Appendix D

Cultural Resources Technical Report

Cultural Resources Technical Report

I-15 Industrial Park Project City of Hesperia, California

AUGUST 2021

Prepared for:

MESA LINDA 68, LLC
14180 Dallas Parkway, Suite 730
Dallas, Texas 75254
Contact: Dana Whitmer

Prepared by:

DUDEK

38 North Marengo Avenue
Pasadena, California 91101
Linda Kry, BA, RA,
Adriane Gusick, BA,
Heather McDaniel McDevitt, MA, RPA,
Jennifer De Alba, BA,
Kira Archipov, BS, with contributions
to the prehistoric and ethnohistoric sections by
Micah Hale, Ph.D., RPA

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Project Information Page

Report Title:	Cultural Resources Technical Report for the I-15 Industrial Park Project, City of Hesperia, California
Lead Agency:	City of Hesperia
Lead Agency Contact:	Ryan Leonard, AICP, Senior Planner 9700 Seventh Ave, Hesperia, California 92345
Authors:	Linda Kry, BA, RA, Adriane Gusick, BA, Heather McDaniel McDevitt, MA, RPA, Jennifer De Alba, BA, Kira Archipov, BS, with contributions to the prehistoric and ethnohistoric sections by Micah Hale, Ph.D., RPA Signature: 
Firm:	Dudek 38 North Marengo Avenue Pasadena, California 91101
Project Proponent:	Mesa Linda 68, LLC
Report Date:	August 2021
Type of Study:	Archaeological Phase I Inventory
USGS Quads:	Baldy Mesa
Resources:	P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H, and P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H within Project site; 51 cultural resources within 1 mile of Project site
Acreage:	Approximately 98 acres (Project Site)
Keywords:	Archaeological Phase I Pedestrian Survey, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County

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Executive Summary

Dudek was retained by Mesa Linda 68, LLC (Project Applicant) to prepare a cultural resources technical report for the proposed I-15 Industrial Park Project (Project) located in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California. The Project site is located in eastern Hesperia on approximately 97.64-acres of undeveloped land south of Phelan Road, east of U.S. Route 395 (US 395), north of Poplar Street, and west of Cataba Road and Interstate 15 (I-15). The Project would include the construction of two industrial/warehouse buildings and associated off-site improvements. The Project would also require a General Plan Amendment and a Specific Plan Amendment.

This report includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search; results of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; in-depth review of geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information; a pedestrian survey of the Project site by qualified archaeologists; an analysis of the sensitivity of the Project site to contain cultural resources; as well as management recommendations. This report was prepared in conformance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15064.5 for historical resources and 21083.2 for archaeological resources. The City of Hesperia (City) is the lead agency responsible for compliance with the CEQA.

A CHRIS records search was completed by staff at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) on February 5, 2021. The records search identified eight (8) previously conducted cultural resources technical investigations that either overlap or are immediately adjacent to the Project site. Additionally, the SCCIC records indicate that four (4) previously recorded cultural resources are within the Project site. These resources consist of three (3) historic-period unpaved roads (P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, and P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H), and one late nineteenth century homestead property (P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H). The homestead property was previously evaluated and determined ineligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Additionally, none of the previously recorded roads were relocated during the pedestrian survey and are therefore presumed destroyed. A search of the NAHC SLF (received January 4, 2021) was negative for known Native American heritage resources within the Project site.

The review of historic topographic maps and aerial photographs shows the Project site as vacant and undeveloped since at least 1902. The geotechnical reports prepared for the Project (SoCalGeo 2020, 2021), indicate that the Project site is composed of both younger and older native alluvium from surface elevations to approximately 20+ feet below ground surface (bgs). No newly identified cultural resources were found within the Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey, which provided 100% coverage of the Project site with good to excellent (70-100%) ground surface visibility. Evidence of disturbances within the Project site consisted of surficial scarring caused by off-road vehicle activity, localized grading along portions of the perimeter of the Project site, illegal dumping throughout, and subsurface utilities buried along portions of the roads planned for off-site improvements.

As a result of Dudek's extensive archival research, and field survey, no historical resources were identified within the Project site, nor were any adjacent resources identified that could be indirectly impacted by proposed Project activities. Therefore, the Project would result in a less than significant impact to historical resources under CEQA.

Due to the findings of the CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, the review of historic topographic maps and aerial photographs, and the intensive-level pedestrian survey, the potential to find unknown cultural resources within the Project site is considered low. However, it is still possible for intact archaeological deposits to be encountered subsurface within the native alluvial soils. Therefore, Dudek recommends the following management

recommendations to ensure that any inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources will be treated appropriately and in accordance with the CEQA regulations: Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training, retention of an on-call archaeologist to address inadvertent discoveries, and an inadvertent discovery clause of archaeological resources and human remains implemented and included on all construction plans. These measures will ensure that potential Project impacts to archaeological resources and human remains would be less than significant.

1 Introduction

Mesa Linda 68, LLC (Project Applicant) retained Dudek to complete a cultural resources technical report for the I-15 Industrial Park Project (Project) located in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California. This report includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search; results of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; in-depth review of geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information; a pedestrian survey of the Project site by qualified archaeologists; an analysis of the Project site to contain cultural resources; as well as management recommendations. This report was prepared in conformance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15064.5 for historical resources and 21083.2 for archaeological resources. The City of Hesperia (City) is the lead agency responsible for compliance with the CEQA.

1.1 Project Personnel

Dudek Lead Archaeologist Linda Kry, BA, RA, co-authored the report and provided management oversight and recommendations for cultural resources. Dudek Associate Archaeologists Jennifer De Alba, BA and Adriane Gusick, BA, and Kira Archipov, BS, co-authored the report. Ms. Kry and Ms. Archipov completed the pedestrian survey. Dudek Senior Archaeologist Micah Hale, Ph.D., RPA, authored the prehistoric and ethnohistoric contexts. Dudek Senior Archaeologist Heather McDaniel McDevitt, MA, RPA reviewed the report for quality assurance/quality control.

1.2 Project Location and Description

1.2.1 Project Location

The approximate 97.64-acre Project site is located in the eastern part of the City of Hesperia, which is situated in the Victor Valley/High Desert region in western San Bernardino County. Specifically, the Project site falls on public land survey system Section 22 of Township 4 North, Range 5 West on the *Baldy Mesa*, CA 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle (Figure 1, Project Location). The Project site is located south of Main Street, west of Cataba Road, north of Interstate 15 (I-15) and Poplar Street, and east of U.S. Route 395 (US 395) (Figure 2, Project Site).

The Project site is composed of two disjointed sites separated by Mesa Linda Street and an undeveloped property. These two sites collectively constitute the Project site. The site for Building 1 is located west of Mesa Linda Street, east of Cataba Road, and north of I-15. The site is irregularly shaped and located on two parcels consisting of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 306-462-101 and 306-460-107, that total 66.33 acres. An approximately 5.48-acre portion at the northern end of the Building 1 site (APN 306-460-107) is not included in the Project. After deducting the 5.48-acre area that is not a part of the Project, the Building 1 site area totals 60.85 acres. The Building 2 site is located on one parcel (APN 306-458-101) of 36.3 acres bound by US 395 to the west, Poplar Street to the south, and Lassen Road to the east (a planned, but not yet constructed, arterial road in the City's Circulation Element).

1.2.2 Project Description

The proposed Project would include construction of two industrial/warehouse buildings and associated improvements on 97.64 acres of vacant land (Figure 2, Project Site). Building 1, the eastern building, would be 1,108,000 square feet and Building 2, the western building, would be 742,000 square feet. In total, the Project would provide 1,850,000 square feet of industrial/warehouse space and associated improvements, including loading docks, tractor-trailers, passenger vehicle parking spaces, stormwater detention basins, and landscape area.

The Project would include improvements along the buildings' frontages along Mesa Linda Street and Cataba Road, including frontage landscaping, pedestrian, and roadway (i.e., new pavement) improvements. A variety of trees, shrubs, plants, and land covers would be planted within the Project frontage's landscape setback area, as well as within the landscape areas found around the proposed industrial/warehouse buildings and throughout the Project site.

The Project would also involve the off-site construction of Sultana Street (currently a dirt road) from the northwestern corner of the Building 2 site to Mesa Linda Street, as well as the off-site construction of Lassen Street (also currently a dirt road) from the northwestern corner of the Building 2 site to Poplar Street. The Project would also involve the widening of the northbound eastern portion of US 395 along the western frontage of the Building 2 site. Off-site utility lines would be installed within Mesa Linda Road, Cataba Road, Main Street, and the to-be-constructed Sultana Street. Together, these off-site improvements are referred to as the Maximum Disturbance Footprint as depicted on Figure 2, Project Site.

Construction and Grading

Depths of ground disturbance are expected to extend on average 10 feet to 26 feet below the existing ground surface throughout the Project site. In some places, excavations within the Building 1 site would involve ground disturbance at depths of approximately 17 feet below the current grade for the installation of underground utility lines and approximately 10 feet to 15 feet for the installation of a stormwater detention basin. The maximum cut depth within the Building 2 site is approximately 26 feet. Underground utilities within the Building 2 site would involve ground disturbance at depths of approximately 15 feet to 20 feet below the current grade and excavation for a detention basin would extend to 10 feet to 15 feet below the existing ground surface.

General Plan Amendment, Specific Plan Amendment, and Zone Change

The Project would involve a General Plan Amendment to modify a portion of the Project site's General Plan Land Use designation from Regional Commercial to Commercial/Industrial Business Park, a Specific Plan Amendment to modify the Project site's Main Street and Freeway Corridor Specific Plan land use designation from Regional Commercial to Commercial/Industrial Business Park, and a Zone Change to modify the Project site's zoning designation from Regional Commercial to Commercial/Industrial Business Park.

1.3 Environmental Setting

The Project site is within the geomorphic province of the Mojave Desert, that is bound to the northwest and south by the Transverse Ranges including the northern peninsular Tehachapi Mountains and the southern San Gabriel Mountains and San Bernardino Mountains. More specifically, the Project site is within Victor Valley in the western

Mojave Desert. Water sources near the Project site include the Mojave River approximately 8.5-miles to the east, the Oro Grande Wash, a tributary of the Mojave River, approximately 0.25-mile to the west, and the California Aqueduct 1 mile to the north. The Project site is relatively flat with elevation ranges between approximately 3,548 and 3,611 feet above mean sea level (amsl) and a local topographic gradient of an approximate 2% decrease towards the northeast (Google 2021). There are no substantial topographical features in the Project site. However, smaller ephemeral desert washes that drain to the Mojave River are present within the Project site.

Land uses surrounding the Project site primarily consist of vacant land, along with some scattered residential, commercial, light industrial, and utility uses. Specific land uses located in the immediate vicinity of the Project site include vacant land and scattered commercial, light industrial, and residential uses to the north; commercial uses and the I-15 to the east; vacant land and the I-15 to the south; and vacant land, US 395, and scattered light industrial and commercial uses to the west.

Ground surface cover consists of moderate native brush and shrub growth, with occasional Juniper and Joshua trees located throughout the site. Both sites are subject to disturbance as a result of illegal dumping and trespassing. These unpermitted activities have led to areas of exposed bare soils (where trails have formed) and several debris piles.

1.3.1 Review of Soils

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA 2021a), one soil type has been identified in the Project site: Hesperia Loamy Fine Sand, 2 to 5% slopes. The Hesperia soil series official soil description is summarized as follows (USDA 2021b).

Hesperia Series: The Hesperia series consists of very deep, well drained soils that formed in alluvium derived primarily from granite and related rocks. Hesperia soils are on alluvial fans, valley plains, and stream terraces, and have slopes of 0 to 9%. A typical Hesperia pedon extends from 0 to 77 inches below ground surface (bgs).

The Project site is noted to be covered by older alluvium. A review of the United States Geological Society (USGS) mineral resources (USGS 2021) online spatial data for geology indicates that native soils within the Project site are comprised of Older Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene epoch. The terminal Pleistocene-era alluvial formations do have the potential to support the presence of buried archaeological resources. These soils are associated with the period of prehistoric human use that have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on area-specific topographical setting.

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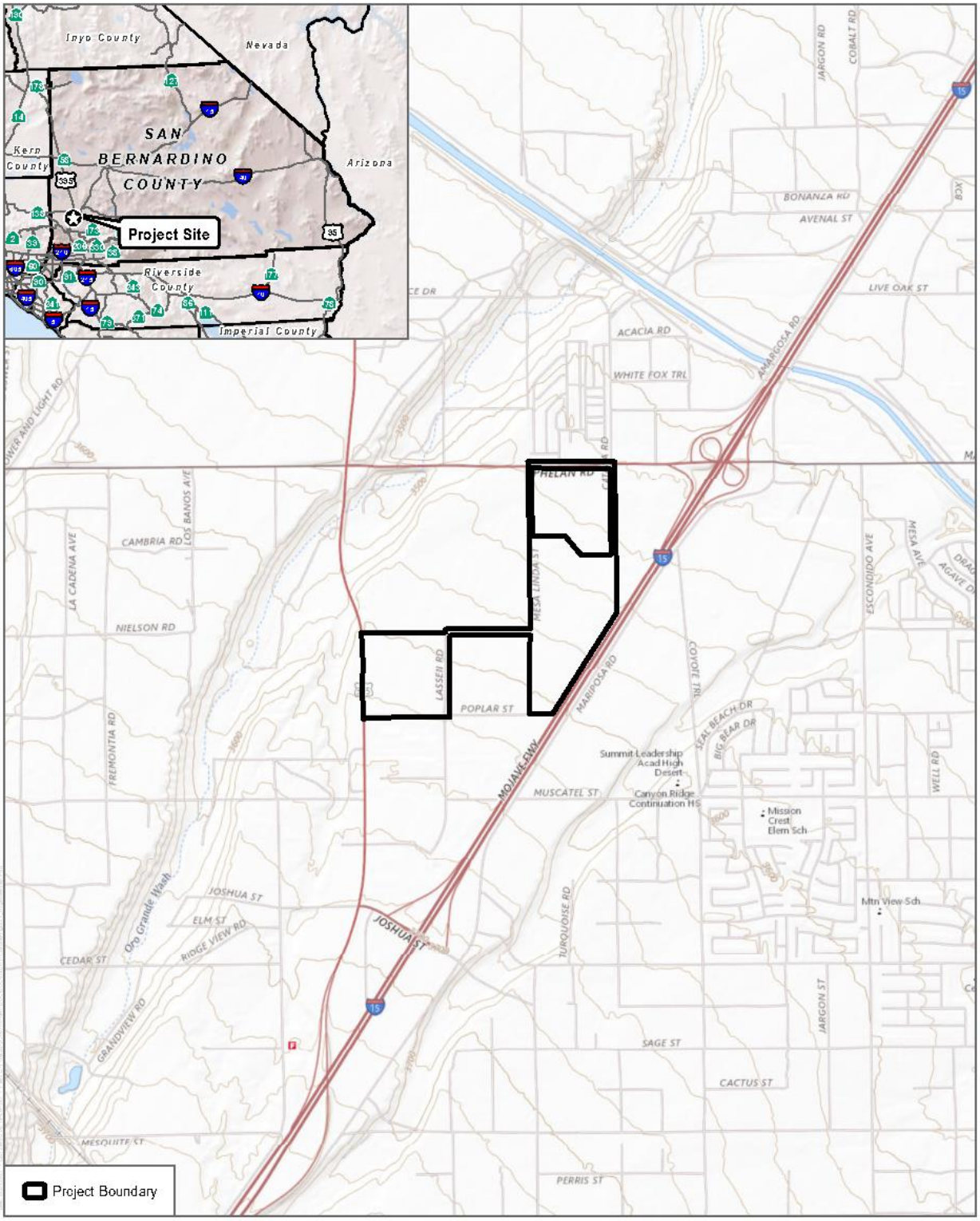

SOURCE: USGS 7.5-Minute Series Baldy Mesa Quadrangle

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0 300 600 Meters
0 1,000 2,000 Feet

Figure 1
Project Location
I-15 Industrial Park Project

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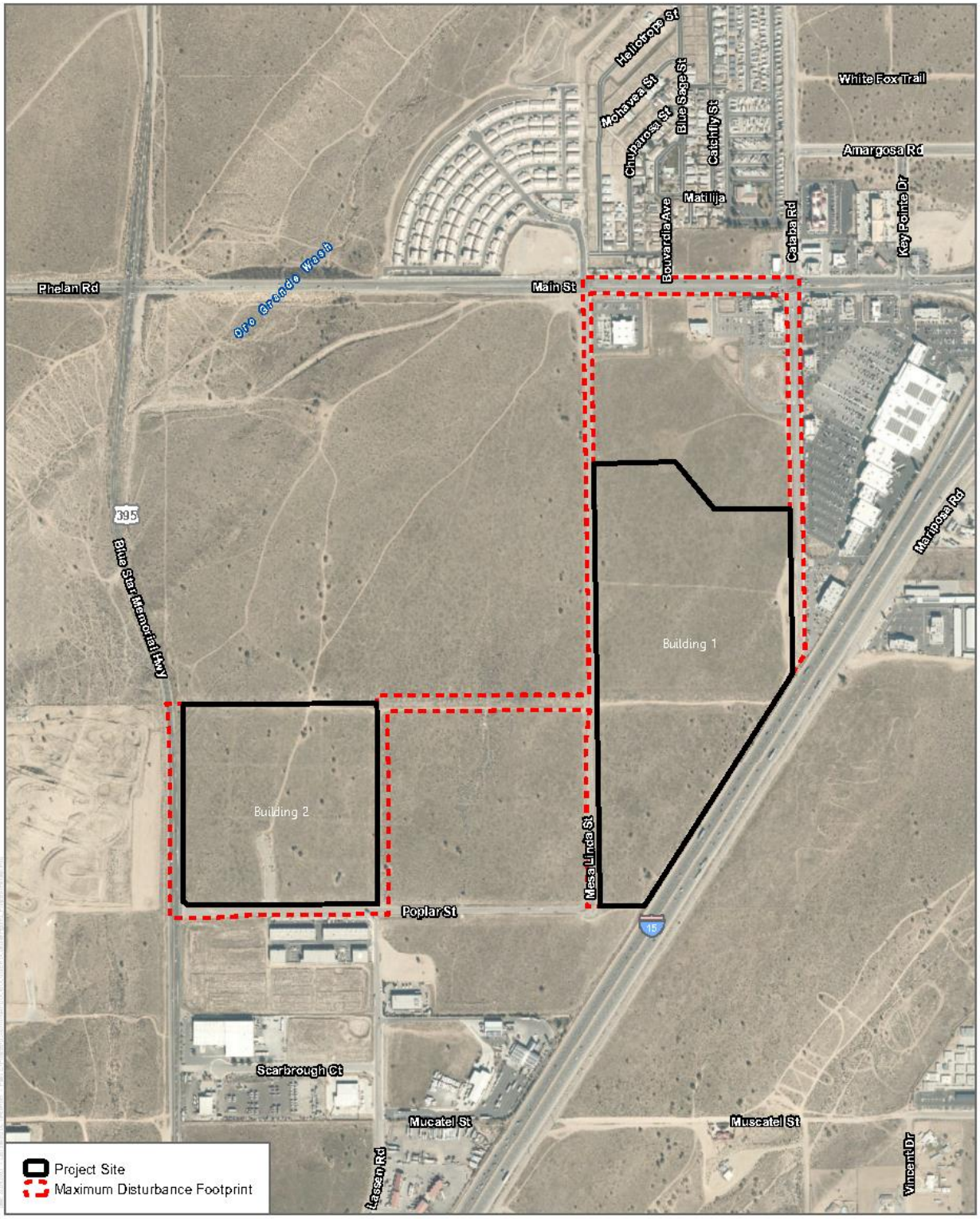

SOURCE: Esri World Imagery 2019; Open Street Map 2019

0 120 240 Meters
0 400 800 Feet

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FIGURE 2
Project Site
I-15 Industrial Park Project

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1.4 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable state laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during construction of the Project.

1.4.1 State

The California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term "historical resource" includes but is not limited to "any object, building, structure, 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" (California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) "to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), enumerated below. According to California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains "substantial integrity," and (ii) meets at least one 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.

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

California State Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3.

Consultation with Native Americans

AB 52 formalizes the consultation process between lead agencies and tribal representatives, requiring the lead agency to initiate consultation with California Native American groups that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project area. This includes tribes that may not be federally recognized. Lead agencies are required to begin consultation prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report.

Tribal Cultural Resources

Section 4 of AB 52 adds Sections 21074 (a) and (b) to the PRC, addressing tribal cultural resources (TCRs) and cultural landscapes. Section 21074 (a) defines tribal cultural resources as one of the following:

1. Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
   a. Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
   b. Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1.
2. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Section 1 (a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that "a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment." Effects on tribal cultural resources should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures "capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource." Further, if a California Native American tribe requests consultation regarding project alternatives, mitigation measures, or significant effects to tribal cultural resources, the consultation shall include those topics (PRC Section 21080.3.2[a]). The environmental document and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (where applicable) shall include any mitigation measures that are adopted (PRC Section 21082.3[a]).

Senate Bill 18

The Local and Tribal Intergovernmental Consultation process, commonly known as Senate Bill (SB) 18 was signed into law September of 2004 and took effect March 1, 2005. SB 18 refers to PRC Section 5097.9 and 5097.995, which defines cultural places as:

- Native American sanctified cemetery place of worship, religious or ceremonial site, or sacred shrine (PRC Section 5097.9).
- Native American historic, cultural, or sacred site that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources pursuant to Section 5024.1, including any historic or prehistoric ruins, any burial ground, any archaeological or historic site (PRC Section 5097.993).

SB 18 established responsibilities for local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with California Native American tribes that have been identified by the NAHC and if that tribe requests consultation after local government outreach as stipulated in Government Code Section 65352.3. The purpose of this consultation process is to protect the identity of the cultural place and to develop appropriate and dignified treatment of the cultural place in any subsequent project. The consultation is required whenever a general plan, specific plan, or open space designation is proposed for adoption or to be amended. Once local governments have sent notification, tribes are responsible for requesting consultation. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65352.3(a)(2), each tribe has 90 days from the date on which they receive notification to respond and request consultation.

In addition to the requirements stipulated previously, SB 18 amended Government Code Section 65560 to "allow the protection of cultural places in open space element of the general plan" and amended Civil Code Section 815.3 to add "California Native American tribes to the list of entities that can acquire and hold conservation easements for the purpose of protecting their cultural places."

Native American Historic Cultural Sites

The Native American Historic Resources Protection Act (California Public Resources Code Section 5097, et seq.) addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project; and establishes the NRHC to resolve disputes regarding the disposition of such remains. In addition, the Native American Historic Resource Protection Act makes it a misdemeanor punishable by up to 1 year in jail to deface or destroy an Indian historic or cultural site that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the CRHR.

California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (California Repatriation Act), enacted in 2001, requires all state agencies and museums that receive state funding and that have possession or control over collections of human remains or cultural items, as defined, to complete an inventory and summary of these remains and items on or before January 1, 2003, with certain exceptions. The California Repatriation Act also provides a process for the identification and repatriation of these items to the appropriate tribes.

California Environmental Quality Act

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are relevant to the analysis of archaeological and historic resources:

1. California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g): Defines "unique archaeological resource."
2. California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a): Defines historical resources. In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource. It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of a historical resource.

3. California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e): These statutes set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
4. California Public Resources Code Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4: These statutes and regulations provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including options of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; identifies preservation-in-place as the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites.

Under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause "a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource" (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)). An "historical resource" is any site listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR. The CRHR listing criteria are intended to examine whether the resource in question: (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 pre-history or history.

The term "historical resource" also includes any site described in a local register of historic resources, or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(q)).

CEQA also applies to "unique archaeological resources." California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g) defines a "unique archaeological resource" as any archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

In 2014, CEQA was amended to apply to "tribal culture resources" as well, but the amendment did not provide a definition for such resources or identify how they were to be evaluated or mitigated (California Public Resources Code Sections 21084.2 and 21084.3). Instead, California Public Resources Code Section 21083.09 required that the Office of Planning and Research develop and adopt guidelines for analyzing "tribal cultural resources" by July 1, 2016. As of the effective date of this report, however, those guidelines have not been finalized or adopted. Consequently, this report addresses only historic resources and unique archaeological resources.

All historical resources and unique archaeological resources – as defined by statute – are presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California Public Resources Code Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). A site or resource that does not meet the definition of "historical resource" or "unique archaeological resource" is not considered significant under CEQA and need not be analyzed further (California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)).

Under CEQA and significant cultural impact results from a "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource [including a unique archaeological resource]" due to the "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, the significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(2)

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA first evaluates evaluating whether a project site contains any "historical resources," then assesses whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource's historical significance is materially impaired.

When a project significantly affects a unique archeological resource, CEQA imposes special mitigation requirements. Specifically, "[i]f it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts to be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. Examples of that treatment, in no order of preference, may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:"

1. "Planning construction to avoid archeological sites."
2. "Deeding archeological sites into permanent conservation easements."
3. "Capping or covering archeological sites with a layer of soil before building on the sites."
4. "Planning parks, greenspace, or other open space to incorporate archeological sites."

California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(b)(1)-(4)

If these "preservation in place" options are not feasible, mitigation may be accomplished through data recovery (California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(d); CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C)). California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(d) states that "[e]xcavation as mitigation shall be restricted to those parts of the unique archeological resource that would be damaged or destroyed by the project. Excavation as mitigation shall not be required for a unique archeological resource if the lead agency determines that testing or studies already completed have adequately recovered the scientifically consequential information from and about the resource, if this determination is documented in the environmental impact report."

These same requirements are set forth in slightly greater detail in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3), as follows:

1. Preservation in place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archeological sites. Preservation in place maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archeological context. Preservation may also avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the site.
2. Preservation in place may be accomplished by, but is not limited to, the following:
    a. Planning construction to avoid archeological sites;
    b. Incorporation of sites within parks, greenspace, or other open space;
    c. Covering the archeological sites with a layer of chemically stable soil before building tennis courts, parking lots, or similar facilities on the site [; and]
    d. Deeding the site into a permanent conservation easement.
3. When data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provision for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information from and about the historical resource, shall be prepared and adopted prior to any excavation being undertaken.

Note that, when conducting data recovery, "[i]f an artifact must be removed during project excavation or testing, curation may be an appropriate mitigation." However, "[d]ata recovery shall not be required for an historical resource if the lead agency determines that testing or studies already completed have adequately recovered the scientifically consequential information from and about the archeological or historic resource, provided that determination is documented in the EIR and that the studies are deposited with the California Historical Resources Regional Information Center" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(D)).

California Health and Safety Code

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, these procedures are detailed in California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains shall occur until the County coroner has examined the remains (Section 7050.5b). California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours (section 7050.5c). The NAHC will notify the Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner, the MLD may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the MLD by the NAHC. The MLD may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains, and items associated with Native Americans.

1.4.2 Local

City of Hesperia General Plan Update (2010)

The City of Hesperia General Plan contains the following goals and policies that address cultural resources and are applicable to the Project (City of Hesperia 2010):

Conservation Element: Historical, Paleontological, and Cultural Resources

- **Goal: CN-5.** The City shall establish policies and procedures in compliance with state and Federal laws and regulations to identify and properly protect found historical, cultural and paleontological artifacts and resources.
  - **Policy: CN-5.1.** Encourage the preservation of historical, paleontological and cultural resources.
  - **Policy: CN-5.2.** In those areas where surveys and records indicate historical, cultural or paleontological resources may be found, appropriate surveys and record searches shall be undertaken to determine the presence of such resources, if any.
  - **Policy: CN-5.3.** All historical, paleontological and cultural resources discovered shall be inventoried and evaluated according to CEQA regulations and the California Office of Historic Preservation.
  - **Policy: CN-5.4.** The City shall coordinate with the Archeological Information Center at the San Bernardino County Museum in reviewing potential records and in preserving such artifacts as may be found.
  - **Policy: CN-5.5.** Through its CEQA and other environmental procedures, the City shall notify appropriate Native American representatives of possible development and shall comply with all State and Federal requirements concerning the monitoring and preservation of Native American artifacts and places.

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2 Cultural Context

2.1 Prehistoric Setting

Evidence for continuous human occupation in Southern California spans the last 10,000 years. Various attempts to parse out variability in archaeological assemblages over this broad period have led to the development of several cultural chronologies; some of these are based on geologic time, most are based on temporal trends in archaeological assemblages, and others are interpretive reconstructions. Each of these reconstructions describes essentially similar trends in assemblage composition in more or less detail. However, given the direction of research and differential timing of archaeological study following intensive development in Riverside County, chronology building in the Inland Empire must rely on data from neighboring regions to fill the gaps. To be more inclusive, this research employs a common set of generalized terms used to describe chronological trends in assemblage composition: Paleoindian (before 7500 BP)[1], Archaic (10,000–1500 BP), Late Prehistoric (1500 BP–AD 1769), and Ethnohistoric (after AD 1769).

2.1.1 Paleoindian Period (before 7500 years ago)

Evidence for Paleoindian occupation in the region is tenuous. Our knowledge of associated cultural pattern(s) is informed by a relatively sparse body of data that has been collected from within an area extending from coastal San Diego, through the Mojave Desert, and beyond. A very unique technology defined by fluted projectile points and a highly formal lithic tool kit with almost no processing equipment is often considered to be the earliest evidence of human adaptation to North America. Widely known as "Clovis," regional manifestations of this toolkit show important variability both in projectile point style and tool kit composition. Importantly, the attributes of "Clovis" are uncommon in California, with very few examples of the diagnostic, "fluted" Clovis point. There is, however, a notable exception from Crystal Cove State Park in southern Orange County (Fitzgerald and Rondeau 2012). This, along with other potential attributes of Clovis culture along the California Coast remain undated, and most of the earliest well-dated sites from the region contain rather different archaeological assemblages (Erlandson et al. 2007).

While the earliest evidence for human activity in California comes from the Channel Islands, ca. 13,000 BP, it does not exhibit obvious cultural similarity with the Clovis phenomenon. However, in the southern Central Valley fluted Clovis points date from ca. 11,000–10,500 BP (Rogers and Yohe 2020). One of the earliest dated archaeological assemblages in coastal Southern California (excluding the Channel Islands) comes from SDI-4669/W-12 in La Jolla, with human remains dating to ca. 9900–9050 BP (Bada et al. 1984). The burial is part of a larger site complex that contained more than 29 human burials associated with an assemblage that fits the Archaic profile (i.e., large amounts of ground stone, battered cobbles, and expedient flake tools) (Kennedy 1983). In contrast, typical Paleoindian assemblages include large stemmed projectile points, high proportions of formal lithic tools, bifacial lithic reduction strategies, and relatively small proportions of ground stone tools. Prime examples of this pattern come from Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake near Ridgecrest (Davis 1978). These sites contained fluted and unfluted stemmed points and large numbers of formal flake tools (e.g., shaped scrapers, blades). Fluted points from SBR-2355 and SBR-2356, also in the Mojave Desert, are considered quite ancient (on the thickness of obsidian hydration rinds) and co-occur with a diverse assemblage that also contains stemmed points, typically attributed to the Lake Mojave archaeological culture. Other typical Paleoindian sites in the desert include the Komodo site (MNO-679)—a multi-component fluted point site, and MNO-680—a single component Great Basined Stemmed point site

[1] "BP" indicates calibrated, calendar years before present (specifically, prior to AD 1950). Ages presented herein have been calibrated from the original age estimates wherever possible; ranges of general phenomena (e.g., cultural periods are approximate).

(Basgall 1987, 1988; Basgall et al. 2002). At MNO-679 and -680, ground stone tools were rare while finely made projectile points were common.

Turning back to coastal Southern California, the fact that some of the earliest dated assemblages are dominated by processing tools runs counter to traditional image of Paleoindians as highly mobile big-game hunters. Evidence for the latter—that is, typical Paleoindian assemblages—may have been located along the coastal margin at one time, prior to glacial desiccation and a rapid rise in sea level during the early Holocene (before 7500 BP) that submerged as much as 16 kilometers of the San Diego coastline since people first arrived in California, ca. 13,000 years ago (ICF 2013). If this were true, however, it would also be expected that such sites would be located on older landforms near the current coastline. Some sites, such as SDI-210 along Agua Hedionda Lagoon, contain stemmed points similar in form and age to Silver Lake and Lake Mojave projectile points from the high desert (Basgall and Hall 1993; Warren et al. 2004). However, sites of this nature are extremely rare; more typical are sites that contain large numbers of milling tools intermingled with older projectile point forms. Separating cultural components on the basis of artifact form and frequency is therefore difficult.

Warren et al. (2004) claim that a biface manufacturing tradition at the Harris site complex (SDI-149) is representative of typical Paleoindian occupation in the San Diego region that possibly dates between ca. 11,200 and 8200 BP (on the basis of radiocarbon dates from the Harris site itself). Termed San Dieguito (also see Rogers 1945), assemblages at the Harris site are qualitatively distinct from most others in the San Diego region because the site has large numbers of well-made bifaces (including projectile points), formal flake tools, a biface reduction trajectory, and relatively small amounts of processing tools (also see Warren 1964; Warren 1968). Despite the unique assemblage composition, the definition of San Dieguito as a separate cultural tradition is hotly debated. Gallegos (1987, 2017) suggested that the San Dieguito pattern is simply the inland manifestation of a broader economic pattern. This interpretation of San Dieguito has been widely accepted in recent years, in part because of the difficulty in distinguishing San Dieguito components from other assemblage constituents. In other words, it is easier to ignore San Dieguito as a distinct socioeconomic pattern than it is to draw it out of mixed assemblages.

The large number of finished bifaces (i.e., projectile points and non-projectile blades), along with large numbers of formal flake tools at the Harris site complex, is very different than nearly all other assemblages throughout the San Diego region, regardless of age. Warren et al. (2004) made this point, tabulating basic assemblage constituents for key early Holocene sites. Producing finely made bifaces and formal flake tools implies that relatively large amounts of time were spent on tool manufacture. Such a strategy contrasts with the expedient flake-based tools and cobble-core reduction strategy that typifies the regional Archaic sites (see below). It can be inferred from the uniquely high degree of San Dieguito assemblage formality that the Harris site complex represents an economic strategy distinct from that represented by other roughly contemporaneous assemblages from throughout the region.

San Dieguito sites are rare in the inland valleys, with one possible candidate, RIV-2798/H, located on the shore of Lake Elsinore. Excavations at Locus B at RIV-2798/H produced a toolkit consisting predominately of flaked stone tools, including crescents, points, and bifaces, and lesser amounts of groundstone tools, among other items (Grenda 1997). A calibrated and reservoir-corrected radiocarbon date on a shell from this site points to an early occupation, ca. 8880–8525 BP. Grenda suggested this site represents seasonal exploitation of lacustrine resources and small game and resembles coastal San Dieguito assemblages and spatial patterning.

If the San Dieguito pattern truly represents a socioeconomic strategy distinct from the regional Archaic processing regime, its rarity implies that it was not only short-lived, but that it was not as economically successful as the Archaic

strategy. Such a conclusion would fit with other trends in Southern California deserts, where hunting-related tools were replaced by processing tools during the early Holocene (Basgall and Hall 1990).

2.1.2 Archaic Period (10,000 – 1500 years ago)

The more than 2,500-year overlap between the presumed age of Paleoindian occupations and the Archaic period highlights the difficulty in defining a cultural chronology in Southern California. If San Dieguito is the only recognized Paleoindian component in the coastal Southern California, then the dominance of hunting tools implies that it derives from Great Basin adaptive strategies and is not necessarily a local adaptation. Warren et al. (2004) admitted as much, citing strong desert connections with San Dieguito. Thus, the Archaic pattern is the earliest local socioeconomic adaptation in the region (see Hale 2001, 2009).

The Archaic pattern, which has also been termed the Millingstone Horizon (among other things), is relatively easy to define with assemblages that consist primarily of processing tools, such as millingstones, handstones, battered cobbles, heavy crude scrapers, incipient flake-based tools, and cobble-core reduction. These assemblages occur in all environments across the region with little variability in tool composition. Low assemblage variability over time and space among Archaic sites has been equated with cultural conservatism (Basgall and Hall 1990; Byrd and Reddy 2002; Warren 1968; Warren et al. 2004). Despite enormous amounts of archaeological work at Archaic sites, little change in assemblage composition occurred until the bow and arrow, and then ceramics, were adopted after 1500 BP (Griset 1996; Hale 2009; Schaefer 2012). Even then, assemblage formality remained low. After the bow was adopted, small arrow points appear in large quantities and already low amounts of formal flake tools are replaced by increasing amounts of expedient flake tools. Similarly, shaped millingstones and handstones decreased in proportion relative to expedient, unshaped ground stone tools (Hale 2009). Thus, the terminus of the Archaic period is equally as hard to define as its beginning because basic assemblage constituents and patterns of manufacturing investment remain stable, complemented only by the addition of the bow and ceramics.

2.1.3 Late Prehistoric Period (1500 BP–AD 1769)

The period of time following the Archaic and before Ethnohistoric times (AD 1769) is commonly referred to as the Late Prehistoric (McDonald and Eighmey 2004; Rogers 1945; Wallace 1955); however, several other subdivisions continue to be used to describe various shifts in assemblage composition. In general, this period is defined by the addition of arrow points and ceramics, as well as the widespread use of bedrock mortars. The fundamental Late Prehistoric assemblage is very similar to the Archaic pattern but includes arrow points and large quantities of fine debitage from producing arrow points, as well as ceramics, and cremations. The appearance of mortars and pestles is difficult to place in time because most mortars are on bedrock surfaces. Some argue that the Ethnohistoric intensive acorn economy extends as far back as 1500 BP (Bean and Shipek 1978). However, there is no substantial evidence that reliance on acorns, and the accompanying use of mortars and pestles, occurred before 600 BP. In Riverside County and the surrounding region, millingstones and handstones persisted in higher frequencies than mortars and pestles until the last 500 years (Basgall and Hall 1990); even then, weighing the economic significance of millingstone-handstone versus mortar-pestle technology is tenuous due to incomplete information on archaeological assemblages.

2.1.4 Ethnohistoric Period (after AD 1769)

The history of the Native American communities prior to the mid-1700s has largely been reconstructed through later mission-period and early ethnographic accounts. The first records of the Native American inhabitants of the region come predominantly from European merchants, missionaries, military personnel, and explorers. These briefs, and generally peripheral, accounts were prepared with the intent of furthering respective colonial and economic aims and were combined with observations of the landscape. They were not intended to be unbiased accounts regarding the cultural structures and community practices of the newly encountered cultural groups. The establishment of the missions in the region brought more extensive documentation of Native American communities, though these groups did not become the focus of formal and in-depth ethnographic study until the early twentieth century (Bean and Shipek 1978; Boscana 1846; Harrington 1934; Laylander 2000; Sparkman 1908; White 1963). The principal intent of these researchers was to record the precontact and culturally specific practices, ideologies, and languages that had survived the destabilizing effects of missionization and colonialism. This research, often understood as "salvage ethnography," was driven by the understanding that traditional knowledge was being lost due to the impacts of modernization and cultural assimilation. Alfred Kroeber applied his "memory culture" approach (Lightfoot 2005, p. 32) by recording languages and oral histories within the region. Ethnographic research by Dubois, Kroeber, Harrington, Spier, and others during the early twentieth century seemed to indicate that traditional cultural practices and beliefs survived among local Native American communities.

It is important to note that even though there were many informants for these early ethnographies who were able to provide information from personal experiences about native life before the Europeans, a significantly large proportion of these informants were born after 1850 (Heizer and Nissen 1973); therefore, the documentation of precontact, aboriginal culture was being increasingly supplied by individuals born in California after considerable contact with Europeans. As Heizer (1978) stated, this is an important issue to note when examining these ethnographies, since considerable culture change had undoubtedly occurred by 1850 among the Native American survivors of California.

Based on ethnographic information, it is believed that at least 88 different languages were spoken from Baja California Sur to the southern Oregon state border at the time of Spanish contact (Johnson and Lorenz 2006, p. 34). The distribution of recorded Native American languages has been dispersed as a geographic mosaic across California through six primary language families (Golla 2007).

Golla contended that one can interpret the amount of variability within specific language groups as being associated with the relative "time depth" of the speaking populations (Golla 2007, p. 80). A large amount of variation within the language of a group represents a greater time depth than a group's language with less internal diversity. One method that he has employed is by drawing comparisons with historically documented changes in Germanic and Romantic language groups. Golla observed that the "absolute chronology of the internal diversification within a language family" can be correlated with archaeological dates (2007, p. 71). This type of interpretation is modeled on concepts of genetic drift and gene flows that are associated with migration and population isolation in the biological sciences.

The tribes of this area have traditionally spoken Takic languages that may be assigned to the larger Uto–Aztecan family (Golla 2007, p. 74). These groups include the Gabrielino, Cahuilla, and Serrano. Golla interpreted the amount of internal diversity within these language-speaking communities to reflect a time depth of approximately 2,000 years. Other researchers have contended that Takic may have diverged from Uto–Aztecan ca. 2600 BC–AD

1, which was later followed by the diversification within the Takic speaking tribes, occurring approximately 1500 BC–AD 1000 (Laylander 2000).

Serrano

Traditionally, the Serrano lived in an area east of the Gabrielino and north of the Cahuilla, near present-day western San Bernardino County and northeastern Los Angeles County (Laylander 2010). The Serrano occupied an area in and around the San Bernardino Mountains between approximately 1,500 and 11,000 feet amsl. Their territory extended west along the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, east as far as Twentynine Palms, north along the Mojave River, and south to the San Jacinto area. Kroeber (1925) divided the Serrano into four distinct groups within the western Mojave Desert: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Serrano, and Vanyume. Each group held a distinct territory within the region (Kroeber 1925). According to Bean and Smith (1978, p. 570), "the Serrano resided in an area that extended east of the Cajon Pass, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, to Twenty-nine Palms, the north foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains and south to include portions of the Yucaipa Valley."

Serrano social organization was based on patrilineal and patrilocal lineages. Exogamy rules required that a man could not marry a woman related to them within five generations. Women moved to their husband's village but kept their identity as a member of their natal lineage.

The Serrano were mainly hunters and gatherers who occasionally fished. Game hunted included mountain sheep, deer, antelope, rabbits, small rodents, and various birds, particularly quail. Vegetable staples consisted of acorns, piñon nuts, bulbs and tubers, shoots and roots, berries, mesquite, barrel cacti, and Joshua tree (Bean and Smith 1978). A variety of materials was used for hunting, gathering, and processing food, as well as for shelter, clothing, and luxury items. Shells, wood, bone, stone, plant materials, and animal skins and feathers were used for making baskets, pottery, blankets, mats, nets, bags and pouches, cordage, awls, bows, arrows, drills, stone pipes, musical instruments, and clothing (Bean and Smith 1978).

The majority of the Serrano lived in small villages, close to sources of fresh water (Benedict 1924). Houses and ramadas were round, dome-shaped, and constructed of poles covered with bark and tule mats (Benedict 1924; Kroeber 1925). The Serrano also had sweat houses and ceremonial houses for religious activities. Further, according to Benedict (1924), a typical Serrano settlement was a village with multiple small satellite camps surrounding it. Most Serrano villages also had a ceremonial house used as a religious center. Other structures within the village might include granaries and sweathouses (Bean and Smith 1978). According to DeBarros (2004), one of the more prominent Serrano villages was called Guapiabit, and it was located in Summit Valley.

2.2 Historic Setting

Post-Contact history for the State of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish Period (1769–1821), Mexican Period (1822–1848), and American Period (1848–present). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish Period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican Period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican–American War, signals the beginning of the American Period when California became a territory of the United States.

2.2.1 Spanish Period (1769-1821)

Spanish explorers made sailing expeditions along the coast of southern California between the mid-1500s and mid-1700s. In search of the legendary Northwest Passage, Juan Rodríquez Cabrillo stopped in 1542 at present-day San Diego Bay. With his crew, Cabrillo explored the shorelines of present Catalina Island as well as San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded during the next half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Vizcaíno's crew also landed on Santa Catalina Island and at San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays, giving each location the names we use today. The Spanish crown laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885; Gumprecht 1999).

More than 200 years passed before Spain began the colonization and inland exploration of Alta California. The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the beginning of California's Historic period, occurring just after the King of Spain installed the Franciscan Order to direct religious and colonial matters in assigned territories of the Americas. With a band of 64 soldiers, missionaries, Baja California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego, a fortified military outpost, as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California. In July of 1769, while Portolá was exploring southern California, Franciscan Friar Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823.

The Portolá expedition first reached the present-day boundaries of Los Angeles in August 1769, thereby becoming the first Europeans to visit the area. Friar Juan Crespí named the campsite by the river "Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula" or "Our Lady the Queen of the Angeles of the Porciúncula." Two years later, Friar Junípero Serra returned to the valley to establish a Catholic mission, the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, on September 8, 1771 (Kyle 2002).

2.2.2 Mexican Period (1821–1848)

A major emphasis during the Spanish Period in California was the construction of missions and associated presidios to integrate the Native American population into Christianity and communal enterprise. Incentives were also provided to bring settlers to pueblos or towns, but just three pueblos were established during the Spanish Period, only two of which were successful and remain as California cities (San José and Los Angeles). Several factors kept growth within Alta California to a minimum, including the threat of foreign invasion, political dissatisfaction, and unrest among the Indigenous population. After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain (Mexico and the California territory) won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts. Fourteen ranchos were granted between 1819 and 1846 in the future Riverside County. Ranchos deeded near the Project Area were Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Potrero and Rancho San Jacinto Sobrante, granted by Governor Pio Pico in 1846, Rancho San Jacinto Viejo, granted by acting Governor Manuel Jimeno in 1842, and Rancho San Jacinto y San Gorgonio, granted by Governor Manuel Micheltorena in 1843. The secularization of the missions following Mexico's independence from Spain resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and the establishment of many additional ranchos (Hallan-Gibson 1986; Middlebrook 2005).

During the heyday of the ranchos (1834–1848), landowners largely focused on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico. The number of non-native inhabitants increased during this period with the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and rise of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who did not possess immunities to them (Dallas 1955).

2.2.3 American Period (1848–Present)

War in 1846 between Mexico and the United States precipitated the Battle of Chino, a clash between resident Californios and Americans in the San Bernardino area. The Mexican-American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ushering California into its American Period.

California officially became a state with the Compromise of 1850, which also designated Utah and New Mexico (with present-day Arizona) as U.S. Territories. Horticulture and livestock, based primarily on cattle as the currency and staple of the rancho system, continued to dominate the southern California economy through 1850s. The Gold Rush began in 1848, and with the influx of goldseekers, the ranching economy began to produce meat and dairy, in addition to hides and tallow. During the cattle boom of the 1850s, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from southern to northern California to feed that region's burgeoning mining and commercial boom. Cattle were at first driven along major trails or roads such as the Gila Trail or Southern Overland Trail, then were transported by trains when available. The cattle boom ended for southern California as neighbor states and territories drove herds to northern California at reduced prices. Operation of the huge ranchos became increasingly difficult, and droughts severely reduced their productivity (Cleland 2005; Waugh 2003).

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3 Background Research

3.1 CHRIS Records Search

On February 5, 2021, Dudek received a search of the CHRIS from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), located on the campus of the California State University, Fullerton. The search conducted by SCCIC staff analysts included any previously recorded cultural resources and investigations within a 1-mile radius of the Project site. The CHRIS search also included a review of the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Points of Historical Interest list, the California Historical Landmarks list, the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility list, and the California State Historic Resources Inventory list. The confidential records search results are provided in Confidential Appendix A.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the SCCIC notified researchers that they are only able to provide data for San Bernardino County that has already been digitized. As such, not all available data known to CHRIS may be provided in the records search. Additionally, the SCCIC is currently unable to provide quality assurance/quality control of their records searches, a once routine procedure prior to COVID-19 restrictions. Therefore, some discrepancies within the records search are possible. Dudek reviewed the available SCCIC records to determine whether the implementation of the Project would have the potential to impact any known and unknown cultural resources.

3.1.1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies

Results of the CHRIS records search indicate that fifty-two (52) previous cultural resources studies have been conducted within 1-mile of the Project site. These studies were conducted between 1973 and 2016. Of these investigations, eight (8) studies, SB-01025, SB-01026, SB-01027, SB-02476, SB-04285, SB-04582, SB-05818, and SB-08179, either overlap or are immediately adjacent to the Project site and together address approximately one-third of the Project site. Four (4) of these reports, SB-01025, SB-01026, SB-01027, and SB-02476, consist of large scale studies related to water district improvements that do not directly assess the Project site. Report SB-04285 overlaps a portion of the Building 1 site and report SB-04582 is immediately adjacent to the eastern border of Building 1; however, the SCCIC had not digitized these reports prior to COVID-19 restrictions, therefore, the reports were not included amongst the records search materials. Dudek contacted the SCCIC in an effort to secure the reports; however, the SCCIC informed Dudek that due to COVID-19 constraints, hard copies of the reports would not be accessible until SCCIC staff return to their office.

Similarly, report SB-05818 was not digitized and therefore not provided; however, report SB-08179 shares the same study area as SB-05818, and a copy of SB-08179 was included within the available records search data. Since study SB-08179 was conducted eight years after SB-05818, it is assumed that results of the SB-08179 study are similar to that of the SB-05818 study. The following paragraph provides a summary of report SB-08179 as it pertains to the Project site. Table 1, below, provides a complete list of all 52 previous cultural resources studies within 1-mile of the Project site.

SB-08179

Archaeological/Paleontological Monitoring Program Tractor Supply Company Retail Facility Project 12543 Main Street, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County CRM TECH Contract No. 2956 (Hogan 2015), documents the results of archaeological and paleontological monitoring conducted during the construction of a 18,800-square foot

retail building. The development is southeast of the intersection of Main Street and Mesa Linda Street and immediately adjacent to the Off-site Improvement Footprint of the Building 1 site. The study area was vacant undisturbed land prior to construction and shared the same environmental setting as the current Project site. Prior to project construction, monitors surveyed the site for evidence of cultural or paleontological resources, though none was found. Excavations at the site reached a maximum depth of 15 feet bgs. Soils were noted as native alluvium from surface elevation to approximately 5 feet bgs, followed by coarse silty sand with angular rock to 15 feet bgs. This soil profile is similar to that identified by the geotechnical studies conducted for the current Project. See *Section 3.2, Geotechnical Report Review*, below for further details regarding the geotechnical studies. Hogan (2015) noted areas of disturbed soil containing modern refuse extending to 9 feet bgs in some area. No cultural or paleontological resources were identified as a result of the monitoring program.

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1-Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-00191	Smith, Gerald A.	1973	Archaeological, Historical and Paleontological Site Survey for County Service Area No. 70 Improvement Zone "J", Assessment of Impact and Recommendations	Outside
SB-00986	Reynolds, Robert E.	1980	Baldy Mesa Water Lines, Cultural Resources Assessment	Outside
SB-01025	Harris, Ruth	1973	Archaeological, Historical, and Paleontological Site Survey for County Service Area No. 70 Improvement Zone "J", Assessments of Impact and Recommendations	Subsumes Project site
SB-01026	Harris, Ruth	1974	Archaeological, Historical, and Paleontological Site Survey for County Service Area No. 70 Improvement Zone "J", Assessments of Impact and Recommendations	Subsumes Project site
SB-01027	Reynolds, Robert E.	1980	Cultural Resources Assessment: Baldy Mesa Water Lines, County Service Area 70, Improvement Zone J, San Bernardino County, California	Subsumes Project site
SB-02202	McKenna, Jeanette A.	1990	A Phase I Archaeological Investigation of Proposed Water Pipeline Routes and reservoir/Pumping Locations, in the Baldy Mesa/Phelan Area, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-02229	Shinn, Juanita R.	1991	Archaeological Assessment of 10 Acre Parcel for Creative Boundaries	Outside
SB-02238	Knell, Edward J.	1991	Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Twenty One Acres Near Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1-Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-02395	White, Robert S.	1991	An Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Tract 14596, a 235.33-Acre Parcel Located in Hesperia, San Bernardino County	Outside
**SB-02476	McKenna, Jeanette A.	1991	A Phase I Linear Survey: Cultural Resources Investigations for the Hesperia Improvement District, Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Subsumes Project site
SB-02507	Sundberg, Frederick A. and Nancy Whitney-Desautels	1992	Archaeological and Paleontological Survey for a Three Mile Segment of Phelan Road, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-02674	Singer, Clay A., John E. Atwood, and Barbie S. Laney	1992	Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for APN 404-281-36 in the Baldy Mesa Area of San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-02730	McKenna, Jeanette A.	1993	Cultural Resources Investigations of the Tracy Smith Property, APN 404-092-53 (TPM 14387), San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-02732	Parr, Robert E.	1992	An Archaeological Assessment of Tentative Parcel Map #14242 Baldy Mesa, San Bernardino County, CA	Outside
SB-02803	Love, Bruce	1993	Main St./I-15 Interchange, Hesperia	Outside
SB-03110	Brock, James and Christine L. D'Iorio	1996	Historic Property Survey and Historic Architectural Evaluation Report for the Widening of Phelan Road from Baldy Mesa Road to State Hwy 395, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-03366	Brechibiel, Brant	1998	Cultural Resource Records Search and Survey Report for a PMBS Services Telecommunications Facility: CM 239-01 in the City of Hesperia, California	Outside
SB-03448	Alexandrowicz, John Stephen	2000	A Historical Resources Identification Investigation for the Little Sisters Truck Wash, City of Hesperia	Outside
SB-04036	Cerreto, Ricard and Christy Malan	2004	Cultural Resource Assessment for Parcel 3, APN: 3064-591-17, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04191	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2004	An Intensive Archaeological Survey of the Frontier Homes Property, Tract No. 16744 in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04281	Cerreto, Richard, Christy Malan, and Katherine Ward	2004	Cultural Resources Assessment for APN: 3064-481-12, the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, CA	Outside

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1-Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-04282	Fulton, Phil	2004	Cultural Resources Assessment: Cingular Wireless Facility No. SB 333-01, Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04283	Budinger, Fred E.	2002	A Cultural Resources Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Parcel of the 138 Acre Hesperia Master Plan Parcel, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04284	Alexandrowicz, John Stephen	2001	Historic Archaeology at John E. Dufton's Homestead	Outside
**SB-04285	Green, Julia K.	2004	Cultural Resources Inventory and Evaluation: Timbisha Shoshone Hotel and Casino, San Bernardino County, California	Overlaps Building 1
SB-04286	Love, Bruce	1999	08-SBD Hesperia Park and Ride Facility at the Intersection of US 395 and Joshua St Near the City of Hesperia	Outside
SB-04289	White, Robert S. and Laura S. White	2003	A Cultural Resources Assessment of the San Bernardino County Special Districts CSA 70 Zone J Casita Ave Water Pipeline Project Near Hesperia, San Bernardino Co	Outside
SB-04290	Hammond, Stephen and David Bricker	1997	The Realignment of US Highway 395 and Main ST in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04309	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2000	Results of a Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of the Nick Adams Property (APN: 3039-321-03), San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04580	Hatheway, Roger	2005	A Phase I Historical and Archaeological Survey of the Caliente Industrial Park Property, Assessor Parcel # 3039-321-08-0000, City of Hesperia, California.	Outside
**SB-04582	Duff, Gabrielle and Manuel R. Palacios-Fest	2005	Archaeological and Paleontological Survey of the Ludwig Property, Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California.	Adjacent to Building 1
SB-04796	Brunzell, David	2005	Cultural Resource Assessment Vista Del Valle City of Victorville San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04975	Wetherbee, Matthew	2005	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Baldy Mesa Water District Arsenic Treatment Project, Cities of Victorville and Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
SB-05107	Chandler, Evelyn N, Cotterman, Cary D, and Mason, Roger D	2002	Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed California Charter Academy Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1-Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-05216	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2006	Results of a Phase 1 Cultural resources Investigation for the Proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter Approximately 38 Acres in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05452	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2007	Results of a Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for Approximately 20 Acres of Land (APN 3039-321-10) In the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05698	Hogan, Michael	2007	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: US Highway 395 Realignment EIR, Victorville Area, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
**SB-05818	Budinger, Fred E.	2007	An Archaeological Survey of 10-Acres (APN 3064-601-01) for the Proposed Holiday Inn Hesperia Project to located Southeast of the Intersection of Main Street and Mesa Linda Street in the City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California 92392	**Adjacent to Building 1 Maximum Disturbance Footprint**
SB-06162	Bonner, Wayne and Aislin-Kay, Marnie	2008	Cultural Resource Records Search and Site Visit Results for Royal Street Communications California, LLC Candidate LA3329A (Outpost Road), 8391 Outpost Road, Oak Hills, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-06164	Sander, Jay	2007	Cultural Resources Inventory of APN 3064-561-12 Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-06333	Horne, Melinda C.	2005	Cultural Resources Survey for the Mojave Water Agency Water Banking Project	Outside
SB-06510	White, Laura S.	2005	A Cultural Resources Assessment of TT 16751, A 21.96-Acre Parcel Located Adjacent to Sultana Street, East of Escondido Avenue, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County	Outside
SB-06600	Tang, Bai, Smallwood, Josh, John J. Eddy, Harry M. Quinn, Terri Jacquemain, Daniel Ballester, and Laura Hensley Shaker	2008	Extended Phase I Historical/Archaeological Resources Study: Northeast Recycled Water Expansion Projects, In and Near the Cities of Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana, San Bernardino County, California	Outside

Table 1. Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies within 1-Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-06602	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2009	Cultural Resources Record Search and Archaeological Survey Results for the proposed Royal Street Communications, California, LLC, Site LAee28A (Vacant Lot TMO-Pine Colo) located at 9980 Lassen Street, Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California 92345	Outside
SB-06652	ESA	2010	Preliminary Archaeological Survey Report for 98 Linear Miles of the east Branch Extension of the California Aqueduct for the DWR East Branch Enlargement Project Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties (California)	Outside
SB-07156	Tang, Bai "Tom", Daniel Ballester, and Nina Gallardo	2011	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Water Supply System Improvements Projects, Fiscal Years 2010/2011 – 2014/2015, Victorville Water District, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
SB-07493	Dahdul, Miriam, Daniel Ballester, John D. Goodman II, and Nina Gallardo	2013	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Westside Terraces Project, Assessor's Parcel No's 3064-441-01 to -03, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
SB-07971	McDougall, Dennis	2007	Cultural Resources Survey of Approximately 522.7 Acres Within the Oro Grande Wash North - Recharge Basins Project Area for the Mojave Water Agency Water Banking Project	Outside
SB-08019	Hogan, Michael	2016	Archaeological Survey Report Park and Ride Facility Expansion Project City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-08179	Hogan, Michael	2015	Archaeological/Paleontological Monitoring Program, Tractor Supply Company Retail Facility Project, 12543 Main Street, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County	**Adjacent to Building 1 Maximum Disturbance Footprint**
SB-08205	McKenna, Jeanette A.	2015	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of the Proposed Summit Leadership academy, high Desert Campus, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino Co., California	Outside
SB-08232	Tang, Bai, Jesse Yorck, Daniel Ballester, and Nina Gallardo	2016	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report Country Inn and Suites Project	Outside

Notes:
** Reports have not been digitized and are therefore unavailable due to current SCCIC Covid-19 Protocols

3.1.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The CHRIS records search identified four (4) previously recorded cultural resources within the Project site: P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H, P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, and P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H. Three (3) of these resources, P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, and P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H, consist of historic-period unpaved roads, and one (1) resource, P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H, consists of a late nineteenth century homestead. A discussion of these four previously recorded cultural resources is provided below.

The CHRIS records search identified an additional fifty-one (51) previously recorded cultural resources within the 1-mile records search radius. These resources consist of eleven (11) built environment resources, thirty-six (36) historic-period archaeological resources, and four (4) prehistoric archaeological resources. The built environment resources consist of eight (8) unpaved roads, two (2) paved roads, and the California Aqueduct. The historic-period archaeological resources consist of fifteen (15) household refuse scatters, eleven (11) household refuse dumps, one (1) metal can scatter, one (1) homestead site, and eight (8) isolates consisting of bottle glass shards and/or metal cans. The prehistoric archaeological resources consist of one (1) low-density lithic scatter and three (3) isolated tested or battered cobbles. The prehistoric archaeological resources are generally distributed to the west and south of the Project site along the eastern bank of the Oro Grande Wash. The nearest prehistoric resource to the Project site is located approximately 170 meters (560 feet) south of the Maximum Disturbance Footprint for the Building 2 site and consists of an isolate. Table 2, below, provides a summary of all 55 previously recorded cultural resources within 1-mile of the Project site.

P-36-004179 [CA-SBR-04179H]

Resource P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H is a historic-period unpaved road that runs generally north south for approximately 7-miles (11.3 kilometers). An approximate 930-feet (283 meters) segment of the road traverses the southeast corner of the Building 2 site. Reynolds formerly recorded P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H in 1980 as the historic-period roadway known as the Toll Road-Lanes Crossing that connected Brown's Toll Road with the Salt Lake Trail. Portions of the road were revisited in the subsequent years, and the site record was updated with varying results. Ballester revisited a segment of the road in 2007 and stated that the road appeared modern and "retains no identifiable characteristics to suggest that it is a historic-era road." Additional updates from Anderson in 2009 and Valask in 2010 state that segments of P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H recorded within their study areas were unable to be relocated.

P-36-010288 [CA-SBR-010288H]

Resource P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H is a historic-period homestead site that measures approximately 2,620 feet by 2,620 feet (800 by 800 meters) at an elevation of 3,630 feet amsl. The site subsumes the southwestern half of the Project site including Building site 2 and the Maximum Disturbance Footprint up to the western border of Building site 1. Alexandrowicz initially recorded the site in 2000 as a late nineteenth to early twentieth century homestead consisting of structural debris and household refuse scatters. Site dimensions were determined by artifact distribution and measured approximately 209 feet by 140 feet. Alexandrowicz surmised that at least some of refuse scatter may be considered road toss associated with the previously recorded resource Toll Road-Lanes Crossing (P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H). Important to note is that the artifact scatter Alexandrowicz recorded is outside of the current Project site. It wasn't until McKenna expanded the site boundary in 2015 that the boundary of P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H overlapped the current Project site.

In 2015, McKenna identified a site consisting of three historic-period refuse scatters, a dirt road alignment, and nine isolated metal cans located in the undeveloped lot between the Building 1 and Building 2 sites that comprise the current Project. McKenna noted that the temporally diagnostic artifacts within the assemblage date from the late nineteenth century through the early twentieth century.

While evaluating the site for CRHR eligibility, McKenna conducted research into archival property ownership records and identified three periods of ownership: Dufton dating to pre-1913, Goatman from 1913-1918, and Pratt from 1919 to the 1930s. With this information, McKenna redefined the boundary of P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H to include the entire 160-acre property limits of the John E. Dufton Homestead. The updated site boundary subsumed the portion of the site previously recorded by Alexandrowicz (2000) and the portion of the current Project site. Important to note is that while the boundary of P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H overlaps the current Project site, McKenna surveyed less than 10 acres of the 160-acre property, none of which was within the current Project site.

McKenna determined that none of the recorded artifacts or features were determined to be unique, nor did they represent long-term occupation. Therefore, McKenna concluded that the resources are not considered significant as defined by CEQA, nor are they associated with significant events, nor with significant persons in history. McKenna determined that P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H is not eligible for listing in the CRHR and that no additional cultural resources considerations are required for the resource.

P-36-012345 [CA-SBR-012223H]

Resource P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H is a historic-period unpaved road that generally runs northeast southwest for approximately 0.5-mile (900 meters). The northeastern portion of the road terminates within the Maximum Disturbance Footprint of the Building 1 site. Austerman and Lee formerly recorded the resource in 2005 as a two-tract dirt road that is depicted on the 1902 and 1942 *Hesperia*, CA USGS topographic maps. Given the minimal amount of overgrowth within the road, Austerman and Lee presumed that the road was still in use as of the time of the recordation.

P-36-012346 [CA-SBR-012224H]

Resource P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H is a historic-period unpaved road that generally runs north south for approximately 0.25-mile (400 meters). The southern portion of the road terminates within the Building 1 site. Austerman and Lee formerly recorded the resource in 2005 as a two-tract dirt road that is depicted on the 1942 *Hesperia*, CA USGS topographic map.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
004179	004179H	Built Environment: Road	Historic route known as the Canal Lane Historic Road.	7R: Not evaluated	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1980 (R. Reynolds); 2007 (D. Ballester); 2007 (D. Ballester); 2009 (ESA); 2010 (M. Valask)	Intersects Building 2

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
004251	004251H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as the Baldy Mesa Pole Line; poles have since been removed leaving only the access road intact.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1991 (J. Petersen); 1993 (K. Becker); 2009 (K. Anderson); 2010 (J. Coleman); 2011 (J. Trampier); 2018 (C. Bennett)	Outside
004263	004263H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse site consisting of soldered-bottom cans and blue, aqua, and purple glass fragments.	7R: Not evaluated	1980 (R. Reynolds)	Outside
004266	004266	Archaeological site: Prehistoric	Prehistoric site consisting of low-density lithic scatter, core, fire-affected rock, and two secondary flakes.	7R: Not evaluated	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1993 (K. Becker)	Outside
004267	004267H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as the Oro Grande Wash/ Oak Hill Cutoff Road. Most recent record of this site claims it has been destroyed and no evidence of the original road remains.	7R: Not evaluated	1980 (R.Reynolds); 1993 (K. Becker); 2007 (D. Ballester); 2007 (M. Linder)	Outside
004268	004268H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as the Oro Grande Wash/White Road Cutoff. Most recent record of this site claims it has been destroyed and no evidence of the original road remains.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1993 (K. Becker); 1993 (J. Mckenna); 1995 (J. Brock); 2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
004269	004269H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as the Oro Grande Wash Road. Most recent record of this site claims it no evidence of the original road remains.	7R: Not evaluated	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1993 (RMW Paleo); 2007 (CRM Tech); 2009 (ESA)	Outside
004272	004272H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as the Old Spanish Trail, Salt Lake Trail, or the Mojave Trail.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1979 (Arbuckle); 1980 (R. Reynolds); 1987 (Benton); 1990 (James); 1992 (Taskiran); 1992 (Love and Hogan); 1992 (Laney); 1993 (J. McKenna); 1993 (Macko); 1993 (K. Becker); 1997 (Neuenschwander); 1997 (de Barros); 2002 (Fleming); 2003 (Sander); 2005 (Byrd); 2005 (Pollock); 2006 (McDougall); 2007 (D. Ballester); 2009 (Anderson); 2010 (M. Valask); 2011 (Wilson, Contreras, and Bietz); 2011 (Winslow and Andrews); 2011 (Trampier); 2011 (Hoffman)); 2012 (Granger); 2013 (J. Jaynes); 2014 (Kirwan)	Outside
004275	004275H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as Houghton's Crossing Toll Road.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1980 (R. Reynolds); 1991 (Knell); 1993 (K. Becker); 2002 (Cotterman)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
007545	007545H	Built Environment: Road	Historic highway known as State Route 395.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1993 (T. Wahoff and L. Peterson); 1996 (D. Bricker); 1997 (D. Bricker); 2000 (J. Underwood and S. Rosel); 2007 (D. Ballester); 2009 (K. Anderson); 2010 (M. Valasik); 2010 (S. Jow); 2013 (L. Honey); 2013 (D. Martinez); 2014 (J. Hall and C. Morgan)	Outside
007680	007680H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse dump consisting of nails, glass, ceramics, metal fragments, and vehicle parts form a Model A Ford.	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (J. McKenna and Reeves)	Outside
007755	007755H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic site consisting of glass fragments, ironstone bowl fragments, cans, Pepsi glass bottle, and a glass bottle.	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (K. Becker)	Outside
007756	007756H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic trash scatter consisting of glass bottles, glass fragments, umbrella parts, tin cans, metal fragments, and ironstone dish fragments.	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (K. Becker)	Outside
007757	007757H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic trash scatter consisting of a variety of can and glass artifacts.	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (K. Becker)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
007758	007758H	Built Environment: Road	Historic segments of paved road.	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (K. Becker)	Outside
008077	008077H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic trash scatter consisting of various cans, glass fragments, ceramic fragments, asphalt fragments, vehicle parts, and various modern debris.	7R: Not evaluated	1995 (Brock and James)	Outside
008082	008082H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road known as Phelan Road.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1995 (Brock and James); 2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside
010287	010287H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic site consisting of dirt path, a temporary homestead site and various isolated refuse objects including tin cans, and metal hinges.	7R: Not evaluated	2000 (J. Alexandrowicz)	Outside
010288	010288H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic property known as the John E. Dufton Homestead.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2000 (J. Alexandrowicz); 2015 (J. Mckenna)	**Overlaps Building 2**
010920	010920H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic trash dump consisting of tin cans, metal fragments, glass fragments, lumber, and ceramic fragments.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2002 (C. Cotterman)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
010921	010921H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse deposit consisting of metal artifacts, tin cans, glass bottle fragments, and ceramic fragments.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2002 (C. Cotterman)	Outside
012056	012056H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic site consisting of structural remains and low-density trash scatter including paint cans, food cans, glass fragments, couch springs, wire screen, and architectural material.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (G. Duff)	Outside
012149	012153H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic can scatter consisting of vent-hole cans, hole-in-cap cans, sanitary cans, and cylindrical cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell)	Outside
012150	012154H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse dump consisting of ceramics, glass bottle shards, various cans, and a car fender.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell); 2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside
012151	012155H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse dump consisting of ceramics, glass bottle fragments, and various cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
012339	012217H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic high-density trash scatter consisting of ceramic fragments, glass bottle fragments, and various cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (S. Norris)	Outside
012340	012218H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse deposit consisting of a ceramic plate, ceramic fragments, and various cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (S. Norris)	Outside
012341	012219H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse deposit consisting of glass bottle fragments, porcelain fragments, various cans, and a brick.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (S. Norris)	Outside
012342	012220H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse deposit consisting of porcelain fragments, clear glass fragments, and various cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (S. Norris)	Outside
012343	012221H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic low-density trash scatter consisting of a horseshoe, kerosene lamp burner, bullet cartridge, glass fragments, porcelain lids, and various cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (K. Becker)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
012344	012222H	Built Environment: Road	Historic road 6 to 8 feet wide and heavily disturbed due to recreational use of off-road vehicles.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (V. Austerman and L. Lee)	Outside
012345	012223H	Built Environment: Road	Historic unpaved dirt road.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (V. Austerman and L. Lee)	**Intersects Building 1 Maximum Disturbance Footprint**
012346	012224H	Built Environment: Road	Historic unpaved north to south running dirt road.	7R: Not evaluated	2005 (V. Austerman and L. Lee)	**Intersects Building 2**
012347	—	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Prehistoric isolate described as a tested quartzite cobble with 3 flake scars.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (K. Becker, T. Diaz, and M. Knypstra)	Outside
013356	012556H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse dump of 6 fragments of sun-altered manganese glass, 13 ceramic shards, and various metal cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside
013374	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate comprised of 3 pieces of sun-altered manganese glass, appearing to be from the same bottle.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
013375	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate comprised of 4 pieces of sun-altered manganese glass, appearing to be from the same bottle.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2007 (D. Ballester)	Outside
013439	—	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Prehistoric isolate described as a broken quartz cobble with one broken end and one battered end.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2006 (J. McKenna)	Outside
020263	—	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Prehistoric isolate described as a tested obsidian nodule with two or three flake scars.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2004 (Cerreto and Cunningham)	Outside
020473	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as a glass bottle with inverted base.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (G. Duff)	Outside
020556	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as an aqua glass shard.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell)	Outside
020557	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as two hole-in-cap meat cans.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell)	Outside
020558	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as a hole-in-cap can.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (K. Pollock, P. Stanton, L. Lee, and K. Sewell)	Outside
021351	015913H	Built Environment: Water Conveyance	Historic East Branch of the California Aqueduct	2S2: Individual property determined eligible for NRHP; listed in CRHR	2008 (Hollins); 2009 (Anderson); 2011 (Kremkau); 2011 (Ambacher); 2011 (Anderson); 2012 (M. O'Neill); 2018 (L. George)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
021365	013724H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic low-density trash scatter consisting of church-key cans, sanitary can, saw-cut bone, and assorted modern debris.	7R: Not evaluated	2009 (M. Bray)	Outside
021366	013725H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse scatter consisting of bone, cardboard, piping, ceramic fragments, glass fragments, various cans, and metal fragments.	7R: Not evaluated	2009 (M. Bray)	Outside
021372	013731H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse dump consisting of various cans and one faunal bone.	7R: Not evaluated	2009 (M. Bray)	Outside
026211	016620H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse scatter consisting of ceramic fragments, metal artifacts, red brick, and amethyst glass fragments.	7R: Not evaluated	2013 (D. Ballester)	Outside
026212	016621H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic refuse scatter consisting of hole-in-cap cans, lard buckets, and beef cans.	7R: Not evaluated	2013 (D. Ballester)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
026213	016622H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic trash dump consisting of various cans, bottle caps, glass bottle fragments, and assorted domestic items.	7R: Not evaluated	2013 (D. Ballester)	Outside
033084	033084H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic low-density trash scatter consisting of food cans, milk cans, and a steel oil can.	7R: Not evaluated	2018 (R. Goodwin and A. Garcia)	Outside
033085	033085H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic low-density trash scatter consisting of clear glass bottle, aqua glass fragments, brown glass fragments, various cans, and part of a ceramic bowl.	7R: Not evaluated	2018 (R. Goodwin, M. Jenkins, and A. Garcia)	Outside
033086	033086H	Archaeological site: Historic-period	Historic low-density trash scatter consisting of various cans and assorted colored glass fragments.	7R: Not evaluated	2018 (R. Goodwin, M. Jenkins, and A. Garcia)	Outside
033090	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as three amethyst glass fragments and one sardine can.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2018 (R. Goodwin, M. Jenkins, and A. Garcia)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within a 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
033091	—	Archaeological isolate: Historic-period	Historic isolate described as a condensed milk can and steel church-key beverage can.	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2018 (R. Goodwin, M. Jenkins, and A. Garcia)	Outside

3.2 Geotechnical Report Review

Southern California Geotechnical, Inc. (SoCalGeo) conducted two geotechnical studies for the Project site. The initial study, *Geotechnical Investigation, Proposed Warehouse Building, NEC Poplar Street and Highway 395, Hesperia, California* (SoCalGeo 2020), documents the geotechnical conditions at Building Site 2; while report, *Geotechnical Investigation, Proposed I-15 Industrial Park, NEC Mesa Linda Street and Poplar Street, Hesperia, California* (SoCalGeo 2021) documents the geotechnical conditions at Building 1 site.

The 2020 investigation at Building 2 details the results of eight (8) subsurface exploratory borings by a hollow-stem auger drill rig. These subsurface exploratory investigations were placed at accessible locations throughout the Project site to a maximum depth of 15 to 25 feet below the existing ground surface to determine subsurface conditions. All of the borings encountered native alluvium extending from the surface to the maximum depth of each boring. The soil characteristics typically consisted of 0 to 12.5+ feet of medium dense to very dense silty fine to medium sands and fine to medium sands, with varying coarse sand and gravel content and 10+ feet of medium dense to dense silty fine to medium sands, silty fine sands to fine sandy silts, with varying amount of gravel (SoCalGeo 2020).

The 2021 investigation at Building 1 details the results of sixteen (16) subsurface exploratory borings by a hollow-stem auger drill rig. These subsurface exploratory investigations were placed at accessible locations throughout the Project site to a maximum depth of 10 to 30 feet below the existing ground surface to determine subsurface conditions. All of the borings encountered native alluvium, both younger and older, extending from the surface to the maximum depth of each boring. Younger native alluvium was encountered at 14 of the boring locations and extended to depths of 3 to 5.5+ feet. Borings B-3 and B-4, located within the northwestern quadrant of the Building 1 site, encountered older native alluvial soils at surface elevations, again extending to depths of 3 to 5.5+ feet. A single boring, B-8, encountered a very stiff clay layer at a depth between 22 and 25+ feet. Boring B-8 is located along the eastern border of Building 1 site. The alluvial soil characteristics typically consisted of loose of very dense silty fine to coarse sands and fine to medium sands, medium dense fine to coarse sands, and medium dense to dense silty fine sands. The younger alluvial soils were found at 3 to 5.5 feet. The older alluvial soils typically consisted of medium dense to very dense well-graded sands and silty sands with varying quantities of fine to coarse gravel, traces of clay, and occasional cobbles (SoCalGeo 2021).

Results of the geotechnical reports indicate that should cultural deposits exist within the Project site, they may be encountered within the native younger and older alluvial soils that extend from surface elevation to a maximum depth of 20+ feet bgs. Cultural deposits typically exist within A soil horizon (top soil) and B soil horizon (subsoil) that in locals not exposed to recent alluvial deposits usually extend to an approximate depth of 6 feet bgs. However, in areas where environmental conditions include alluvial activity, the depth where cultural material can be found has the potential of being considerably deeper.

3.3 Review of Historical Topographic Maps and Aerial Photographs

Dudek consulted historical topographic maps and aerial photographs to understand the development of the Project site and surrounding area. Dudek reviewed topographic maps from 1902 to 2018 and aerial photographs from 1938 to 2016 as part of the archival research effort.

3.3.1 Topographic Maps

USGS topographic maps for the Project site are available for the following years: 1902, 1906, 1912, 1923, 1936, 1942, 1945, 1957, 1963, 1969, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1999, 2012, 2015, and 2018 (NETR 2021a). The first USGS topographic map showing the Project site is 1902 and shows the Project site as undeveloped with US 395, I-15, and Phelan Road in the surrounding areas. The following topographic maps show no significant changes to the Project site or surrounding area until 1957. The 1957 topographic map shows a structure along the eastern edge near the southeast corner of the Project site. The topographic map from 1963 shows no significant changes to the Project site or surrounding areas. The 1969 topographic map depicts an unpaved road running northeast from the structure in the southeast corner of Project site. Since the structure appears to be very close to the Project's boundary, and the road is leading away from the site, it is probable that only a minimal amount of this road falls within the Project site. The following topographic maps show no significant changes to the Project site until 1988. The 1988 topographic map no longer shows the structure originally identified in 1957. The 1999 topographic map shows no significant changes to the Project site or surrounding areas. The topographic map from 2012 depicts Mesa Linda Road, serving as the Project site's western boundary. The 2015 topographic map shows Cataba Road, serving as the Project site's eastern boundary. The most recent topographic map from 2018 does not illustrate any significant changes.

3.3.2 Aerial Photographs

Historical aerial photographs of the Project site are available for the following years: 1938, 1952, 1968, 1994, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016 (NETR 2021b). Only the southern half of the Project site is visible on the 1938 aerial photograph. This portion of the Project site is undeveloped and bound to the south by US 395 and I-15. The 1952 aerial photograph shows the entirety of the Project site as undeveloped. Phelan Road is visible to the north of the Project site. The 1968 aerial photograph shows I-15 as a two-lane paved highway. The aerial photograph from 1994 shows the Project site bound to the west by Mesa Linda Road and to the east by Cataba Road. There is also a dirt path running east to west intersecting the Project site where Cataba Road meets I-15. The remainder of the aerial photographs show no significant changes to the Project site. Overall, the aerial photographs show that the Project site has remained vacant and undeveloped since at least 1938 while the surrounding area steadily increased in development.

3.4 Native American Coordination

3.4.1 NAHC Sacred Lands File Search

Dudek requested a search of the SLF on December 15, 2020, to determine the presence of any Native American cultural resources within the Project site. The NAHC maintains and reviews the SLF. Andrew Green, Cultural Resources Analyst, provided the SLF search results on January 4, 2021. The NAHC SLF records search results were negative for known Native American heritage resources within the Project site. The NAHC identified ten (10) Native American individuals who would potentially have specific knowledge as to whether or not other cultural resources are identified within the Project site that could be at-risk. To date, Dudek has not initiated contact with the individuals on the NAHC's contact list in regard to the Project site. However, in compliance with AB 52 and SB 18, the City has contacted all NAHC-listed traditionally geographically affiliated tribal representatives that have requested project notification. AB 52 consultation efforts conducted by the City are discussed in the following sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.3. Documentation of the NAHC SLF search results is provided in Appendix B.

Note: Sacred Land Files maintained by the NAHC represent a curation of "sacred lands" or TCRs provided by Tribal entities and Native American representatives. For various reasons, Tribal entities and Native American representatives do no not always report sacred lands or TCRs to the NAHC. As such, the NAHC's SLF is not a comprehensive list, and searches of the SLF must be considered in concert with other research and not used as a sole source of information regarding the presence of TCRs or cultural resources.

3.4.2 Assembly Bill 52 Consultation

The Project is subject to compliance with AB 52 (PRC 21074) which requires consideration of impacts to TCRs as part of the CEQA process and requires the lead agency to notify any tribal groups (who have requested notification) of the proposed Project. Pursuant to AB 52, the City sent Project notification letters on June 25, 2021 to tribal representatives of the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians inviting each tribe to engage in tribal consultation, if desired. Because AB 52 is a government-to-government process including consultation regarding sensitive information, all records of correspondence related to AB 52 notification and any subsequent consultation are on file with the City.

3.4.3 Senate Bill 18 Consultation

The Project is subject to compliance with SB 18 (Government Code Section 65352.3), which requires local governments to invite California Native American Tribal representatives to participate in consultation about proposed General Plan and Specific Plan adoptions or amendments. The City is considering an amendment to the General Plan and Specific Plan for the parcels within the Project site and as such, initiated SB 18 consultation. All NAHC-listed California Native American Tribal representatives were sent notification letters via mail by the City on June 25, 2021. The letters contained a project description, request for consultation, and contact information for the appropriate lead agency representative. Documents related to SB 18 correspondence are on file with the City.

3.5 Cultural Resources Pedestrian Survey

3.5.1 Field Methods

Dudek Lead Archaeologist, Linda Kry, and Dudek cross-trained Associate Paleontologist, Kira Archipov, conducted a pedestrian survey of the Project site on May 5, 2021 through May 7, 2021 using standard archaeological procedures and techniques. The intensive-level survey methods consisted of a pedestrian survey conducted in parallel transects, spaced no more than 15 meters apart (approximately 49 feet), traversing east to west. The ground surface was inspected for prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, groundstone tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, features indicative of structures and/or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, post holes, foundations), and historical artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics, building materials). In reference to metal cans, these resources were only considered if they were observed to be within discrete deposits or determined to be from a primary depositional location. Ground disturbances such as burrows, cut banks, trails and drainages were also visually inspected for exposed subsurface materials. Additionally, the locations of the four (4) previously recorded overlapping resources, P-36-004179, P-36-010288, P-36-012345, and P-36-012346, were revisited in order to document the current site conditions. Site updates were recorded on Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms and included within Confidential Appendix C. No artifacts were collected during the survey.

All fieldwork was documented using field notes and an Apple Generation 7 iPad (iPad) equipped with ESRI Collector and Avenza PDF Maps software with close-scale georeferenced field maps of the proposed Project site, and aerial photographs. Location-specific photographs were taken using the iPad's 12-mega-pixel resolution camera. Cultural resources identified during this inventory within the Project site were to be recorded on DPR forms, using the Instructions for Recording Historical Resources (Office of Historic Preservation 1995). All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at Dudek's Pasadena, California office. All field practices met the Secretary of Interior's standards and guidelines for a cultural resources inventory.

3.5.2 Results

The Project site is composed of two open fields with various unimproved dirt roads, low-lying dried vegetation, and the occasional taller tree. The intensive-level pedestrian survey provided 100% coverage of the Project site. Ground surface visibility ranged from good to excellent (70-100%) throughout the Project site. In areas of moderate ground coverage, surface scrapes were occasionally implemented, when necessary, to enhance detection of archaeological materials that may have been obscured on the surface (see Figure 3, Building Site 2).

There is evidence of disturbance throughout the Project site. Modern debris was noted throughout the Project site and includes large items such as furniture, electronics, vehicle parts, tires, and clothing. The amount of modern refuse encountered during the survey suggests that the Project site is used for illegal dumping. Portions of the Project site, especially adjacent to Poplar Street, Mesa Linda Street, and Cataba Road, have been subject to previous grading. Numerous informal dirt roads caused by off-road vehicle use traverse the Project site. Underground infrastructure present along Sultana Street, Mesa Linda Road, and the unimproved dirt road paralleling the I-15 consist of fire hydrants, buried water pipelines, and a sewer line with manholes. This infrastructure is associated with deep levels of disturbance during trenching and installation. No new cultural resources were identified within the Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey.

Dudek revisited the location of the four previously recorded cultural resources within the Project site that were identified during the CHRIS records search. The following paragraphs provide a summary of findings.

P-36-004179 [CA-SBR-04179H]

As mapped, a portion of resource P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, a historic period dirt road informally called "Toll Road-Lanes Crossing", intersects the southeast corner of the Building 2 site. The approximate 930 feet (283 meters) road segment was not relocated during the pedestrian survey. According to the DPR prepared for P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, multiple sources found no evidence of the road within their respective study areas. The mapped location of P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H within the current Project site was found to be overgrown with vegetation, and no evidence of the historic-period road remained. This suggests that either the unpaved road was ephemeral and succumbed to environmental conditions that erased any evidence of the road, or that the resource was mapped incorrectly in the original recording. Dudek documented this finding on a DPR 523 Update Form, which will be submitted to the SCCIC. See Confidential Appendix C, DPR Forms, for the P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H update. No further cultural resources considerations are required for this resource.

P-36-010288 [CA-SBR-010288H]

As mapped, resource P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H subsumes the eastern half of the Project site (i.e., the Building 2 site and Maximum Disturbance Footprint for Building 2). According to the DPR form prepared for P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H, the mapped boundary of the resource consists of the entire 160- acre homestead of John E. Dufton, though only a small portion of the total property boundary has been previously surveyed. The previously surveyed areas are outside of the current Project site, and therefore, any artifacts or features identified within areas outside of the current Project site were not revisited.

The current Project surveyed an additional approximate 36 acres of the John E. Dufton homestead that were not previously surveyed. No artifacts, features, or structural remnants of the homestead were identified within the Project site. While traversing ground between the Building 1 and Building 2 sites that is not included as part of the current Project, surveyors relocated a can scatter originally recorded by McKenna (2015). The feature was photographed and noted in this report, though no further action is warranted considering that the feature is located outside of the current Project site. Additionally, McKenna (2005) determined that the resource was not a significant resource as defined by CEQA and not eligible for listing on the CRHR, and therefore, no further cultural resources considerations are required for this feature during this Project or any future Projects.

P-36-012345 [CA-SBR-012223H]

As mapped, resource P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, a historic period dirt road, intersects the Project site within the Maximum Disturbance Footprint of the Building Site 1. The mapped location presented in the DPR form prepared for P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H depicts the road intersecting the Project site for a short distance (100 feet/30 meters) before terminating its northern extent within the Project site. Austerman and Lee originally recorded the resource in 2005 at which time they reported that the road was in good condition and likely still in use. The present survey was unable to relocate the northern terminus of the road within the Project site. The mapped location of the resource was found to be within the currently paved Mesa Linda Street and adjacent to a new retail development. As such, at least this small segment of the road within the Project site is considered destroyed. Dudek documented this finding on a DPR 523 Update form, which will be submitted to the SCCIC. See Confidential Appendix C, DPR Forms, for the P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H update. No further cultural resources considerations are required for this resource.

P-36-012346 [CA-SBR-012224H]

As mapped, resource P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H, a historic period dirt road, intersects the Project site within Building Site 2. The mapped location presented in the DPR form prepared for P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H depicts the road intersecting the Project site for a short distance (approximately 60 feet/18 meters) before terminating its southern extent within the Project site. Austerman and Lee originally recorded the resource in 2005 from what appears to be historic maps. It is unclear if they visited the resource to confirm their findings. The present survey was unable to relocate the southern terminus of the road within the Project site. The mapped location of the resource was revisited and found to be overgrown with vegetation, and no evidence of the road remained. As with resource previously recorded historic-period road P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H discussed above, the lack of surficial evidence of the road within the Project site suggests that either the dirt road was ephemeral and succumbed to environmental conditions that erased any evidence of the road, or that the resource was mapped incorrectly in the original recording. Dudek documented this finding on a DPR 523 Update Form, which will be submitted to the SCCIC. See Confidential Appendix C, DPR Forms, for the P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H, update. No further cultural resources considerations are required for this resource.

Figure 3. At southwest corner of Building Site 2, showing off-road vehicle tracks and general survey conditions, view looking northeast (IMG 1141)

Figure 4. At southeast corner of the Building 1 site, showing general survey conditions, view looking north (IMG 1159)

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4 Findings and Conclusions

The specific goals of this report are as follows: to better understand the potential for cultural resources to exist within the Project site through extensive background research and an intensive pedestrian survey; and to consider the potential for yet unidentified archaeological resources to be impacted by Project ground disturbances. The summary of findings for this report and a cultural resources sensitivity analysis are provided below.

4.1 Summary of Findings

The I-15 Industrial Park Project includes the construction of two industrial/warehouse buildings and associated off-site improvements on a 97.64-acre vacant lot in the western portion of the City of Hesperia. The maximum depth of disturbance will reach approximately 26 feet below the existing ground surface in portions of the Project site. The Project would involve a General Plan Amendment and Specific Plan Amendment. Current site conditions within the Project site consist of native desert terrain with surficial disturbances including illegal dumping, off-road vehicle tracts, and localized graded areas for informal parking. Subsurface disturbances occur within portions of the Maximum Disturbance Footprint for the Building 1 and 2 sites and consist of buried utilities. Based on the geotechnical study prepared for the Project (SoCalGeo 2020, 2021), both native younger and older alluvium was identified throughout the Project site from surface elevation to a maximum depth of 20+ feet bgs. Younger and older alluvium does have the potential to contain cultural material.

The CHRIS records search identified four (4) previously recorded cultural resources that either overlap or intersect the Project site. These resources consist of three historic-period dirt roads (P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H, P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H, and P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H) and one late nineteenth century homestead property (P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H). The cultural resources pedestrian survey re-visited the mapped locations of the previously recorded resources and provided updates of the current site conditions. There was no evidence of two of the historic-period roads (P-36-004179/CA-SBR-004179H and P-36-012346/CA-SBR-012224H), as such, these resource segments overlapping the Project site are considered to be destroyed and nonexistent either as the result of natural or human activities. Similarly, the segment of historic-period road P-36-012345/CA-SBR-012223H that intersects the Project site has been destroyed by the paving of Mesa Linda Street and the adjacent commercial development. Regarding homestead site P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H, the eastern portion of the Project is within the mapped boundary of the homestead property, though no cultural material related to the homestead was identified within the Project site during the survey and there is no evidence that cultural material existed within the areas of the resources that overlap the Project site. In summary, the pedestrian survey provided 100% coverage of the Project site, and no newly identified cultural resources were identified within the Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey. The three previously recorded historic-period roads within the Project site are no longer extant, and therefore will not be impacted by Project construction. Additionally, site P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H was previously evaluated and determined ineligible for listing on the CRHR and those portions of the Project site that exist within the archaeological site have no evidence of containing cultural materials. Therefore, the current Project is not anticipated to have an impact on P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H.

No historic-period archaeological resources or resources of Native American origin were identified within the Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey or previous surveys addressing portions of the Project site. The previously recorded prehistoric resources identified during the CHRIS records search are generally distributed to the west of the Project site along the banks of the Oro Grande Wash with the closest resource (consisting of an isolate) existing approximately 170 meters (560 feet) south of the Maximum Disturbance Footprint for the Building 2 site. Such distribution adjacent to a wash suggests that the resources may have been caried from their primary deposition

during storm events, and that their current recorded locations may not accurately reflect the sensitivity of the surrounding area to contain prehistoric resources.

Results of the NAHC SLF were negative for the presence of Native American heritage resources within the Project site. A review of historical topographic maps and aerial photographs indicate that the Project site has remained vacant and undeveloped since at least 1902 with minimal disturbances caused by off-site vehicle use, illegal dumping, and discrete grading along the perimeter.

4.2 Sensitivity Analysis

The cultural resources study revealed that the potential for unrecorded archaeological resources to exist within the Project site is considered low based on the following factors: 1) the CHRIS records search identified four previously recorded historic-period archaeological resources within the Project site, none of which will be impacted by implementation of the Project; 2) the pedestrian survey provided 100% coverage of the Project site, and no cultural resources were identified as a result of the survey; 3) though a portion of the Project site is included within a historic-period homestead property (P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H), a review of historic topographic maps and aerial photographs indicate that the specific area within the archaeological site where the Project is proposed was never occupied and has remained vacant and relatively undisturbed since at least 1902; 4) the homestead site (P-36-010288/CA-SBR-010288H) was previously evaluated and determined ineligible for listing on the CRHR, and therefore, future construction would not cause a significant impact to this resource; 4) though four previously recorded prehistoric cultural resources (i.e., a low-density lithic scatter and three isolated cores) have been identified within 1-mile of the Project site, these resources were located near to the flood zone of the Oro Grande Wash, suggesting that these resources may have been transported to the respective locations from their primary deposition and that their presence may not accurately represent the prehistoric sensitivity of the immediate vicinity; and 5) the NAHC SLF search results were negative for the presence of “sacred lands” or submitted TCRs within the Project site, though it must be mentioned that the SLF results should not be considered a comprehensive finding of all Native American resources within the Project site.

Given these factors, the Project site is considered low sensitivity for the presence of prehistoric or historic cultural resources. Although the overall potential for archaeological resources to exist within the Project site is considered low, it is still possible that unknown intact archaeological resources could be encountered subsurface during ground disturbing activities within native soils. Specifically, and in consideration of the findings of the geotechnical reports prepared for the Project (SoCalGeo 2020, 2021), the potential remains for intact archaeological deposits to be encountered within native younger and older alluvium identified within the Project site from surface elevation to a maximum depth of 20+ feet bgs. Therefore, Dudek recommends the following management recommendations.

5 Management Recommendations

Dudek recommends the following measures to ensure proper treatment of any unknown cultural resources that may be encountered as a result of Project construction. These measures would ensure the proper treatment of any cultural resources and human remains encountered during ground disturbing activities. With the proper implementation of the prescribed measures, the potential impact to cultural resources is considered to be less then significant.

Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) Training. All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists should be briefed regarding unanticipated discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. A basic presentation should be prepared and presented by a qualified archaeologist to inform all personnel working on the Project about the archaeological sensitivity of the area. The purpose of the WEAP training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the Project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker should also learn the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the on-call archaeologist and if appropriate, Tribal representative. Necessity of training attendance should be stated on all construction plans.

On-Call Archaeological Construction Monitoring. In consideration of the general sensitivity of the proposed Project site for cultural resources, a qualified archaeologist should be retained to conduct spot monitoring as well as on call response in the case of an inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources. A qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, should oversee and adjust monitoring efforts as needed (increase, decrease, or discontinue monitoring frequency) based on the observed potential for construction activities to encounter cultural deposits. The archaeologist should be responsible for maintaining monitoring logs. Following the completion of construction, the qualified archaeologist should provide an archaeological monitoring report to the lead agency and the SCCIC with the results of the cultural monitoring program.

Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources. In the event that archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the Project, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find should immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find under the California Environmental Quality Act (14 CCR 15064.5(f); California PRC Section 21082), the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work, such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery, may be warranted. If the discovery is Native American in nature, consultation with and/or monitoring by a Tribal representative may be necessary.

Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains. In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County Coroner shall be notified within 24 hours of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County Coroner has determined, within two working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the MLD from the deceased Native American. The MLD shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

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Appendix A

Confidential SCCIC Records Search Results

Appendix B
NAHC SLF Search Results

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

January 4, 2021

Jennifer De Alba
Dudek

Via Email to: jdealba@dudek.com

Re: 13087 I-15 Industrial Park Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Ms. De Alba:

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.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Appendix C
Confidential DPR Forms