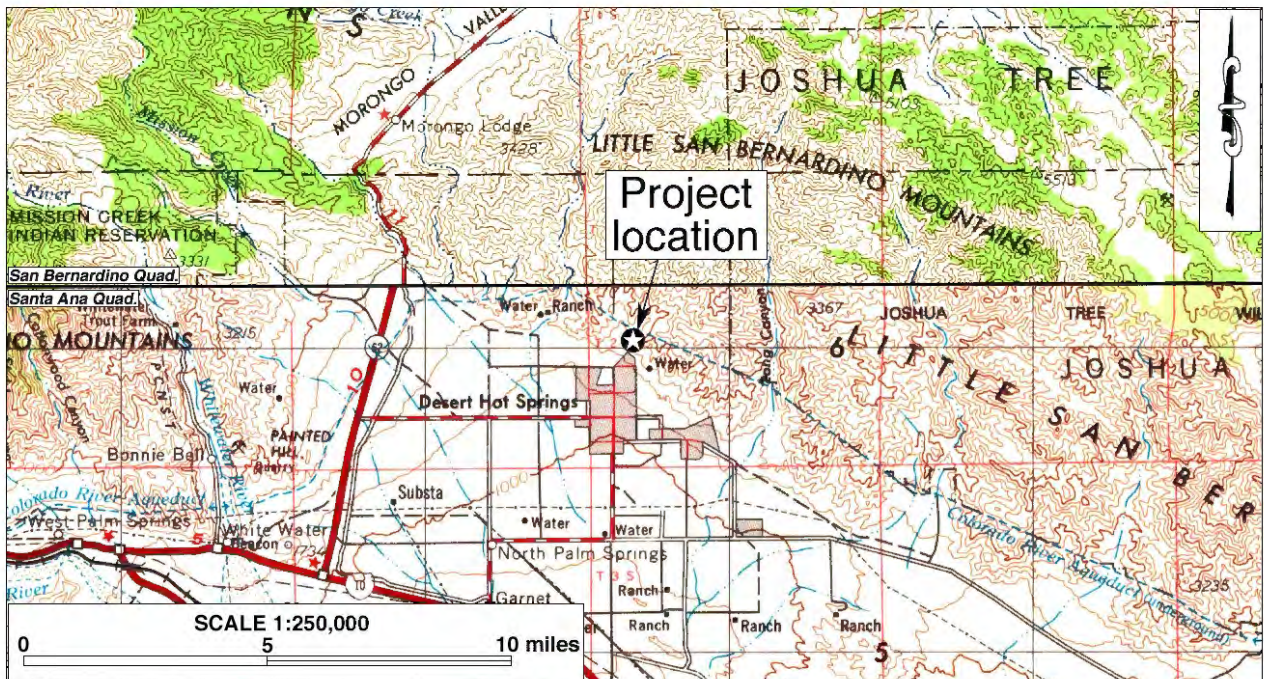


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on USGS San Bernardino and Santa Ana, Calif., 120'x60' quadrangles [USGS 1969; 1979])



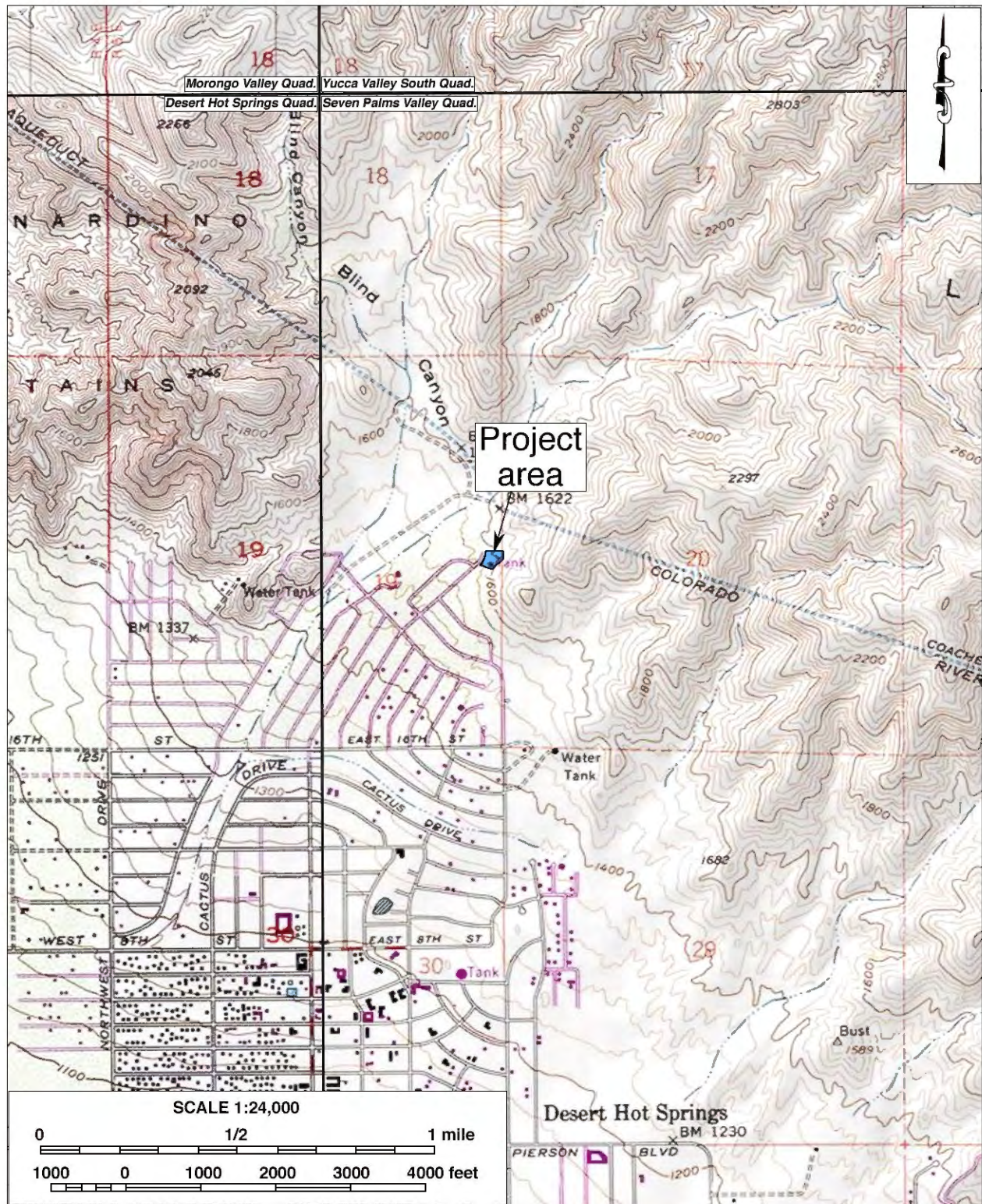


Figure 2. Project area. (Based on USGS Desert Hot Springs, Morongo Valley, Seven Palms Valley, and Yucca Valley North, Calif., 7.5' quadrangles [USGS 1978a; 1978b; 1994a; 1994b])



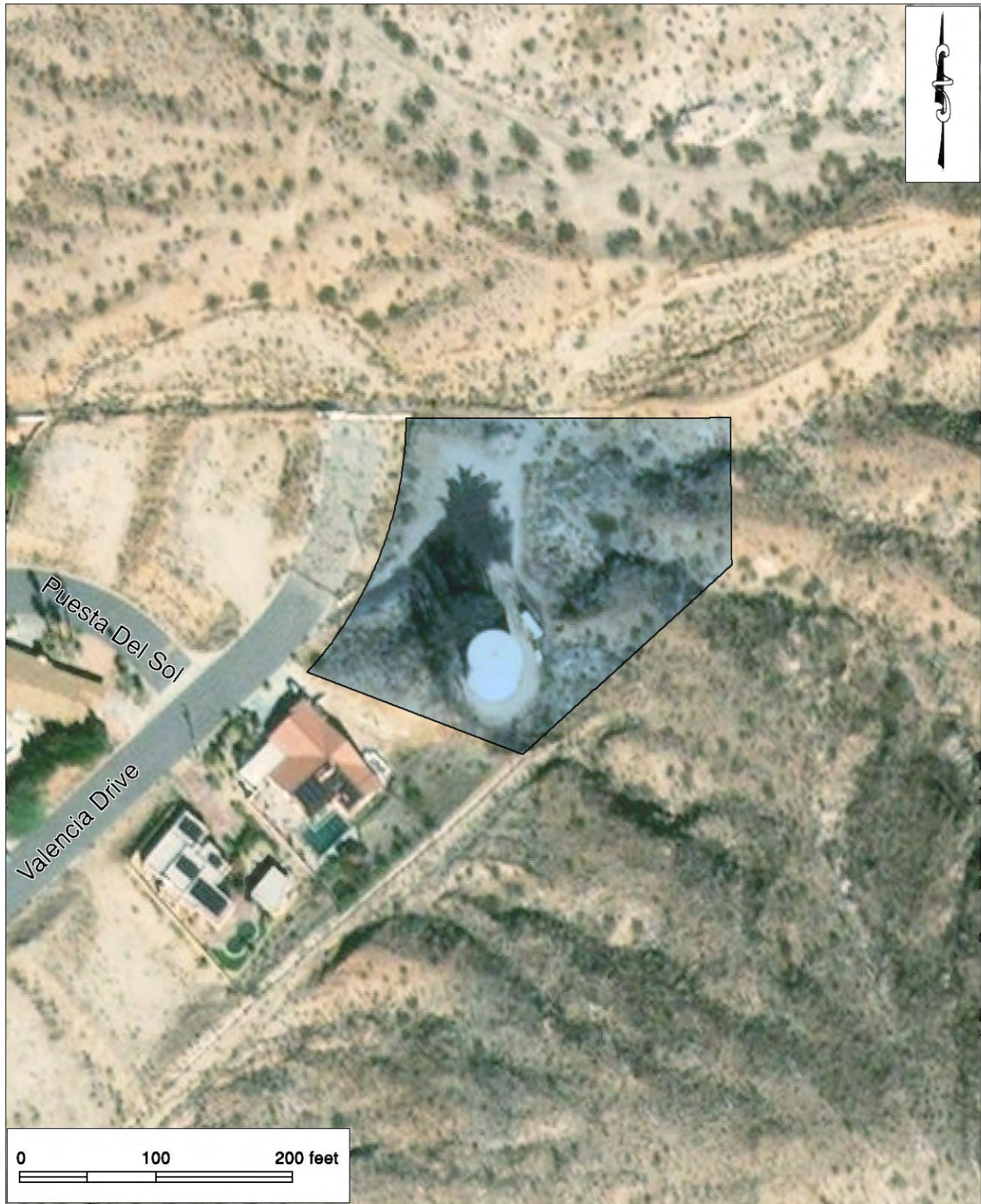


Figure 3. Aerial view of the project area.



## SETTING

### CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

The City of Desert Hot Springs is situated near the northwestern end of the Coachella Valley, a northwest-southeast trending desert valley that constitutes the western end of the Colorado Desert. Dictated by this geographic setting, the climate and environment of the region are typical of southern California's desert country, marked by extremes in temperature and aridity. Temperatures in the region reach over 120 degrees in summer, and dip to freezing in winter. Average annual precipitation is less than five inches, and the average annual evaporation rate exceeds three feet.

The project area comprises an irregularly shaped parcel of land on the northern tip of a residential neighborhood, near the base of the foothills of the Little San Bernardino Mountains (Figs. 2, 3). Elevations in the project area range approximately from 1,575 to 1,635 feet above mean sea level, inclining generally to the east. The terrain is relatively level in the northern portion but features gentle to steep slopes in the southern portion (Fig. 4). Native soils in the vicinity typically consist of medium- to coarse-grained sands mixed with large rocks, small boulders, and a significant amount of decomposing granite.

The ground surface in the project area has been extensively disturbed by past construction activities associated with the existing 300,000-gallon water tank on the property (known as Vista Reservoir), an accompanying access road, and the adjacent segment of Valencia Drive to the west (Figs. 3, 4). Vegetation in the project area includes a mix of native plants, such as creosote bush, brittlebush, and cholla cactus, and invasive weeds, such as Russian thistle and foxtail, along with a few landscaping trees.



Figure 4. Overview of the project area. (Photograph taken on December 14, 2020; view to the southeast)

## CULTURAL SETTING

### Prehistoric Context

Numerous investigations on the history of cultural development in southern California have led researchers to propose a number of cultural chronologies for the desert regions. A specific cultural sequence for the Colorado Desert was offered by Schaefer (1994) on the basis of the many archaeological studies conducted in the area. The earliest time period identified is the Paleoindian (ca. 8,000 to 10,000-12,000 years ago), when “small, mobile bands” of hunters and gatherers, who relied on a variety of small and large game animals as well as wild plants for subsistence, roamed the region (*ibid.*:63). These small groups settled “on mesas and terraces overlooking larger washes” (*ibid.*:64). The artifact assemblage of that period typically consists of very simple stone tools, “cleared circles, rock rings, [and] some geoglyph types” (*ibid.*).

The Early Archaic Period follows and dates to ca. 8,000 to 4,000 years ago. It appears that a decrease in population density occurred at this time and that the indigenous groups of the area relied more on foraging than hunting. Very few archaeological remains have been identified to this time period. The ensuing Late Archaic Period (ca. 4,000 to 1,500 years ago) is characterized by continued low population densities and groups of “flexible” sizes that settled near available seasonal food resources and relied on “opportunistic” hunting of game animals. Groundstone artifacts for food processing were prominent during this time period.

The most recent period in Schaefer’s scheme, the Late Prehistoric, dates from ca. 1,500 years ago to the time of the Spanish missions, and saw the continuation of the seasonal settlement pattern. Peoples of the Late Prehistoric Period were associated with the Patayan cultural pattern and relied more heavily on the availability of seasonal “wild plants and animal resources” (Schaefer 1994:66). It was during this period that brown and buff ware ceramics were introduced into the region.

The shores of Holocene Lake Cahuilla, during times of its presence, attracted much settlement and resource procurement; but in times of the lake’s desiccation around 1700, according to Schaefer (1994:66), the Native people moved away from its receding shores towards rivers, streams, and mountains. Numerous archaeological sites dating to this time period have been identified along the shoreline of Holocene Lake Cahuilla. Testing and mitigative excavations at these sites have recovered brown and buff ware ceramics, a variety of groundstone and projectile point types, ornaments, and cremations.

### Ethnohistoric Context

The Coachella Valley is a historical center of Native American settlement, where U.S. surveyors noted large numbers of Indian villages and *rancherías*, occupied by the Cahuilla people, in the mid-19th century. The Takic-speaking Cahuilla are generally divided by anthropologists into three groups, according to their geographic setting: the Pass Cahuilla of the San Geronio Pass-Palm Springs area, the Mountain Cahuilla of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains and the Cahuilla Valley, and the Desert Cahuilla of the eastern Coachella Valley. The basic written sources on Cahuilla culture and history include Kroeber (1925), Strong (1929), and Bean (1978). The following ethnohistoric discussion is based primarily on these sources.

The Cahuilla did not have a single name that referred to an all-inclusive tribal affiliation. Instead, membership was in terms of lineages or clans. Each lineage or clan belonged to one of two main divisions of the people, known as moieties. Members of clans in one moiety had to marry into clans from the other moiety. Individual clans had villages, or central places, and territories they called their own, for purposes of hunting game, gathering food, or utilizing other necessary resources. They interacted with other clans through trade, intermarriage, and ceremonies.

The Cahuilla people were primarily hunters and gatherers who exploited nearly all of the resources available in a highly developed seasonal mobility system. They were adapted to the arid conditions of the desert floor, the lacustral cycles of Holocene Lake Cahuilla, and the environments of the nearby mountains. When the lake was full, or nearly full, the Cahuilla would take advantage of the resources presented by the body of fresh water. Once the lake had desiccated, they utilized the available terrestrial resources. They also migrated to the higher elevations of the nearby mountains to take advantage of the resources and cooler temperatures available in that environment.

The Cahuilla collected seeds, roots, wild fruits and berries, acorns, wild onions, piñon nuts, and mesquite and screw beans. Common game animals included deer, antelope, big horn sheep, rabbits, wood rats and, when Holocene Lake Cahuilla was present, fish and waterfowls. The Cahuilla hunted with throwing sticks, clubs, nets, traps, snares, as well as bows and arrow (Bean 1978; CSRI 2002). Common tools and utensils included manos and metates, mortars and pestles, hammerstones, fire drills, awls, arrow-straighteners, and stone knives and scrapers. These lithic tools were made from locally available material as well as exotic material procured through trade or travel. They also used wood, horn, and bone spoons and stirrers; baskets for winnowing, leaching, grinding, transporting, parching, storing, and cooking; and pottery vessels for carrying water, storage, cooking, and serving food and drink (*ibid.*).

Population data prior to European contact is almost impossible to obtain, but estimates range from 3,600 to as high as 10,000 persons. During the 19th century, however, the Cahuilla population was decimated as a result of European diseases, most notably smallpox, for which the Native peoples had no immunity. Today, Native Americans of Pass or Desert Cahuilla heritage are mostly affiliated with one or more of the Indian reservations in and near the Coachella Valley, including Morongo, Agua Caliente, Cabazon, Torres Martinez, and Augustine.

## **Historic Context**

In 1823-1825, José Romero, José Maria Estudillo, and Romualdo Pacheco became the first noted European explorers to travel through the Coachella Valley when they led a series of expeditions in search of a route to Yuma (Johnston 1987:92-95). Due to its harsh environment, few non-Indians ventured into the desert valley during the Mexican and early American periods, except those who traveled along the established trails. The most important of these trails was the Cocomaricopa Trail, an ancient Indian trading route that was “discovered” in 1862 by William David Bradshaw and known after that as the Bradshaw Trail (Gunther 1984:71; Ross 1992:25). In much of the Coachella Valley, this historic wagon road traversed a similar course to that of present-day Highway 111. During the 1860s-1870s, the Bradshaw Trail served as the main thoroughfare between coastal southern California and the Colorado River, until the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1876-1877 brought an end to its heyday (Johnston 1987:185).



Non-Indian settlement in the Coachella Valley began in the 1870s with the establishment of railroad stations along the Southern Pacific Railroad, and spread further in the 1880s after public land was opened for claims under the Homestead Act, the Desert Land Act, and other federal land laws (Laflin 1998:35-36; Robinson 1948:169-171). Farming became the dominant economic activity in the valley thanks to the development of underground water sources, often in the form of artesian wells. Around the turn of the century, the date palm was introduced into the Coachella Valley, and by the late 1910s dates were the main agricultural crop and the tree an iconic image celebrating the region as the “Arabia of America” (Shields Date Gardens 1957). Then, starting in the 1920s, a new industry featuring equestrian camps, resorts, hotels, and eventually country clubs began to spread throughout the Coachella Valley, transforming it into southern California’s premier winter retreat.

The present-day City of Desert Hot Springs is among the communities that were largely created by the Coachella Valley’s resort industry. Although sporadic settlement took place in the vicinity as early as 1908, the city owes much of its early growth to the abundance of hot mineral water along the San Andreas fault line. L.W. Coffee, who subdivided the Desert Hot Springs townsite in 1933, is also credited with the first successful development of the hot springs for commercial use (Gunther 1984:151), as discussed further below. Advertised in the early and mid-20th century primarily for its potential for health spas and convalescent homes, Desert Hot Springs saw sufficient growth by 1944 to warrant the establishment of a post office. After a further growth spurt during the post-WWII boom, Desert Hot Springs incorporated as a city in 1963.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

### **RECORDS SEARCH**

The historical/archaeological resources records search for this study was conducted by the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System on December 11, 2020. Located on the campus of University of California, Riverside, the EIC is the State of California’s official cultural resource records repository for the County of Riverside. During the records search, EIC staff members examined the center’s digital maps, records, and databases for previously identified cultural resources and existing cultural resources reports within a one-mile radius of the project area. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Riverside County Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

### **HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH principal investigator/historian Bai “Tom” Tang. Sources consulted during the research included published literature in local and regional history, U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1856, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps dated 1901-1994, and aerial photographs taken in 1972-2019. The historic maps are accessible at the websites of the USGS and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the aerial photographs are available at the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Online website and through the Google Earth software.

## **SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH**

In order to identify any known Native American cultural resources in or near the project area, on August 17, 2020, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a records search in the commission's Sacred Lands File. The NAHC is the State of California's trustee agency for the protection of "tribal cultural resources," as defined by California Public Resources Code §21074, and is tasked with identifying and cataloging properties of Native American cultural value, including places of special religious, spiritual, or social significance and known graves and cemeteries throughout the state. The response from the NAHC is summarized below and attached to this report in Appendix 2.

## **FIELD SURVEY**

On December 14, 2020, CRM TECH field director Daniel Ballester carried out the intensive-level field survey of the project area. Most of the survey was completed by walking a series of parallel north-south transects at 10-meter (approximately 33-foot) intervals. In the more rugged portions of the project area, such as along the drainages and on the steep slopes, the survey transects were aligned with the natural contours. In this way, the ground surface in the entire project area was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years ago or older). Ground visibility ranged from fair (50%) to excellent (90%) as the vegetation was generally sparse or had been largely cleared.

## **RESULTS AND FINDINGS**

### **RECORDS SEARCH**

According to EIC records, the project area had not been surveyed systematically for cultural resources prior to this study, although an overview study completed in 1978 covered an adjacent tract of land to the east (Fig. 5). No historical/archaeological resources were previously identified within or adjacent to the project boundaries. Within the one-mile scope of the records search, EIC records show a total of 12 previous studies on various tracts of land and linear features (Fig. 5). As a result of these and other similar studies in the vicinity, six historic-period sites have been recorded within the one-mile radius.

The six recorded sites included a 1930s ranch, two structural foundations, the Colorado River Aqueduct, and a segment of Palm Drive. The sixth site represents a portion of the San Andreas Fault, a natural feature that acquired cultural significance during the historic period. No prehistoric (i.e., Native American) cultural resources have been recorded within the scope of the records search. None of the six recorded sites were found in the immediate vicinity of the project area. Therefore, none of them require further consideration during this study.

### **HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

Historical resources consulted for this study suggest that the project area remained unsettled and undeveloped until the existing Vista Reservoir was installed in 1966. In the 1850s, when the U.S. government conducted the first official land surveys in the Coachella Valley, no man-made features

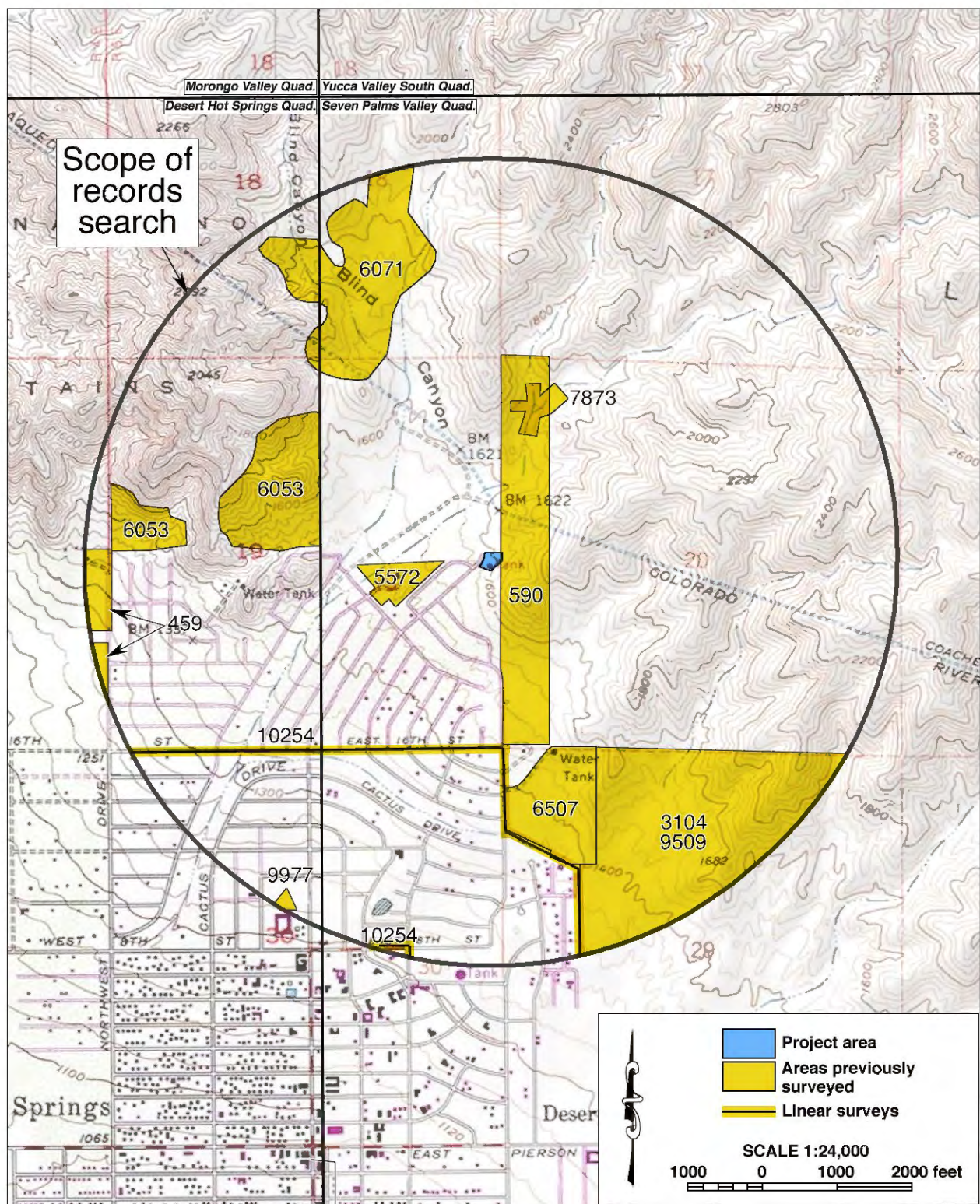


Figure 5. Previous cultural resources studies in the vicinity of the project area, listed by EIC file number. Locations of historical/archaeological sites are not shown as a protective measure.



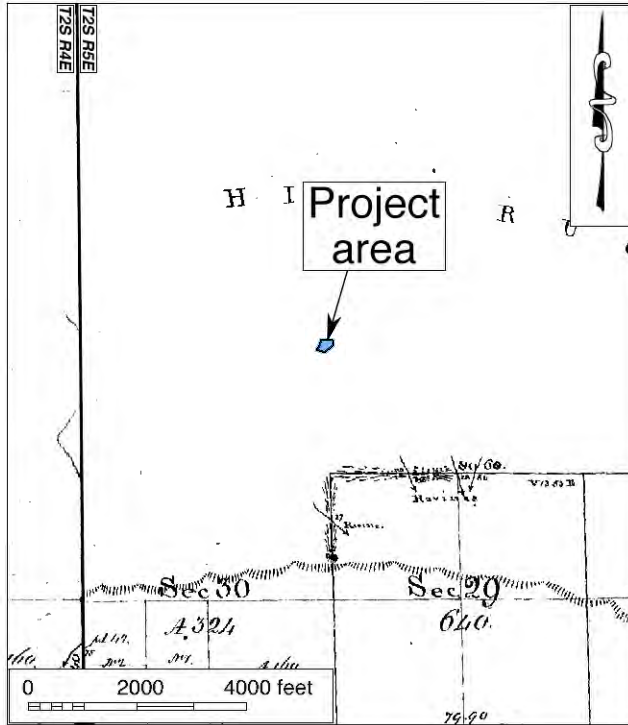


Figure 6. The project area and vicinity in 1855-1856.  
(Source: GLO 1856a; 1856b)

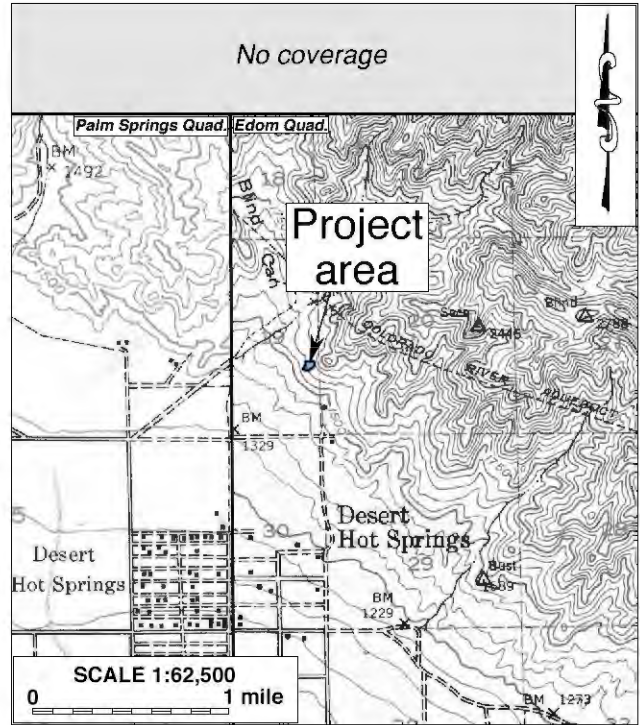


Figure 7. The project area and vicinity in 1940-1941.  
(Source: USGS 1940; 1941)

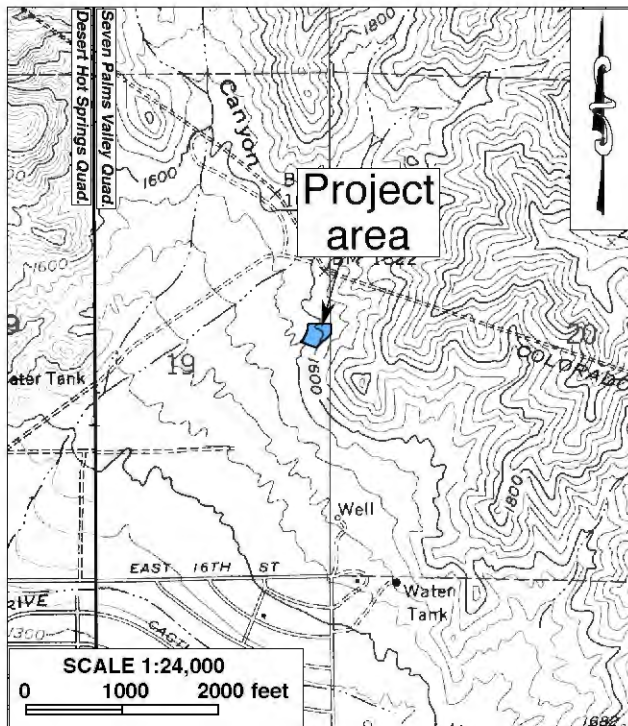


Figure 8. The project area and vicinity in 1951-1958.  
(Source: USGS 1955; 1958)

were observed in the project vicinity (Fig. 6). By the 1940s-1950s, the town of Desert Hot Springs had gradually taken shape to the south, but the project area remained well beyond the reach of that development at the time, with only a few sporadic buildings and dirt roads nearby, along with the Colorado River Aqueduct, which was built by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in the 1930s (Figs. 7, 8).

By 1972, Vista Reservoir had become the first man-made feature to appear in the project area (NETR Online 1972). A dedication plaque on the reservoir indicates that it was built in 1966 by the Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company of Alhambra, California. Probably the successor to an earlier enterprise in Alhambra under the name of the Southwest Welding and Machine Company, the Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company was registered in 1928 and is known to have built many similar water tanks in California during the ensuing decades (LACOC 1924; California

Secretary of State n.d.; OpenCorporates.com n.d.). The company was dissolved in 1962 (California Secretary of State n.d.). It is unclear under what circumstances Vista Reservoir, built five years after the dissolution, was credited to the company.

Also by 1972, the residential tracts near the project area had been laid out but little construction had occurred (NETR Online 1972). While the neighborhood nearby was gradually filled with homes over the next few decades, no substantial changes appear to have occurred within the project area since 1972 (NETR Online 1972-2016; Google Earth 1995-2019).

## **SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH**

In response to CRM TECH's inquiry, the NAHC reports in a letter dated August 18, 2020, that the Sacred Lands File identified no Native American cultural resources in the project vicinity. Noting that the absence of specific information would not necessarily indicate the absence of cultural resources, however, the NAHC recommended that local Native American groups be consulted for further information and provided a referral list of potential contacts. The commission's reply is attached to this report in Appendix 2 for reference by the MSWD in future government-to-government consultations with the pertinent tribal groups.

## **FIELD SURVEY**

The field survey confirms that the existing Vista Reservoir is the only feature in the project area that appears to be of historical or prehistoric origin. The reservoir is a cylindrical-shaped, aboveground steel water tank of standard design and construction. It measures approximately 40 feet in diameter and 32.5 feet in height and has a capacity of 300,000 gallons. In light of its age, the reservoir was recorded into the California Historical Resources Inventory as a site and is designated temporarily as CRM TECH 3655-1H, pending the assignment of an official site number (see App. 3). No other cultural resources, either prehistoric or historical in origin, were encountered within or adjacent to the project area.

## **DISCUSSION**

The purpose of this study is to identify any cultural resources within the project area and to assist the MSWD in determining whether such resources meet the official definition of "historical resources," as provided in the California Public Resources Code, in particular CEQA. According to PRC §5020.1(j), "'historical resource' includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California."

More specifically, CEQA guidelines state that the term "historical resources" applies to any such resources listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, included in a local register of historical resources, or determined to be historically significant by the lead agency (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Regarding the proper criteria for the evaluation of historical significance, CEQA guidelines mandate that "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” (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(3)). A resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (3) 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.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1(c))

In summary of the research results outlined above, the existing Vista Reservoir, built in 1966, is the only feature of historical or prehistoric origin identified in the project area. The reservoir was recorded during this study for inclusion in the California Historical Resources Inventory, but it does not appear to meet any of the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. There is no evidence that this nondescript, utilitarian water reservoir is closely associated with any persons or events of recognized historic significance, nor does it represent an important example of any style, property type, period, region, and method of construction.

The builder of the reservoir, the Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company, erected numerous similar water tanks in California between the late 1920s and the 1960s, but it is not known to have achieved a special level of distinction among the many competitors in this field, nor does this reservoir appear to stand out as a particularly notable example of its large body of work. Finally, as a late-historic-period infrastructure feature of standard design and construction, the reservoir holds little promise for important historical or archaeological data. Based on these considerations, Vista Reservoir does not appear to qualify as a “historical resource” under CEQA provisions.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

CEQA establishes that “a project 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” (PRC §21084.1). “Substantial adverse change,” according to PRC §5020.1(q), “means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired.”

In conclusion, the existing Vista Reservoir is more than 50 years of age but does not appear to meet the statutory definition of “historical resources” under CEQA. No other cultural resources, either prehistoric or historical in origin, were encountered within or adjacent to the project area. Therefore, CRM TECH presents the following recommendations to the MSWD:

- The proposed project will not cause a substantial adverse change to any known historical resources.
- No further cultural resources investigation is necessary for the proposed project unless construction plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.



- If buried cultural materials are discovered during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work in that area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

## REFERENCES

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California Secretary of State

n.d. Business Search-Entity Detail: C0130165, Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company. <https://businesssearch.sos.ca.gov/CBS/SearchResults?SearchType=NUMBER&SearchCriteria=C0130165>.

CSRI (Cultural Systems Research, Inc.)

2002 The Native Americans of Joshua Tree National Park: An Ethnographic Overview and Assessment Study. [http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/jotr/history6.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/jotr/history6.htm).

GLO (General Land Office, U.S. Department of the Interior)

1856a Plat map: Township No. 2 South Range No. 4 East, SBBM; surveyed in 1855-1856.

1856b Plat map: Township No. 2 South Range No. 5 East, SBBM; surveyed in 1855-1856.

Google Earth

1995-2019 Aerial photographs of the project vicinity; taken in 1995, 1996, 2002-2006, 2009, and 2011-2019. Available through the Google Earth software.

Gunther, Jane Davies

1984 *Riverside County, California, Place Names: Their Origins and Their Stories*. J. D. Gunther, Riverside.

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1925 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

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1987 *The Bradshaw Trail*; revised edition. Historical Commission Press, Riverside.

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LACOC (Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Bureau)

1924 Manufacturer's Directory and Commodity Index; Ninth Edition. Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles.

NETR Online

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Robinson, W.W.

1948 *Land in California*. University of California Press, Berkeley.

Ross, Delmer G.

1992 *Gold Road to La Paz: An Interpretive Guide to the Bradshaw Trail*. Tales of the Mojave Road Publishing Company, Essex, California.

Schaefer, Jerry

1994 The Challenge of Archaeological Research in the Colorado Desert: Recent Approaches and Discoveries. *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 16(1):60-80.

Shields Date Gardens

1957 *Coachella Valley Desert Trails and the Romance and Sex Life of the Date*. Shields Date Gardens, Indio.

Strong, William Duncan

1929 *Aboriginal Society in Southern California*. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. 26. Reprinted by Malki Museum Press, Banning, California, 1972.

USGS (United States Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior)

1940 Map: Palm Springs, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1940.

1941 Map: Edom, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1941.

1955 Map: Desert Hot Springs, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photographs taken in 1951, field-checked in 1955.

1958 Map: Seven Palms Valley, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photographs taken in 1956, field-checked in 1958.

1969 Map: San Bernardino, Calif. (1:250,000); 1958 edition revised.

1978a Map: Desert Hot Springs, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1955 edition photorevised in 1972, photoinspected 1978.

1978b Map: Seven Palms Valley, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1958 edition photorevised in 1972, photoinspected in 1978.

1979 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (1:250,000); 1959 edition revised.

1994a Map: Morongo Valley, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1972 edition with minor revisions.

1994b Map: Yucca Valley South, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1972 edition with minor revisions.

**APPENDIX 1:  
PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS**

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/HISTORIAN  
Bai “Tom” Tang, M.A.**

**Education**

- 1988-1993 Graduate Program in Public History/Historic Preservation, University of California, Riverside.
- 1987 M.A., American History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
- 1982 B.A., History, Northwestern University, Xi’an, China.
- 2000 “Introduction to Section 106 Review,” presented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the University of Nevada, Reno.
- 1994 “Assessing the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites,” presented by the Historic Preservation Program, University of Nevada, Reno.

**Professional Experience**

- 2002- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
- 1993-2002 Project Historian/Architectural Historian, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
- 1993-1997 Project Historian, Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, California.
- 1991-1993 Project Historian, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.
- 1990 Intern Researcher, California State Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento.
- 1990-1992 Teaching Assistant, History of Modern World, University of California, Riverside.
- 1988-1993 Research Assistant, American Social History, University of California, Riverside.
- 1985-1988 Research Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
- 1985-1986 Teaching Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
- 1982-1985 Lecturer, History, Xi’an Foreign Languages Institute, Xi’an, China.

**Cultural Resources Management Reports**

Preliminary Analyses and Recommendations Regarding California’s Cultural Resources Inventory System (with Special Reference to Condition 14 of NPS 1990 Program Review Report). California State Office of Historic Preservation working paper, Sacramento, September 1990.

Numerous cultural resources management reports with the Archaeological Research Unit, Greenwood and Associates, and CRM TECH, since October 1991.



**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/ARCHAEOLOGIST**  
**Michael Hogan, Ph.D., RPA (Registered Professional Archaeologist)**

**Education**

- 1991 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.  
1981 B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside; with honors.  
1980-1981 Education Abroad Program, Lima, Peru.
- 2002 “Section 106—National Historic Preservation Act: Federal Law at the Local Level,”  
UCLA Extension Course #888.  
2002 “Recognizing Historic Artifacts,” workshop presented by Richard Norwood,  
Historical Archaeologist.  
2002 “Wending Your Way through the Regulatory Maze,” symposium presented by the  
Association of Environmental Professionals.  
1992 “Southern California Ceramics Workshop,” presented by Jerry Schaefer.  
1992 “Historic Artifact Workshop,” presented by Anne Duffield-Stoll.

**Professional Experience**

- 2002- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.  
1999-2002 Project Archaeologist/Field Director, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.  
1996-1998 Project Director and Ethnographer, Statistical Research, Inc., Redlands, California.  
1992-1998 Assistant Research Anthropologist, University of California, Riverside.  
1992-1995 Project Director, Archaeological Research Unit, U.C. Riverside.  
1993-1994 Adjunct Professor, Riverside Community College, Mt. San Jacinto College, U.C.  
Riverside, Chapman University, and San Bernardino Valley College.  
1991-1992 Crew Chief, Archaeological Research Unit, U.C. Riverside.  
1984-1998 Project Director, Field Director, Crew Chief, and Archaeological Technician for  
various southern California cultural resources management firms.

**Research Interests**

Cultural Resource Management, Southern Californian Archaeology, Settlement and Exchange  
Patterns, Specialization and Stratification, Culture Change, Native American Culture, Cultural  
Diversity.

**Cultural Resources Management Reports**

Principal investigator for, author or co-author of, and contributor to numerous cultural resources  
management study reports since 1986.

**Memberships**

Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology; Pacific Coast  
Archaeological Society; Coachella Valley Archaeological Society.

**PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/FIELD DIRECTOR**  
**Daniel Ballester, M.S., RPA (Registered Professional Archaeologist)**

**Education**

- 2013 M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
- 1998 B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
- 1997 Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
- 1994 University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.
  
- 2007 Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
- 2002 “Historic Archaeology Workshop,” presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base; presented at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

**Professional Experience**

- 2002- Field Director/GIS Specialist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
- 2011-2012 GIS Specialist for Caltrans District 8 Project, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
- 2009-2010 Field Crew Chief, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
- 2009-2010 Field Crew, ECorp, Redlands.
- 1999-2002 Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
- 1998-1999 Field Crew, K.E.A. Environmental, San Diego, California.
- 1998 Field Crew, A.S.M. Affiliates, Encinitas, California.
- 1998 Field Crew, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.

**Cultural Resources Management Reports**

Field Director, co-author, and contributor to numerous cultural management reports since 2002.

**APPENDIX 2**

**RESPONSE FROM**  
**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**



## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

August 18, 2020

Nina Gallardo  
CRM TECHVia Email to: [ngallardo@crmtech.us](mailto:ngallardo@crmtech.us)**Re: Proposed Mission Springs Water District's Vista Reservoir Project, Riverside County**

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded 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. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might 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 me. 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](mailto:Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Andrew Green  
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

CHAIRPERSON  
**Laura Miranda**  
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON  
**Reginald Pagaling**  
ChumashSECRETARY  
**Merri Lopez-Keifer**  
LuiseñoPARLIAMENTARIAN  
**Russell Attebery**  
KarukCOMMISSIONER  
**Marshall McKay**  
WintunCOMMISSIONER  
**William Mungary**  
Paiute/White Mountain  
ApacheCOMMISSIONER  
**Julie Tumamait-  
Stenslie**  
ChumashCOMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]COMMISSIONER  
[Vacant]EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
**Christina Snider**  
Pomo**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**  
1550 Harbor Boulevard  
Suite 100  
West Sacramento,  
California 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)  
[NAHC.ca.gov](http://NAHC.ca.gov)

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Riverside County  
8/18/2020**

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians**

Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive  
Palm Springs, CA, 92264  
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800  
Fax: (760) 699-6919  
Cahuilla

**Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians**

Shane Chapparosa, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 189  
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189  
Phone: (760) 782 - 0711  
Fax: (760) 782-0712  
Cahuilla

**Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians**

Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director  
5401 Dinah Shore Drive  
Palm Springs, CA, 92264  
Phone: (760) 699 - 6907  
Fax: (760) 699-6924  
ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net  
Cahuilla

**Morongo Band of Mission Indians**

Denisa Torres, Cultural Resources Manager  
12700 Pumarra Road  
Banning, CA, 92220  
Phone: (951) 849 - 8807  
Fax: (951) 922-8146  
dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov  
Cahuilla  
Serrano

**Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians**

Amanda Vance, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 846  
Coachella, CA, 92236  
Phone: (760) 398 - 4722  
Fax: (760) 369-7161  
hhaines@augustinetribe.com  
Cahuilla

**Morongo Band of Mission Indians**

Robert Martin, Chairperson  
12700 Pumarra Road  
Banning, CA, 92220  
Phone: (951) 849 - 8807  
Fax: (951) 922-8146  
dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov  
Cahuilla  
Serrano

**Cabazon Band of Mission Indians**

Doug Welmas, Chairperson  
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway  
Indio, CA, 92203  
Phone: (760) 342 - 2593  
Fax: (760) 347-7880  
jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov  
Cahuilla

**Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation**

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

**Cahuilla Band of Indians**

Daniel Salgado, Chairperson  
52701 U.S. Highway 371  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Phone: (951) 763 - 5549  
Fax: (951) 763-2808  
Chairman@cahuilla.net  
Cahuilla

**Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation**

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

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 Proposed Mission Springs Water District's Vista Reservoir Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contact List  
Riverside County  
8/18/2020**

**Ramona Band of Cahuilla**

John Gomez, Environmental  
Coordinator  
P. O. Box 391670  
Cahuilla  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Phone: (951) 763 - 4105  
Fax: (951) 763-4325  
jgomez@ramona-nsn.gov

**Ramona Band of Cahuilla**

Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 391670  
Cahuilla  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Phone: (951) 763 - 4105  
Fax: (951) 763-4325  
admin@ramona-nsn.gov

**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

**Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla  
Indians**

Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair  
P.O. Box 391820  
Cahuilla  
Anza, CA, 92539  
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700  
Fax: (951) 659-2228  
Isaul@santarosacahuilla-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

**Soboba Band of Luiseno  
Indians**

Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural  
Resource Department  
P.O. BOX 487  
Cahuilla  
San Jacinto, CA, 92581  
Luiseno  
Phone: (951) 663 - 5279  
Fax: (951) 654-4198  
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

**Soboba Band of Luiseno  
Indians**

Scott Cozart, Chairperson  
P. O. Box 487  
Cahuilla  
San Jacinto, CA, 92583  
Luiseno  
Phone: (951) 654 - 2765  
Fax: (951) 654-4198  
jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

**Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla  
Indians**

Michael Mirelez, Cultural  
Resource Coordinator  
P.O. Box 1160  
Cahuilla  
Thermal, CA, 92274  
Phone: (760) 399 - 0022  
Fax: (760) 397-8146  
mmirelez@tmdci.org

**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

**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 Proposed Mission Springs Water District's Vista Reservoir Project, Riverside County.



**APPENDIX 3**

**CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM  
RECORDS FORMS**

State of California--The Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**PRIMARY RECORD**

Primary # (Pending)  
HRI # \_\_\_\_\_  
Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_  
NRHP Status Code 6Z

Other Listings \_\_\_\_\_  
Review Code \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of 3

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3655-1H

- P1. Other Identifier:** Vista Reservoir
- \*P2. Location:**  Not for Publication  Unrestricted **\*a. County** Riverside  
and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)  
**\*b. USGS 7.5' Quad** Seven Palms Valley, Calif. **Date** 1978  
T2S; R5E; NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 NE 1/4 of Sec 19 ; S.B. B.M.
- c. Address** N/A **City** Desert Hot Springs **Zip** 92240
- d. UTM:** (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) **Zone** 11 ; 546,806 **mE/** 3,760,359 **mN**  
**UTM Derivation:**  USGS Quad  GIS  Google Earth
- e. Other Locational Data:** (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)  
Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005; approximately 130 feet east of the northern end of Valencia Drive
- \*P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) The Vista Reservoir is a cylindrical-shaped, aboveground steel water tank of standard design and construction. It measures approximately 40 feet in diameter and 32.5 feet in height and has a capacity of 300,000 gallons.
- \*P3b. Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP11: Engineering structure
- \*P4. Resources Present:**  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  Element of District  
 Other (isolates, etc.)

**P5a. Photograph or Drawing** (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



- P5b. Description of Photo** (view, date, accession number): Photo taken on December 14, 2020; view to the southwest
- \*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:**  
 Historic  Prehistoric  Both  
1966
- \*P7. Owner and Address:** Mission Springs Water District, 66575 Second Street, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240
- \*P8. Recorded by** (Name, affiliation, & address): Daniel Ballester, CRM TECH, 1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B, Colton, CA 92324
- \*P9. Date Recorded:** December 14, 2020
- \*P10. Survey Type:** Intensive-level survey for CEQA-compliance purposes

**\*P11. Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Bai "Tom" Tang and Daniel Ballester (2021): Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Mission Springs Water District Vista Reservoir Project, Assessor's Parcel No. 638-233-005, City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California

**\*Attachments:**  None  Location Map  Sketch Map  Continuation Sheet  Building, Structure, and Object Record  
 Archaeological Record  District Record  Linear Resource Record  Milling Station Record  Rock Art Record  
 Artifact Record  Photograph Record  Other (List): \_\_\_\_\_

**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Page 2 of 3

\*NRHP Status Code 6Z

\*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3655-1H

B1. Historic Name: \_\_\_\_\_ B2. Common Name: Vista Reservoir  
B3. Original Use: Domestic water storage B4. Present Use: Same

\*B5. Architectural Style: N/A

\*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations) On-site dedication plaques indicate that Vista Reservoirs was constructed in 1966 by the Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company of Alhambra, California, and its presence is confirmed by aerial photographs from 1972.

\*B7. Moved?  No  Yes  Unknown Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Original Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B8. Related Features: Chain-link fence around the perimeter

B9a. Architect: Unknown

b. Builder: Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company

\*B10. Significance: Theme Post-World War II urban utility infrastructure

Area Desert Hot Springs Period of Significance 1945-1970

Property Type Water reservoir Applicable Criteria N/A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.) There is no evidence that this nondescript, utilitarian water reservoir is closely associated with any persons or events of recognized historic significance, nor does it represent an important example of any style, property type, period, region, and method of construction. The builder of the reservoir, the Southwest Welding and Manufacturing Company, erected numerous similar water tanks in California between the late 1920s and the 1960s, but it is not known to have achieve a special level of distinction among the many competitors in this field, nor does this reservoir appear to stand out as a particularly notable example of its large body of work. Finally, as a late-historic-period infrastructure feature of standard design and construction, the reservoir holds little promise for important historical or archaeological data. Based on these considerations, Vista Reservoir does not appear to meet any of the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP46: Walls/gates/fences

\*B12. References: See Item P11 on p. 1.

B13. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

\*B14. Evaluator: Bai "Tom" Tang

\*Date of Evaluation: February 2021

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)



(This space reserved for official comments.)



**LOCATION MAP**

Trinomial \_\_\_\_\_

\*Map Name: Desert Hot Springs, Morongo Valley, Seven Palms Valley, and Yucca Valley  
North, Calif.

\*Scale: 1:24,000

\*Date of Map: 1978-1994

