**HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT**

# TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP NO. 38049

**Assessor Parcel Nos. 507-380-019 and -020**
**City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California**

**For Submittal to:**

City of Palm Springs
Department of Development Services, Planning Division
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

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September 21, 2021
CRM TECH Contract No. 3733

**Title:** Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Tentative Parcel Map No. 38049, Assessor Parcel Nos. 507-380-019 and -020, City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California

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**USGS Quadrangle:** Palm Springs, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle; Section 12, T4S R4E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian

**Project Size:** Approximately 2.53 acres

**Keywords:** Coachella Valley, Colorado Desert region; Phase I cultural resources survey; Site CRM TECH 3733-1H (temporary designation, pending assignment of official site number in the California Historical Resources Inventory): concrete slab foundations associated with WWII-era Palm Springs Army Airfield; *No Impact* on "historical resources" under CEQA

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Between April and September 2021, at the request of the Altum Group, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on approximately 2.53 acres of vacant urban land in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California. The subject property of the study, Tentative Parcel Map No. 38049, comprises two existing parcels, namely Assessor's Parcel Nos. 507-380-019 and -020. It is located at 2700 E. Alejo Road, on the northeast corner of the intersection with Juanita Drive, in the southeast quarter of Section 12, T4S R4E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian.

The study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed subdivision of the property for commercial development. The City of Palm Springs, as the lead agency for the project, required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of this study is to provide the City with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the project would cause a substantial adverse change to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in the project area.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. As a result of these research procedures, two concrete pads on the property were recorded as an archaeological site and temporarily designated Site CRM TECH 3733-1H, pending assignment of an official site number once the California Historical Resources Information System resumes normal operation.

Historical background research indicates that the concrete pads are foundations left by demolished barrack buildings that were once part of the World War II-era Palm Springs Army Airfield, which operated from what is now the Palm Springs International Airport between 1939 and 1946. Despite their direct association with this colorful and well-known episode in local history, the foundations survive out of context today and no longer retain sufficient historic integrity to relate to the period of potential significance. While the features are certainly of some level of local historical interest, their recordation into the California Historical Resources Inventory largely exhausted the data potential of the site. Based on these considerations, the current study concludes that Site CRM TECH 3733-1H does not appear to meet the definition of a "historical resource" under CEQA provisions.

No other potential "historical resources" were encountered during the study, nor did Native American input identify any resources of traditional cultural value in the vicinity. Therefore, CRM TECH recommends to the City of Palm Springs a determination of *No Impact* regarding "historical resources." No further cultural resources investigation is recommended unless development plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are discovered during earth-moving operations associated with the proposed project, all work within 50 feet of the discovery should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

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## INTRODUCTION

Between April and September 2021, at the request of the Altum Group, CRM TECH performed a cultural resources study on approximately 2.53 acres of vacant urban land in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California (Fig. 1). The subject property of the study, Tentative Parcel Map No. 38049, comprises two existing parcels, namely Assessor's Parcel Nos. 507-380-019 and -020. It is located at 2700 E. Alejo Road, on the northeast corner of the intersection with Juanita Drive, in the southeast quarter of Section 12, T4S R4E, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (Figs. 2, 3).

The study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed subdivision of the property for commercial development. The City of Palm Springs, as the lead agency for the project, required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; PRC §21000, et seq.). The purpose of this study is to provide the City with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the project would cause a substantial adverse change to any "historical resources," as defined by CEQA, that may exist in the project area.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a historical/archaeological resources records search, pursued historical background research, contacted Native American representatives, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. The following report is a complete account of the methods, results, and final conclusion of the study. Personnel who participated in the study are named in the appropriate sections below, and their qualifications are provided in Appendix 1.

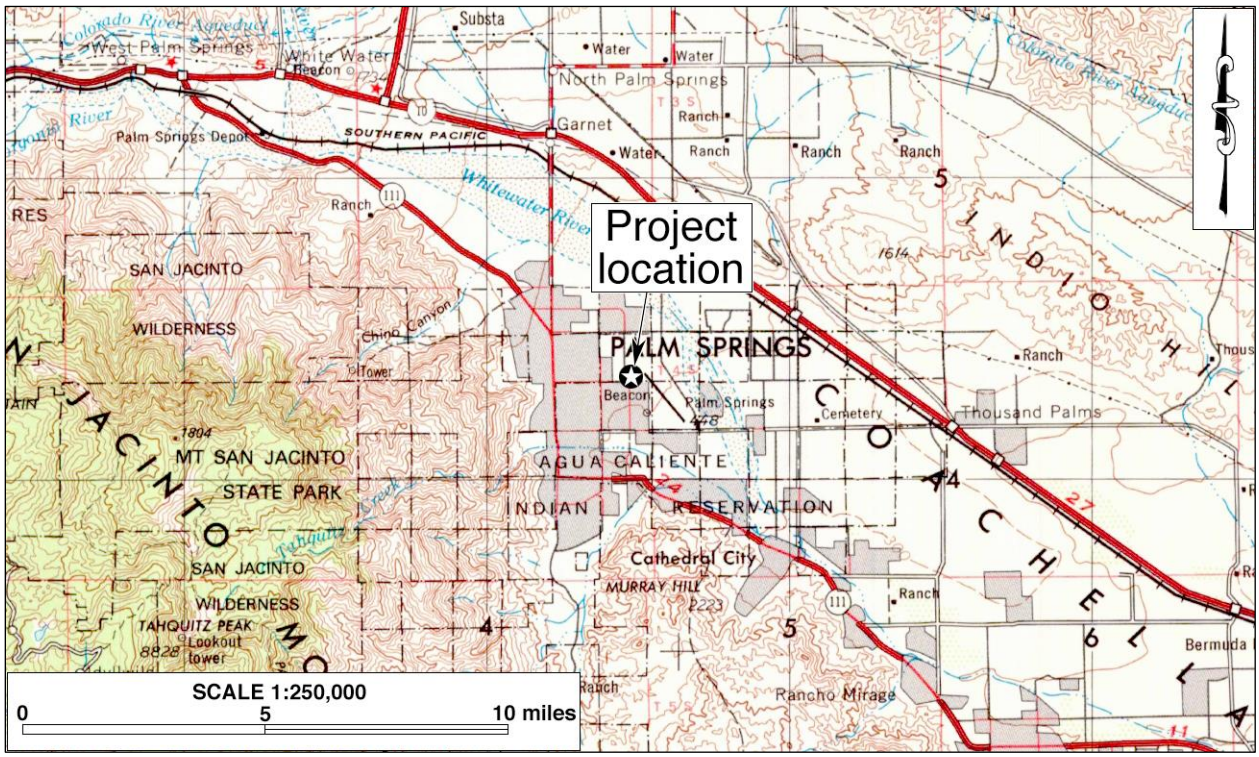


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on USGS Santa Ana, Calif., 120'x60' quadrangles [USGS 1979])

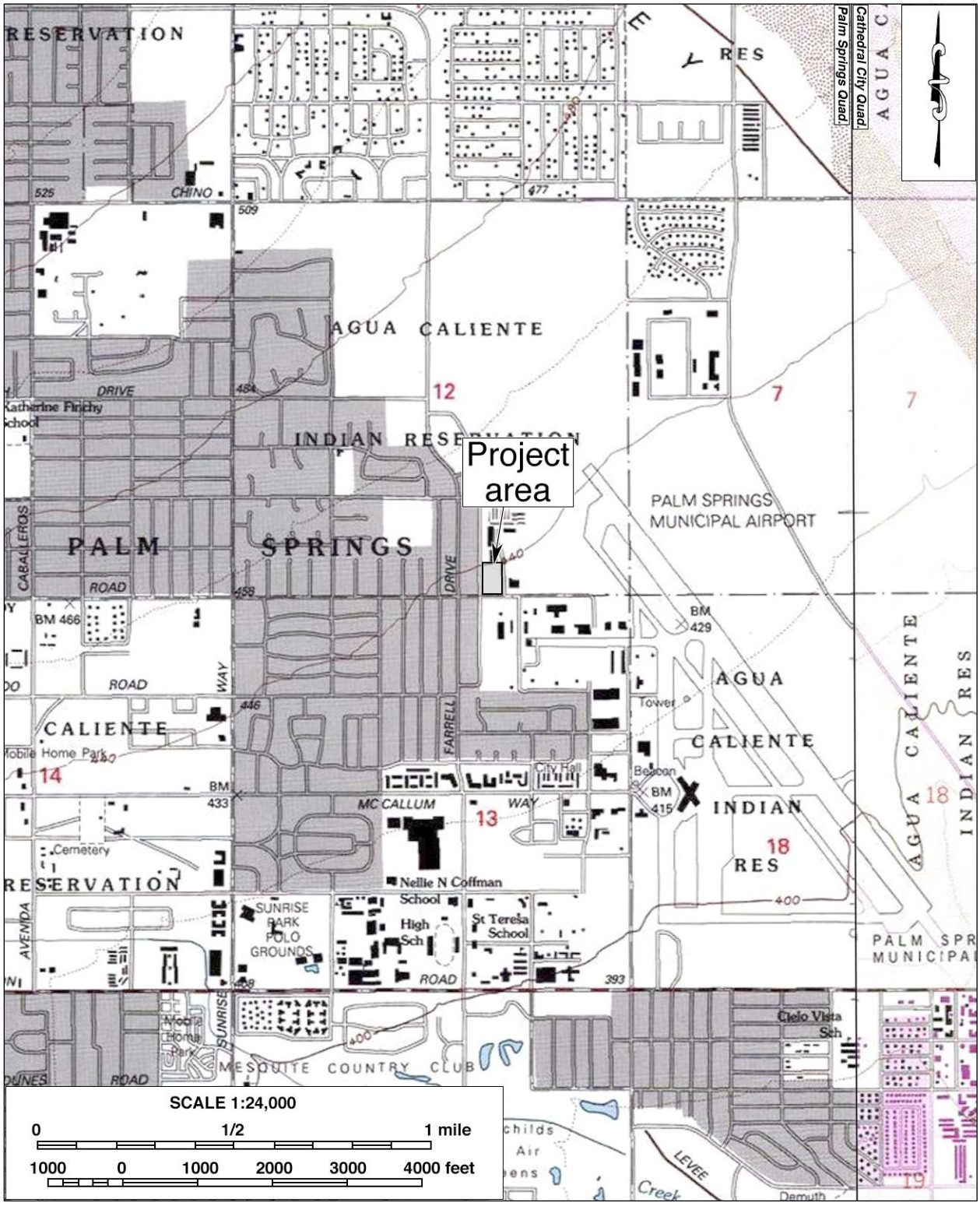


Figure 2. Project location. (Based on USGS Cathedral City and Palm Springs, Calif., 7.5' quadrangles [USGS 1981; 1996])


Figure 3. Aerial image of the project area.

## SETTING

### NATURAL SETTING

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

The rectangular-shaped project area is located approximately 1.5 miles northeast of downtown Palm Springs, in an area that is characterized by densely populated suburban residential neighborhoods to the west and, to the east, large industrial/commercial properties near the Palm Springs International Airport. The parcel is bounded on the south by Alejo Road, on the west by Juanita Drive with a residential neighborhood on the opposite side, on the north by St. Cecilia's Catholic Community, and on the east by Commercial Road with a vacant commercial building on the opposite side (Fig. 3). The airport lies approximately 1,500 feet further to the east.

The ground surface in the project area has been extensively disturbed in the past, particularly by past construction activities that are now represented by two concrete slab foundations on the property. A short but continuous stretch of disintegrating asphalt pavement extends east-west along the southern edge of the property. The terrain in the vicinity is generally level, at elevations of 440-450 feet above mean sea level, and features a slightly undulating surface of fine- to medium-grained dune sand, light gray in color and mixed with small angular granitic rocks. The vegetation observed within the project boundaries includes cacti, creosote bushes, and dried brittlebush (Fig. 4).

Figure 4. Current natural setting of the project area. (Photograph taken on August 4, 2021; view to the southwest)

## CULTURAL SETTING

### Prehistoric Context

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

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

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

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

### Ethnohistoric Context

The Coachella Valley is a historical center of Native American settlement, where U.S. surveyors noted large numbers of Indian villages and *rancherías*, occupied by the Cahuilla people, in the mid-19th century. The origin of the name "Cahuilla" is unclear, but may originate from their own word *káwiya*, meaning master or boss (Bean 1978). The Takic-speaking Cahuilla are generally divided by anthropologists into three groups, according to their geographic setting: the Pass Cahuilla of the San Gorgonio Pass-Palm Springs area, the Mountain Cahuilla of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains and the Cahuilla Valley, and the Desert Cahuilla of the eastern Coachella Valley. The basic written sources on Cahuilla culture and history include Kroeber (1925), Strong (1929), and

Bean (1978), based on information provided by such Cahuilla informants as Juan Siva, Francisco Patencio, Katherine Siva Saubel, and Mariano Saubel. The following ethnohistoric discussion is based primarily on these sources.

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

Cahuilla subsistence was defined by the surrounding landscape and primarily based on the hunting and gathering of wild and cultivated foods, exploiting nearly all of the resources available in a highly developed seasonal mobility system. They were adapted to the arid conditions of the desert floor, the lacustral cycles of Holocene Lake Cahuilla, and the environments of the nearby mountains. When the lake was full, or nearly full, the Cahuilla would take advantage of the resources presented by the body of fresh water, building elaborate stone fish traps. Once the lake had desiccated, they relied on the available terrestrial resources. The cooler temperatures and resources available at higher elevations in the nearby mountains were also taken advantage of.

The Cahuilla diet included seeds, roots, wild fruits and berries, acorns, wild onions, piñon nuts, and mesquite and screw beans. Medicinal plants such as creosote, California sagebrush, yerba buena and elderberry were typically cultivated near villages (Bean and Saubel 1972). Common game animals included deer, antelope, big horn sheep, rabbits, wood rats and, when Holocene Lake Cahuilla was present, fish and waterfowl. The Cahuilla hunted with throwing sticks, clubs, nets, traps, and snares, as well as bows and arrow (Bean 1978; CSRI 2002). Common tools included manos and metates, mortars and pestles, hammerstones, fire drills, awls, arrow-straighteners, and stone knives and scrapers. These lithic tools were made from locally sourced material as well as materials procured through trade or travel. They also used wood, horn, and bone spoons and stirrers; baskets for winnowing, leaching, grinding, transporting, parching, storing, and cooking; and pottery vessels for carrying water, storage, cooking, and serving food and drink (*ibid.*).

As the landscape defined their subsistence practices, the tending and cultivation practices of the Cahuilla helped shape the landscape. Biological studies have recently found evidence that the fan palms found in the Coachella Valley and throughout the southeastern California desert (*Washingtonia filifera*) may not be relics of palms from a paleo-tropical environment, but instead a relatively recent addition brought to the area and cultivated by native populations (Anderson 2005). Cahuilla oral tradition tells of a time before there were palms in the area, and how the people, birds, and animals enjoyed the palm fruit once it had arrived (Bean and Saubel 1972).

The planting of palms by the Cahuilla is well-documented, as is their enhancement of palm stands through the practice of controlled burning (Bean and Saubel 1972; Anderson 2005). Burning palm stands would increase fruit yield dramatically by eliminating pests such as the palm borer beetle, date scales, and spider mites (Bean and Saubel 1972). Firing palm stands prevented out-of-control wildfires by eliminating dead undergrowth before it accumulated to dangerous levels. The Cahuilla

also burned stands of chia to produce higher yields, and deergrass to yield straighter, more abundant stalks for basketry (Bean and Saubel 1972; Anderson 2005).

Population data prior to European contact is almost impossible to obtain, but estimates range from 3,600 to as high as 10,000 persons covering a territory of over 2,400 square miles. During the 19th century, the Cahuilla population was decimated as a result of European diseases, most notably smallpox, for which the Native peoples had no immunity. There has been a resurgence of traditional ceremonies in recent years, and the language, songs, and stories are now being taught to the youngest generations. Today, Native Americans of Pass or Desert Cahuilla heritage are mostly affiliated with one or more of the Indian reservations in and around the Coachella Valley, including Agua Caliente, Morongo, Cabazon, Torres Martinez, and Augustine.

**Historic Context**

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

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

The nucleus of the Coachella Valley resort industry is Palm Springs. Founded around a well-known group of hot springs and an ancient Cahuilla village, Palm Springs owes its early growth mainly to the development efforts led by John Guthrie McCallum, who began purchasing land in the area in 1872 (Gunther 1984:374). The townsite was surveyed and subdivided in 1884, initially under the name of "Palm City," but acquired its present name after a resurvey in 1887 (*ibid.*). The Palm Springs subdivision was an instant success despite its location in the heart of the southern California desert, thanks to an eight-mile-long irrigation ditch that McCallum built from the Whitewater River to the townsite.

By 1892, Welwood Murray had leased the Agua Caliente hot springs from the local Native Americans to establish a health resort (*ibid.*:4), forecasting the future of the budding community. In the 1920s-1930s, Palm Springs was "discovered" by the rich and famous of Hollywood and soon became a favored desert spa. In 1938, Palm Springs incorporated as a city, the 11th community to do so in Riverside County. During the next year, as a military readiness measure the U.S. Army Air Corps constructed an airfield at the site of today's Palm Springs International Airport, as discussed in further detail below.

## RESEARCH METHODS

### RECORDS SEARCH

The historical/archaeological resources records search for this study was provided by the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System. Located on the campus of the University of California, Riverside, the EIC is the State of California's official repository of cultural resources records for the County of Riverside. The records search included examination of maps and records on file for previously identified cultural resources and existing cultural resources studies in the project vicinity. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Riverside County Landmarks, as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

### NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

On April 29, 2021, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a records search in the commission's Sacred Lands File. In the meantime, CRM TECH notified the nearby Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the upcoming archaeological field survey and invited tribal participation. Following the NAHC recommendations, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians in the Warner Springs area was also contacted in writing on May 18, 2021, for additional information on potential Native American cultural resources in the project vicinity. Correspondence between CRM TECH and the Native American representatives is summarized in the sections below, and a complete record is attached to this report in Appendix 2.

### HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH historian Terri Jacquemain. Sources consulted during the research included published literature in local and regional history, U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1856, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps dated 1901-1996, and aerial photographs taken between 1953 and 2021. The historical maps are accessible at the websites of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the USGS, and the aerial photographs are available from the online library of the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), at the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) website, and through the Google Earth software.

## FIELD SURVEY

On August 4, 2021, CRM TECH archaeologist Sal Z. Boites carried out the intensive-level field survey of the project area by walking a series of parallel north-south transects spaced 10 meters (approximately 33 feet) apart. In this way, the ground surface in the entire project area was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years or older). Ground visibility was excellent (90%) where vegetation was sparse and fair to good (75%-85%) where denser growth occurred.

As the structural foundations on the property appeared to be historical in age, Boites completed field recordation procedures to facilitate their proper documentation in the California Historical Resources Information system, including detailed descriptions, physical measurements, a scaled sketch map, a location map with UTM coordinates, and photographs. The field data, along with information from the historical background research, were then compiled into appropriate forms for submittal to the EIC for inclusion in the California Historical Resources Inventory (see App. 3).

# RESULTS AND FINDINGS

## RECORDS SEARCH

According to the EIC, the project area had not been surveyed for cultural resources prior to this study, and no historical/archaeological resources had been identified on or adjacent to the property. Within a half-mile radius of the project location, EIC files show that five previous studies were completed between 1978 and 2014, but that no historical/archaeological were recorded within the scope of the records search.

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical sources consulted for this study indicate that the project area evidently remained undeveloped open desert land until the U.S. Army Air Corps constructed a group of barracks buildings along what is now the north side of Alejo Road in support of the World War II-era Palm Springs Army Airfield (Figs. 5-8). The development of aviation facilities in Palm Springs and the city's involvement in wartime military buildup was recently chronicled in a historic context statement commissioned by the city government, as excerpted below:

> The first airfield in Palm Springs was a dirt landing strip next to the Hotel El Mirador, laid out soon after the hotel opened in 1928. It was used by early aviation pioneers, and by Army and Navy cadets from March Airfield and San Diego. Fed up with the noise and dust, Prescott T. Stevens, El Mirador's owner, built a new strip and two hangers further away from the hotel to the northeast. This strip was in use until about 1934 and served the village's first commercial service from Maddux Airlines on its Los Angeles-Tijuana route, stopping in Palm Springs only upon passenger request. In the early 1930s, as air travel increased in popularity, the Chamber of Commerce leased a parcel of Section 14 land from the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and built a third airstrip. It was located just east of downtown, bounded on the north by Alejo Road, on the east by Sunrise Way, on the south by Tahquitz Canyon Way, and on the west by Avenida Caballeros. The new airport had

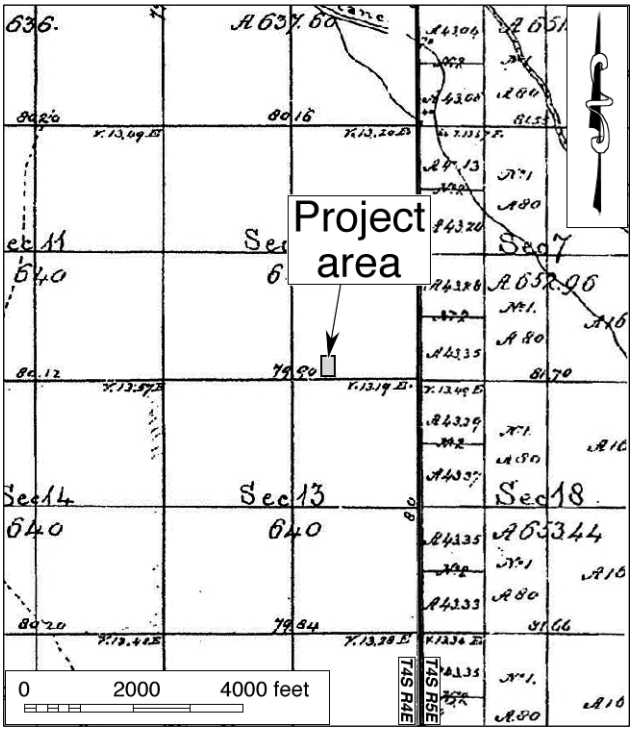


Figure 5. The project area and vicinity in 1855-1856. (Source: GLO 1856a; 1856b)

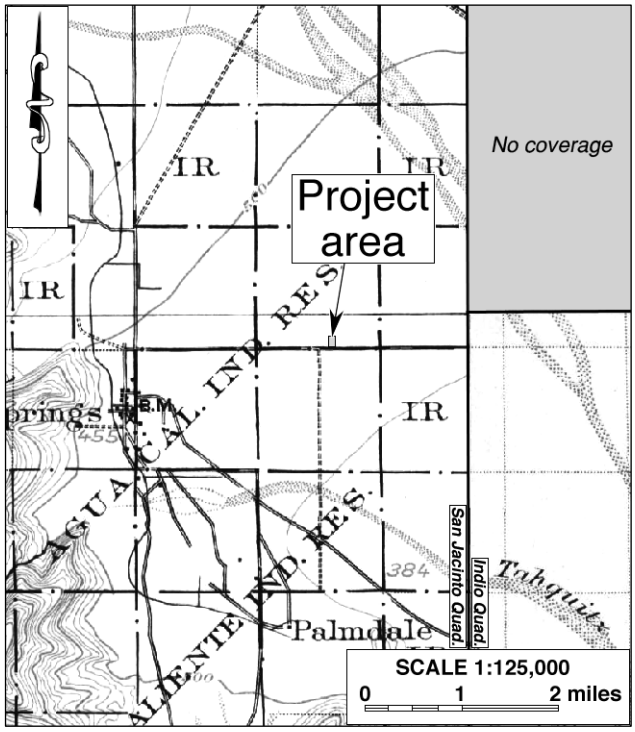


Figure 6. The project area and vicinity in 1897-1901. (Source: USGS 1901; 1904)

two runways and was served by American Airlines, Western Airlines, and the locally owned and operated Palm Springs Airlines, which started out with one four-passenger plane and added a second in 1937. When Palm Springs incorporated in 1938 the airport was officially named the Palm Springs Municipal Airport.

In 1939 the Army Corps of Engineers selected Palm Springs, protected from fog and rain by Mt. San Jacinto, as the location of an Air Corps landing field. The chosen site was east of the village on Cahuilla land, and was leased by the city and subleased to the Federal government. In early 1942, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the airfield was taken over by the Air Transport Command and a new field with an A-frame terminal building and two runways was completed a half mile from the original site. The Palm Springs Air Base's principal mission was the deployment of aircraft from U.S. manufacturing plants to training facilities and overseas combat theaters. To disperse aircraft away from the field in case of enemy attack, circular concrete parking pads or "tie downs" and taxiways were built in the surrounding area. The city constructed a new road to the Air Base, an extension of Tahquitz Canyon Way, to replace the existing dirt roads. Pearl McCallum McManus gave the right-of-way for the road to the city and in exchange, it was named McCallum Way in honor of her father. Within six months a control tower, Command headquarters, barracks, and a base hospital had been constructed, with many of the new buildings lining either side of McCallum Way. (Historic Resources Group 2018:160-161)

After the end of World War II, the Palm Springs Army Airfield was declared excess and earmarked for disposal in 1945-1946 (*Desert Sun* 2014; City of Palm Springs n.d.). Eventually, the City of Palm Springs purchased the main facility and the land it occupied and converted it into the Palm

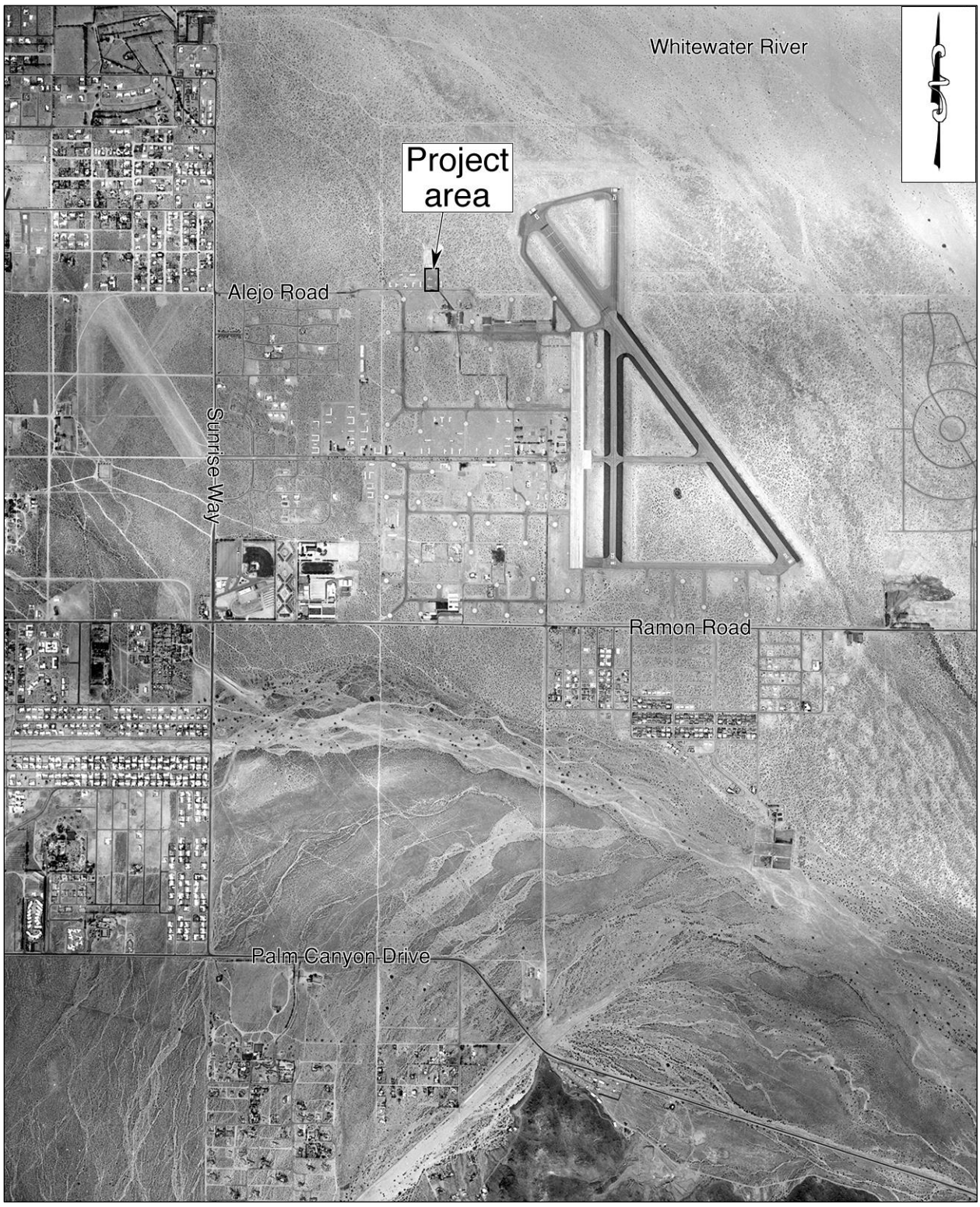


Figure 7. The project area and vicinity in 1953. (Source: UCSB 1953)

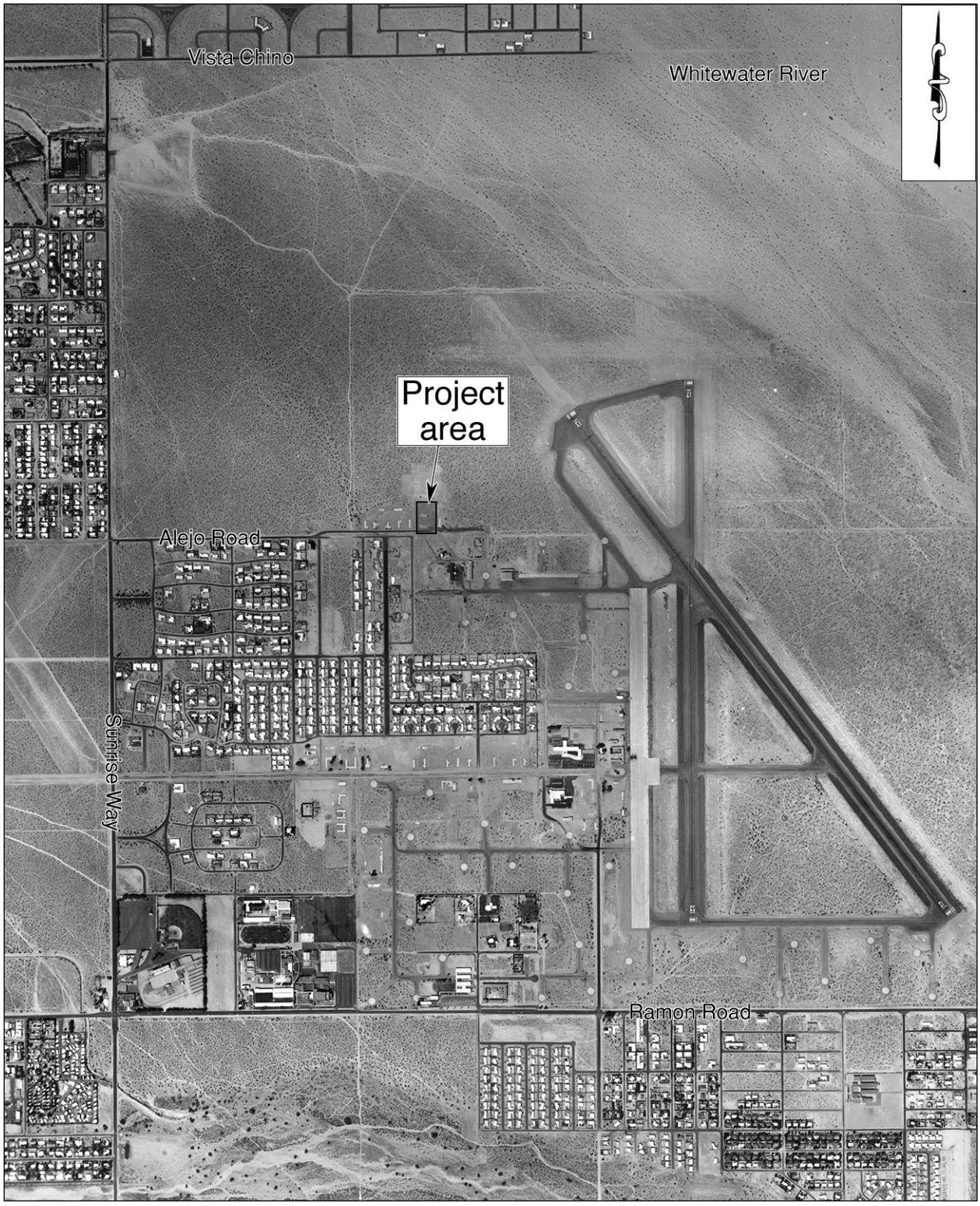


Figure 8. The project area and vicinity in 1959. (Source: UCSB 1959)

Spring International Airport in 1961 (*ibid.*). To the west of the main facility, the area once hosting clusters of barracks and "tie-downs" were gradually redeveloped for residential, commercial, and industrial uses, which was well underway during the 1950s (Fig. 8). However, aerial photographs from the 1950s clearly show a large number of surviving buildings and circular "tie-downs" in the vicinity, including two buildings within the current project area that closely matched the concrete foundations noted in the field today in both location and configuration (Figs. 7, 8).

## NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

In response to CRM TECH's inquiry, the NAHC reported in a letter dated May 14, 2021, that the results of the Sacred Lands File search were positive for tribal cultural resources in the project vicinity and recommended contacting the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians for further information (see App. 2). In the meantime, the NAHC provided a list of other tribes in the region who may also have pertinent information (see App. 2).

On May 18, 2021, an e-mail inquiry was sent to Chairperson Ray Chapparosa of the Los Coyotes Band (see App. 2), but no response has been received to date. As mentioned above, prior to the field survey, CRM TECH notified the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and invited tribal participation (see App. 2). Despite close coordination with Andreas Heredia, Cultural Resources Coordinator for the Agua Caliente Band, in subsequent telephone contacts, Mr. Heredia was ultimately unable to participate in the survey on the scheduled date.

## FIELD SURVEY

As the two structural foundations in the project area have proven to be historical in age, they were recorded during the field survey as an archaeological site and temporarily designated Site CRM TECH 3733-1H, pending assignment of an official site number once the California Historical Resources Information System resumes normal operation. The northerly foundation at the site is T-shaped, while the southerly foundation is L-shaped. Each of them measures approximately 80 feet from the eastern end to the western end and approximately 40 feet north-south, with the concrete pad generally 20 feet in width.

A course of poured concrete footing measuring four inches in height and width runs the perimeter of each slab but is fractured and missing in some areas. Metal bolts embedded in the footings protrude vertically from the surface, although some of them are now bent. Scattered lumber and several nails were observed on and near the foundations, likely remnants of the buildings that were once on site. One of the pieces of lumber has a round-headed nail embedded in it (see App. 3 for further information).

No other potential "historical resources" were identified during the field survey. The survey results indicate that essentially the entire project area has been disturbed in the past, particularly in association with the two buildings that once existed in this area. Scattered household refuse and construction debris of modern origin was also observed over much of the property, but none of items were of any historical or archaeological interest.

## DISCUSSION

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

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

(1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
(2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
(3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
(4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1(c))

In summary, two concrete pads in the project area were recorded as an archaeological site during this study and temporarily designated Site CRM TECH 3733-1H. Historical background research indicates that the pads are foundations left by demolished barrack buildings that were once part of the World War II-era Palm Springs Army Airfield, which operated from what is now the Palm Springs International Airport between 1939 and 1946. As such, Site CRM TECH 3733-1H is directly associated with this colorful and well-known episode in the history of Palm Springs. Through that connection, the site is also associated with a pattern of events of far-reaching influence in mid-20th century American history, namely the American war efforts and military buildup in the 1941-1945 era.

However, with the removal of the buildings and other facilities on site and in the surrounding area, and with the redevelopment of the nearby properties since the 1950s, the foundations at Site CRM TECH 3733-1H now survive out of context and no longer retain sufficient historic integrity to relate to the period of potential significance, particularly in the aspects of setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association. While the features are certainly of some level of local historical interest, their recordation into the California Historical Resources Inventory largely exhausted the data potential of the site.

The 2018 historic context statement commissioned by the City of Palm Springs outlines the following requirements for a property related to the theme of "War Effort in Palm Springs (1939-1945)" to be considered eligible for historical designation:

- date from the period of significance; and
- have a direct association with the war effort during World War II; and
- display most of the character-defining features of the property type or style; and
- retain the essential aspects of historic integrity (Historic Resources Group 2018:163)

Without any character-defining features of their property type or the essential aspects of historic integrity, the foundations at Site CRM TECH 3733-1H do not meet these requirements. Based on these considerations, the current study concludes that Site CRM TECH 3733-1H does not appear eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, and thus does not meet CEQA's definition of a "historical resource."

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CEQA provides that "a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC §21084.1). "Substantial adverse change," according to PRC §5020.1(q), "means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be impaired." The results of the present study have established that the World War II-era structural foundations recorded in the project area as Site CRM TECH 3733-1H do not qualify as a "historical resource" under CEQA provisions, and that no other potential "historical resources" are known to be present within the project boundaries. Therefore, CRM TECH presents the following recommendations to the City of Palm Springs:

- The proposed subdivision and development of the project area property would not cause a substantial adverse change to any known "historical resources."
- No further cultural resources investigation will be necessary for the project unless development plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.
- If buried cultural materials are encountered during future earth-moving operations resulting from the approval of the subdivision, all work within 50 feet of the discovery should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds.

## REFERENCES

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1998 *Coachella Valley California: A Pictorial History*. The Donning Company, Virginia Beach, Virginia.
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Ross, Delmer G.
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1904 Map: Indio, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1901.
1940 Map: Palm Springs, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1940.
1941 Map: Edom, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1941.
1957 Map: Palm Springs, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1951-1956, field-checked in 1955-1957.
1979 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (120'x60', 1:250,000); 1959 edition revised.
1981 Map: Cathedral City, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); 1958 edition photorevised in 1978.
1996 Map: Palm Springs, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photographs taken 1994.

## APPENDIX 1:
## PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

### PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/HISTORIAN
### Bai "Tom" Tang, M.A.

**Education**

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

**Professional Experience**

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

**Cultural Resources Management Reports**

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

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

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

## Education

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

## Professional Experience

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

## Research Interests

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

## Cultural Resources Management Reports

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

## Memberships

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

**PROJECT HISTORIAN/REPORT WRITER**
**Terri Jacquemain, M.A.**

**Education**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2004 | M.A., Public History and Historic Resource Management, University of California, Riverside. |
| 2002 | B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside. |
| 2001 | Archaeological Field School, University of California, Riverside. |
| 1991 | A.A., Riverside Community College, Norco Campus. |

**Professional Experience**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2003- | Historian/Architectural Historian/Report Writer, CRM TECH, Riverside/ Colton, California. |
| 2002-2003 | Teaching Assistant, Religious Studies Department, University of California, Riverside. |
| 2002 | Interim Public Information Officer, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. |
| 2000 | Administrative Assistant, Native American Student Programs, University of California, Riverside. |
| 1997-2000 | Reporter, *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, Ontario, California. |
| 1991-1997 | Reporter, *The Press-Enterprise*, Riverside, California. |

**Membership**

California Preservation Foundation.

**PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST**
**Salvadore Z. Boites, M.A.**

**Education**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2013 | M.A., Applied Anthropology, California State University, Long Beach. |
| 2003 | B.A., Anthropology/Sociology, University of California, Riverside. |
| 1996-1998 | Archaeological Field School, Fullerton Community College, Fullerton, California. |

**Professional Experience**

| | |
|---|---|
| 2014- | Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Colton, California. |
| 2010-2011 | Adjunct Instructor, Anthropology, Everest College, Anaheim, California. |
| 2003-2008 | Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California. |
| 2001-2002 | Teaching Assistant, Moreno Elementary School, Moreno Valley, California. |
| 1999-2003 | Research Assistant, Anthropology Department, University of California, Riverside. |

**APPENDIX 2**

# CORRESPONDENCE WITH NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES

# SACRED LANDS FILE & NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS LIST REQUEST

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916)373-3710
(916)373-5471 (Fax)
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

**Project:** Tentative Parcel Map 38049; 2700 Alejo Road (CRM TECH Contract No. 3733)

**County:** Riverside

**USGS Quadrangle Name:** Palm Springs, Calif.

**Township** 4 South **Range** 4 East SB **BM; Section(s)** 12

**Company/Firm/Agency:** CRM TECH

**Contact Person:** Nina Gallardo

**Street Address:** 1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B

**City:** Colton, CA **Zip:** 92324

**Phone:** (909) 824-6400 **Fax:** (909) 824-6405

**Email:** ngallardo@crmtech.us

**Project Description:** The primary component of the project is to subdivide approximately 2.5 acres of undeveloped land into eight parcels. The subject property, APNs 507-380-019 and -020, is located on the north side of Alejo Road and between Commercial Road and Juanita Drive, in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside Countys.

*April 29, 2021*

# 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

May 14, 2021

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH

Via Email to: ngallardo@crmtech.us

**Re: Proposed Tentative Parcel Map 38049; 2700 Alejo Road Project, Riverside County**

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians on the attached list for more information. 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

**Native American Heritage Commission**
**Native American Contact List**
**Riverside County**
**5/14/2021**

***Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians***
Jeff Grubbe, Chairperson
5401 Dinah Shore Drive — Cahuilla
Palm Springs, CA, 92264
Phone: (760) 699 - 6800
Fax: (760) 699-6919

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

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

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

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

***Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians***
Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson
P.O. Box 189 — Cahuilla
Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189
Phone: (760) 782 - 0711
Fax: (760) 782-0712

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

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

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

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

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Proposed Tentative Parcel Map 38049; 2700 Alejo Road Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission**
**Native American Contact List**
**Riverside County**
**5/14/2021**

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

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

***Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians***
Lovina Redner, Tribal Chair
P.O. Box 391820 Cahuilla
Anza, CA, 92539
Phone: (951) 659 - 2700
Fax: (951) 659-2228
lsaul@santarosa-nsn.gov

***Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians***
Isaiah Vivanco, Chairperson
P. O. Box 487 Cahuilla
San Jacinto, CA, 92581 Luiseno
Phone: (951) 654 - 5544
Fax: (951) 654-4198
ivivanco@soboba-nsn.gov

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

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

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Proposed Tentative Parcel Map 38049; 2700 Alejo Road Project, Riverside County.

**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 1:48 PM
**To:** Agua Caliente Tribal Historic Preservation Office (ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net)
**Cc:** lpadilla@aguacaliente.net
**Subject:** Cultural Resources Study and Participation in Field Survey for TPM 38049; 2700 Alejo Road, City of Palm Springs (CRM TECH No. 3733)

Hello,

I'm writing to inform you that CRM TECH will be conducting the cultural resources study on Tentative Parcel Map 38049 at 2700 Alejo Road, in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County (CRM TECH No. 3733). Specifically, I am contacting you to see if the tribe would like to participate in the archaeological field survey for the project. We will contact you again when we have a specific time and date for the fieldwork after we have received the RS results from the Eastern Information Center. I'm attaching the proposed project area map and other information. We would also appreciate any information that the tribe can provided about the project location. Please feel free to email back with any questions regarding the project and possible availability for the field survey.

Thank you for your time and input on this project.

Nina Gallardo
(909) 824-6400 (phone)
(909) 824-6405 (fax)
CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Ste. A/B
Colton, CA 92324

---

**From:** Nina Gallardo <ngallardo@crmtech.us>
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 9:16 AM
**To:** raycloscoyotes@gmail.com
**Cc:** Dorothy Willis; loscoyotesepa@yahoo.com
**Subject:** Positive NAHC SLF Results for TPM 38049; 2700 Alejo Road, City of Palm Springs (CRM TECH #3733)

Hello Mr. Chapparosa,

I'm emailing to inform you that CRM TECH will be conducting a cultural study on Tentative Parcel Map 38049 in the City of Palm Springs, Riverside County (CRM TECH No. 3733). In a letter dated May 14, 2021, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) reports that the results of the Sacred Lands File search were positive for tribal cultural resources and recommends contacting local tribes, specifically the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians, for further information (see attached).

I'm contacting you to see if the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians has any specific information regarding any cultural resources in the project area. I'm attaching the NAHC Positive SLF Results Letter and the project area map. We would appreciate any information that the tribe can provide to us, and please feel free to call or email us back with any questions or information.

Thanks for your time and input on this project.

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American liaison
CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive Ste. A/B
Colton, CA 92324

---

**From:** Nina Gallardo <ngallardo@crmtech.us>
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 10:28 AM
**To:** Agua Caliente Tribal Historic Preservation Office (ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net)
**Cc:** Heredia, Andreas (TRBL)
**Subject:** FW: Cultural Resources Study and Participation in Field Survey for TPM 38049; 2700 Alejo Road, City of Palm Springs (CRM TECH No. 3733)

Hello,

I'm contacting you to see if the tribe can join us this coming Wednesday (8/4) at 7am for the field survey on TPM 38049 in the City of Palm Springs (CRM TECH #3733). Please feel free to email back with any questions regarding the project and the tribe's availability for the field survey.

Thank you for your time and input on this project.

Nina Gallardo
(909) 824-6400 (phone)
(909) 824-6405 (fax)
CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Ste. A/B

**APPENDIX 3**

# CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL RESOURCES INVENTORY RECORD FORMS

**Site CRM TECH 3733-1H**
**(Temporary Designation)**

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

# PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 6Z
Other Listings
Review Code Reviewer Date

Page 1 of 6 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3733-1H

**P1. Other Identifier:**

***P2. Location:** √ **Not for Publication** ___ **Unrestricted** ***a. County** Riverside

**and** (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

***b. USGS 7.5' Quad** Palm Springs, Calif. **Date** 1996
**T**4S**; R**4E**;** SE **1/4** SW **1/4 of** SW **1/4 of Sec** 12 **;** S.B. **B.M.**
**Elevation:** Approximately 447 feet above mean sea level

**c. Address** 2700 E. Alejo Road **City** Palm Springs **Zip** 92262

**d. UTM:** (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) **Zone** 11; 544,700 **mE/** 3,743,485 **mN**
**UTM Derivation:** ___USGS Quad ___GPS √ Google earth (NAD 83)

**e. Other Locational Data:** (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, etc., as appropriate) Feature 1 is located approximately 185 feet north of Alejo Road and 85 feet east of Juanita Drive, and Feature 2 is located approximately 65 feet north of Alejo Road and 85 feet east of Juanita Drive, both on Assessor's Parcel No. 507-380-020.

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries): This site consists of the concrete slab foundations of two former barrack buildings associated with the World War II-era Palm Springs Army Airfield, which operated from what is now the Palm Springs International Airport between 1939 and 1946. The northerly foundation (Feature 1) is T-shaped, while the southerly foundation (Feature 2) is L-shaped. Each of them measures approximately 80 feet from the eastern end to the western end and approximately 40 feet north-south, with the concrete pad generally 20 feet in width.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) AH2: Foundation/structural pad; HP34: Military Property

***P4. Resources Present:** ___Building ___Structure ___Object √ Site ___District ___Element of District ___Isolate ___Other

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

**P5b. Description of Photo:** (view, date, accession#) Feature 2, view to the west; taken on August 4, 2021

***P6. Date Constructed/Age of Sources:** √ Historic ___Prehistoric ___Both

***P7. Owner and Address:** Mehdi Fallahian, P.O. Box 723, Palm Springs, CA 92263

***P8. Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, and address) Sal Boites, CRM TECH, 1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B, Colton, CA 92324

***P9. Date Recorded:** August 4, 2021

***P10. Survey Type** (describe): Intensive-level survey for CEQA-compliance

***P11. Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources or enter "none.") Bai "Tom" Tang, Terri Jacquemain, and Sal Z. Boites (2021): Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Tentative Parcel Map No. 38049, Assessor Parcel Nos. 507-380-019 and -020, City of Palm Springs, Riverside County, California

***Attachments:** ___None √ Location Map √ Sketch Map √ Continuation Sheet ___Building, Structure, and Object Record √ Archaeological Record ___District Record ___Linear Resource Record ___Milling Station Record ___Rock Art Record ___Artifact Record ___Photograph Record ___Other (List):

State of California--The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Primary #
Trinomial

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3733-1H

**A1. Dimensions:** a. Length 195 feet (N-S) b. Width 135 feet (E-W)
**Method of Measurement**: √ Paced ___ Taped ___ Visual estimate ___ Other: GPS
**Method of Determination** (Check any that apply.): ___ Artifacts √ Features ___ Soil ___ Vegetation ___ Topography ___ Cut bank ___ Animal burrow ___ Excavation ___ Property boundary ___ Other (Explain):
**Reliability of Determination**: √ High ___ Medium ___ Low Explain:
**Limitations** (Check any that apply): ___ Restricted access ___ Paved/built over ___ Site limits incompletely defined ___ Disturbances ___ Vegetation ___ Other (Explain):

**A2. Depth:** ___ None √ Unknown Method of Determination:

***A3. Human Remains:** ___ Present √ Absent ___ Possible ___ Unknown (Explain):

***A4. Features:** (Number, briefly describe, indicate size, list associated cultural constituents, and show location of each feature on sketch map.) The main features of the site are the two concrete slab foundations left by demolished barrack buildings associated with the World War II-era Palm Springs Army Airfield (see Item P3a). A course of poured concrete footing measuring four inches in height and width runs the perimeter of each slab but is fractured and missing in some areas. Metal bolts embedded in the footings protrude vertically from the surface, although some of them are now bent. Scattered lumber and several nails were observed on and near the foundations, likely remnants of the buildings that once occupied these spots. One of the pieces of lumber has a round-headed nail embedded in it.

***A5. Cultural Constituents:** (Describe and quantify artifacts, ecofacts, cultural residues, etc., not associated with features.) None

***A6. Were Specimens Collected?** √ No ___ Yes

*A7. **Site Condition:** ___ Good √ Fair ___ Poor (Describe disturbances.):

***A8. Nearest Water** (Type, distance, and direction.): Whitewater River, approximately 1.7 miles east and 2.2 miles north.

***A9. Elevation:** Approximately 447 feet above mean sea level

**A10. Environmental Setting:** (Describe vegetation, fauna, soils, geology, landform, slope, aspect, exposure, etc.): The ground surface in the site area is generally level and features slightly undulating surface of fine- to medium-grained dune sand. The vegetation surrounding the site includes cacti, creosote, and dried brittlebush. Both features are situated near a dirt road wide enough to accommodate motor vehicles.

**A11. Historical Information:** The military airfield in Palm Springs was established by the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1939 as an emergency landing site. During World War II, its principal mission was the deployment of aircraft from manufacturing plants to training facilities and overseas combat theaters. After the end of the war, the airfield was declared excess and was eventually acquired by the City of Palm Springs in 1961 for conversion into present-day Palm Springs International Airport. Aerial photographs from the 1950s show a large number of barracks buildings in the area to the west of the runways, including two that closely matched the foundations recorded at this site in both location and configuration.

***A12. Age:** ___ Prehistoric ___ Protohistoric ___ 1542-1769 ___ 1769-1848 ___ 1848-1880 ___ 1880-1914 √ 1914-1945 √ Post 1945 ___ Undetermined **Describe position in regional prehistoric chronology or factual historic dates if known:** 1939-1946

**A13. Interpretations:** (Discuss scientific, interpretive, ethnic, and other values of site, if known)

**A14. Remarks:** Despite their direct association with a colorful and well-known episode in local history, the foundations survive out of context today and no longer retain sufficient historic integrity to relate to the period of potential significance. As such, they do not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources.

**A15. References:** (Documents, informants, maps, and other references.): See item P11 on. p. 1.

**A16. Photographs:** (List subjects, direction of view, and accession numbers or attach a Photograph Record.):
Original Media/Negatives Kept at: CRM TECH, Colton, California

***A17. Form Prepared by:** Sal Z. Boites **Date:** August 20, 2021
**Affiliation and Address:** CRM TECH, 1016 East Cooley Drive, Suite A/B, Colton, CA 92324

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

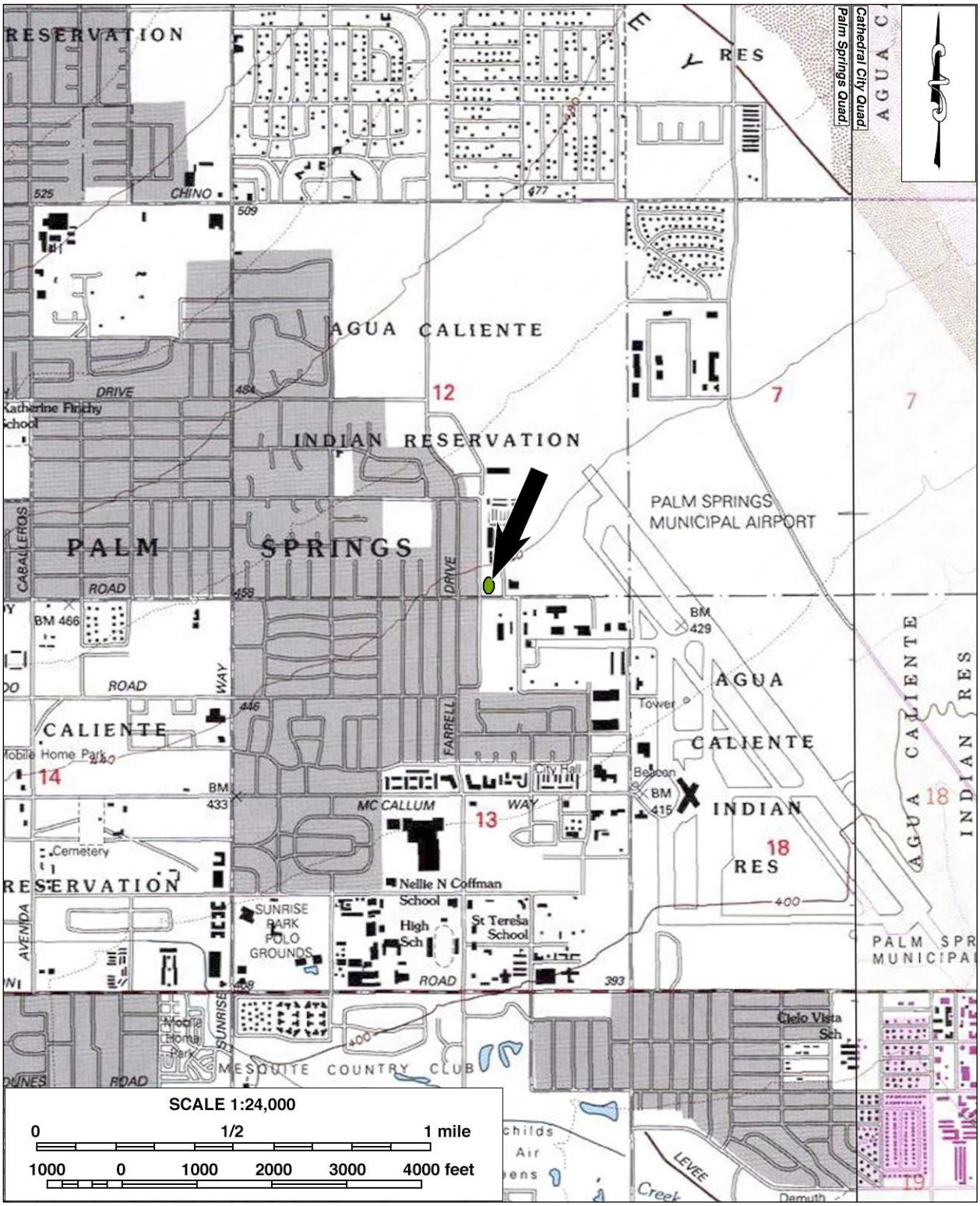
# LOCATION MAP

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial



***Resource Name or #** (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3733-1H

***Map Name:** Palm Springs, Calif. ***Scale:** 1:24,000 ***Date of Map:** 1996



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

# SITE SKETCH MAP

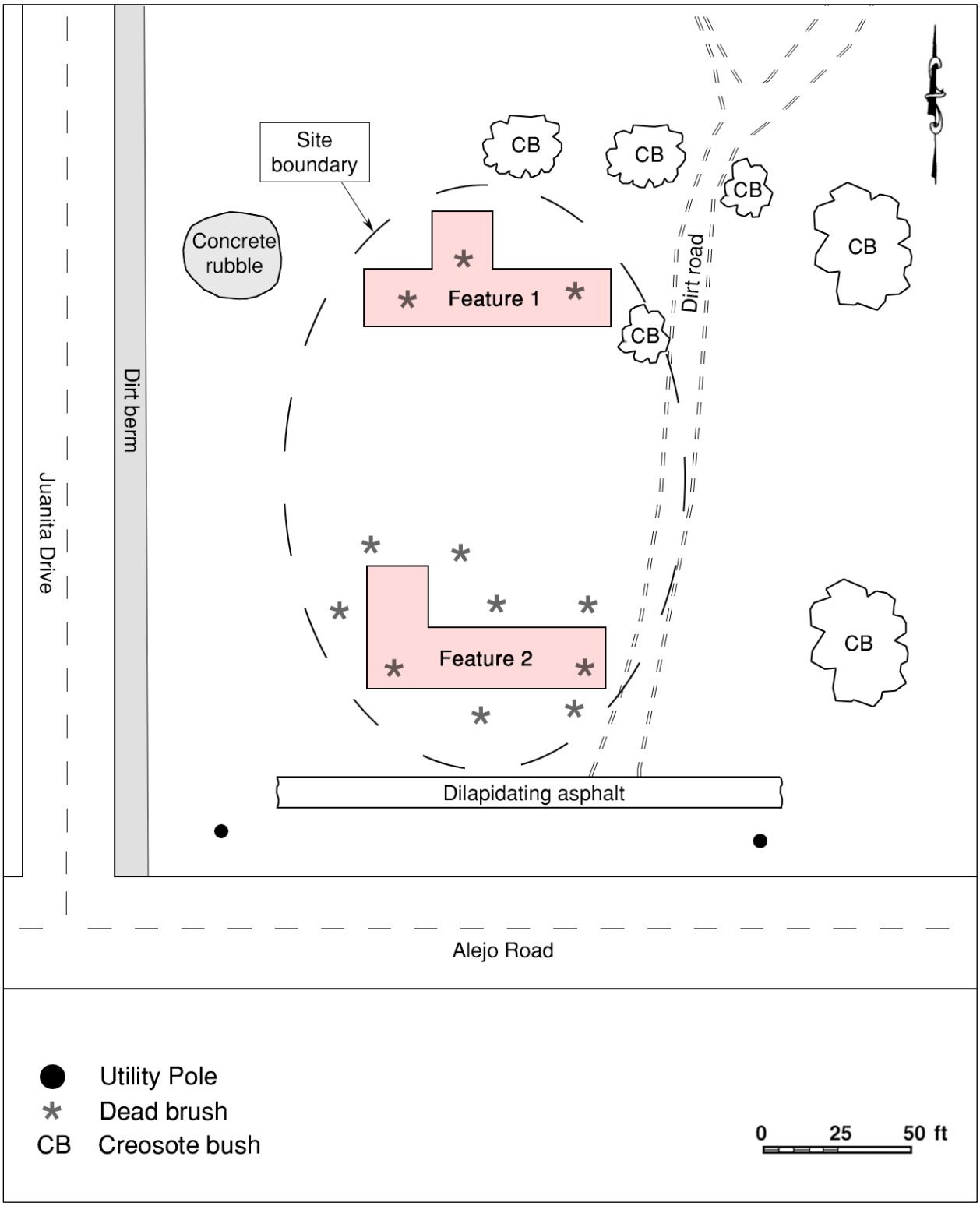
Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial



*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) CRM TECH 3733-1H

*Drawn by: Sal Z. Boites

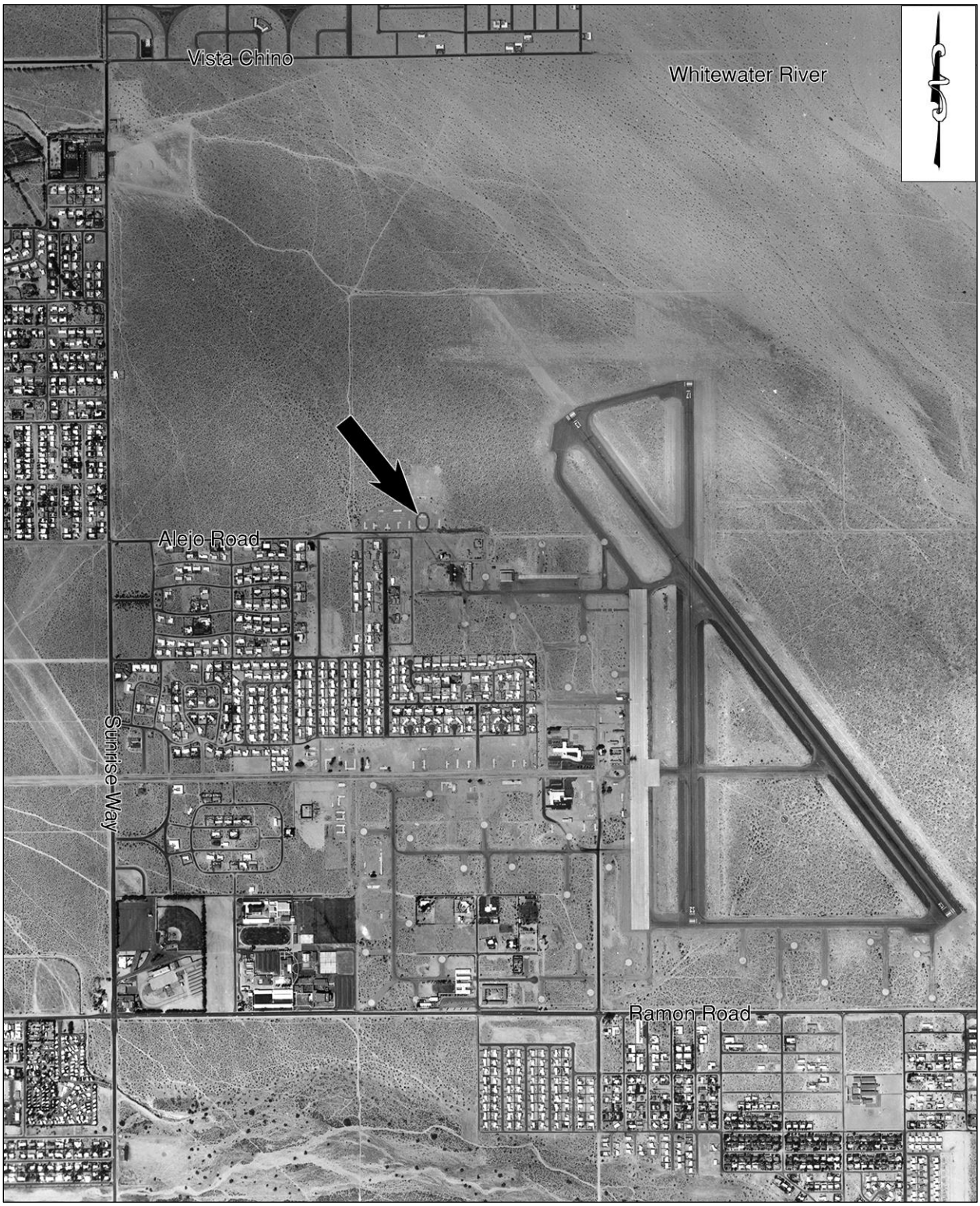
*Date: August 26, 2021






*Required information


1953 aerial photograph of the site area
(Source: https://www.library.ucsb.edu/geospatial/finding-airphotos)




1959 aerial photograph of the site area
(Source: https://www.library.ucsb.edu/geospatial/finding-airphotos)