



Bruce Love Consulting
Archaeology-History-Cultural Resources-Native American Consultation

Cultural Resources Report

For

RTA CABINETS SHOP

APN 3109-025-051

2.42 acres vacant land on West Avenue L-8

City of Lancaster, California

Prepared for:

McLernon Architecture Group, Inc.
759 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, CA 93534

Prepared by:

Bruce Love, Ph.D., RPA
Bruce Love Consulting

February 8, 2021

29709 104th Street East, Littlerock, CA 93543
hm 661-944-1685 cel 661-609-4759
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Executive Summary

In December, 2020 and January, 2021, a cultural resources study was performed on 2.425 acres on Avenue L-8 in Lancaster known as APN 3109-025-051 in compliance with City of Lancaster Department of Planning requirements and pursuant to provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The study included a Records Search at South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University at Fullerton, a Sacred Lands Search at Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento, a historic map search, and a walk-over survey.

The results of the study are that no “historical resources” or “tribal cultural resources” as defined by CEQA were encountered on or adjacent to the subject property although final determination on the presence or absence of “tribal cultural resources” in the project area may be made by the City of Lancaster by government-to-government consultations with pertinent Native American tribes pursuant to provisions of Assembly Bill 52. In addition, if in the course of grading or construction, cultural remains are inadvertently discovered, work should be diverted while a cultural resource specialist inspects the findings and makes a determination as to their significance.

Introduction

The purpose of this study is to identify any cultural-historical resources within or adjacent to the project area, to assist the City of Lancaster in determining whether such resources meet the official definition of “historical resources,” or “tribal cultural resources,” as provided in the California Public Resources Code, in particular CEQA, and to determine if the proposed project will have an effect on those resources, if they exist. 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.”

Statutes and Guidelines

CEQA guidelines state that the term “historical resource” applies to any such resource 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))

For “tribal cultural resources,” PRC §21074, enacted and codified as part of a 2014 amendment to CEQA through Assembly Bill 52, provides the statutory definition as follows:

“Tribal cultural resources” are either 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.

Property Description

APN 3109-025-051 lies on the north side of Avenue L-8 between 10th Street West and 12th Street West (Figure 1), and lies within the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 33, Township 7N, Range 12W (Figure 2). The property has no existing structures and is extensively disturbed by vehicle and foot traffic and refuse dumping (Figure 3).

Cultural/Historical Context

In the event that historical or archaeological resources are found on the subject property, they would have to be evaluated as to their significance and whether or not they had scientific or cultural value. Such an evaluation would take place against the cultural/historical background of the region.

Archaeological Context

To categorize Native American cultures prior to European contact, archaeologists have devised chronological frameworks on the basis of artifacts and site types that go back some 12,000 years. One of the more frequently used time frames for the Mojave desert divides the region's prehistory into five periods marked by changes in archaeological remains reflecting different ways in which Native peoples adapted to their surroundings. Based on Warren (1984) and Warren and Crabtree (1986), the five periods are the Lake Mojave Period (12,000 years to

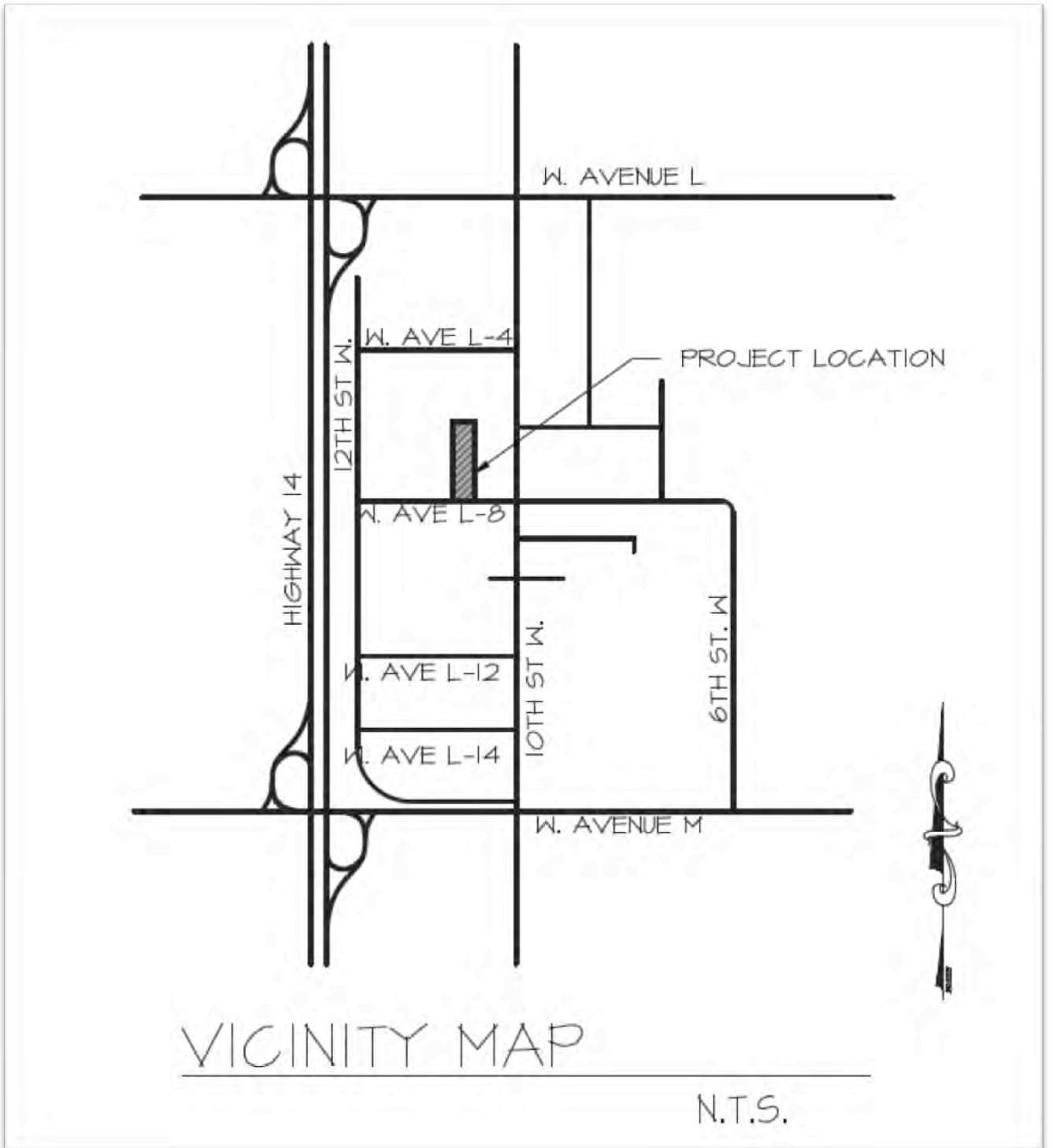


Figure 1: Vicinity map (source: McLernon Architecture Group, Inc.)

7,000 years ago), the Pinto Period (7,000 years to 4,000 years ago), the Gypsum Period (4,000 years to 1,500 years ago), the Saratoga Springs Period (1,500 years to 800 years ago), and the Protohistoric Period (800 years ago to European contact).

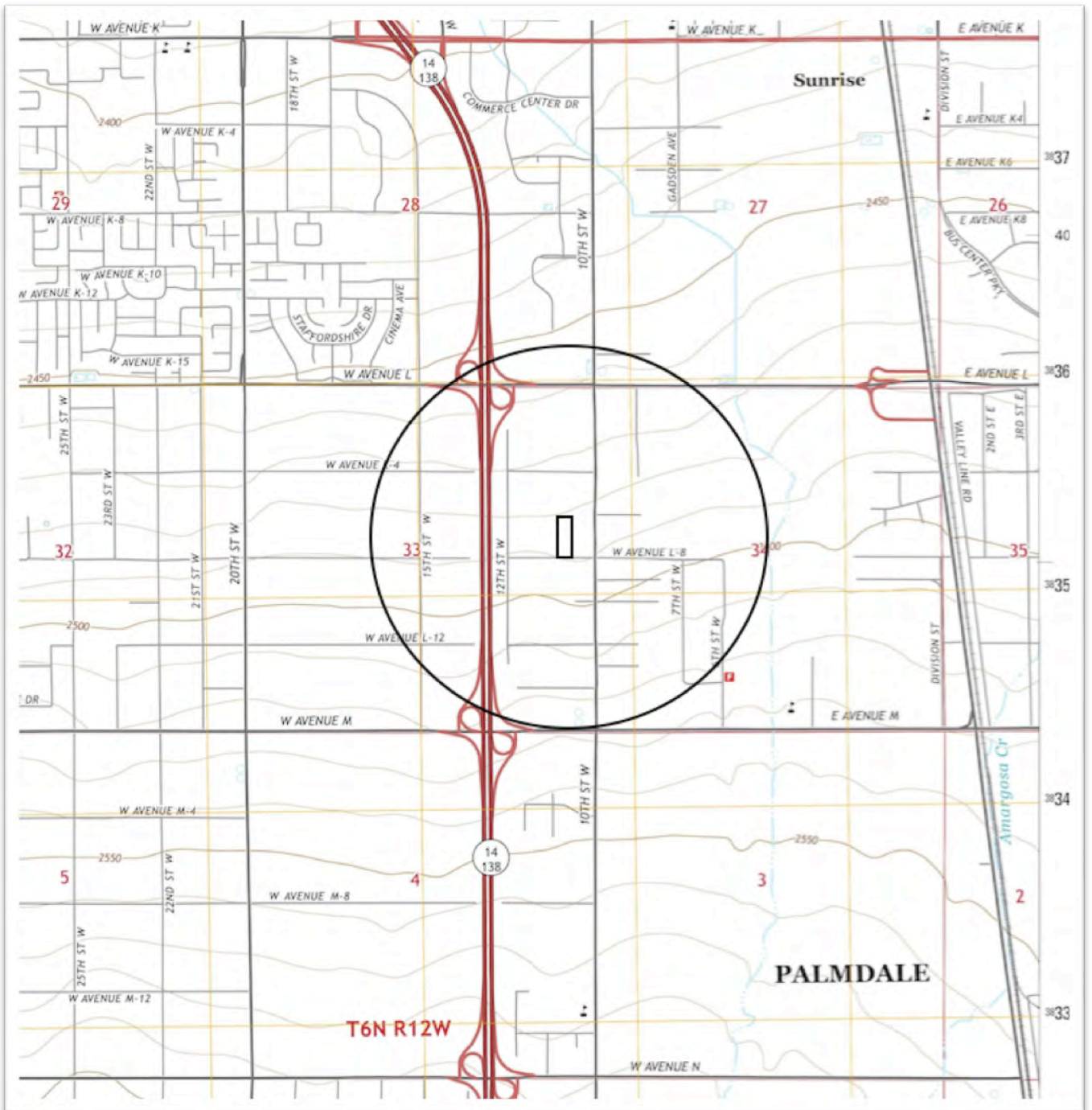


Figure 2: Property plotted onto USGS Topographic Map 7.5 minute series, Lancaster West 1:24,000 quadrangle (source: <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov> [modified and annotated]).

Ethnohistorical Context

The area occupied by present-day City of Lancaster was an area of cultural overlap used by several ethnic and linguistic groups that shared the resources of the valley at different times and to different degrees. On the southern and western flanks of the Tehachapi Mountains lived



Figure 3: Aerial view of property looking southeast (source: 3dparcel.com)

the Kitanemuk (Blackburn and Bean 1978), in the Tehachapi/Mojave region lived the Kawaiisu (Zigmond 1986), in the San Bernardino Mountains and northern foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains lived the Serrano and from the Acton/Agua Dulce area came the Tataviam (King and Blackburn 1978:535). All have ancestral ties to the Antelope Valley.

Historical Context

The history of today's City of Lancaster began in 1876, when the Southern Pacific Railroad Company chose the essentially uninhabited Antelope Valley for its line between the San Joaquin Valley and the Los Angeles Basin and established a string of regularly spaced sidings and water stops across the desert. Around one of these sidings and water stops, Moses Langley Wicks, a real estate developer who was active in many parts of southern California at the time, purchased from the Southern Pacific 640 acres of land and laid out the townsite of Lancaster in 1884.

Agriculture boomed until ravaged by a severe drought in the late 1890s, but then recovered in the early 20th century due to new well drilling and irrigation systems. It was the most important aspect of Antelope Valley economy until after World War II when aerospace and

defense blossomed. Lancaster officially incorporated as a city in 1977 during a remarkable housing expansion that continued until the great recession of 2008.

Methods

Records Search

A records search was performed by the South Central Coastal Information Center at California State University at Fullerton, which is part of the statewide system of historical resource inventories. The S.C.C.I.C. contains records and reports for Los Angeles County (as well as three other counties). Information Center staff inspected files for previously recorded archaeological resources, historical resources, and previously completed studies performed within a half-mile radius of the subject property.

Historic Map Search

The following historic maps were searched for evidence of old structures or features that may once have been present on or adjacent to the property:

- 1915 Elizabeth Lake Quadrangle, 1:96,000 scale
- 1915 Elizabeth Lake Quadrangle, 1:125,000 scale
- 1930 Lancaster Quadrangle, 1:24,000 scale
- 1933 Lancaster Quadrangle, 1:24,000 scale
- 1949 Los Angeles Quadrangle, 1:250,000 scale
- 1958 Lancaster Quadrangle, 1:62,500 scale
- 1958 Lancaster West Quadrangle, 1:24000 scale
- 1966 Los Angeles Quadrangle, 1:250,000 scale
- 1975 Los Angeles Quadrangle, 1:250,000 scale

Sacred Lands Search

A Sacred Lands Search request was submitted by Love to the office of the Native American Heritage Commission in Sacramento on December 21, 2020. The NAHC was established by the State legislature in 1976 to protect sacred lands and promote free expression

of Native American religious practices. Consultation with the NAHC has been adopted by the City of Lancaster as a requisite part of cultural resource studies for land development.

Walk-over Survey

The property was visually inspected on February 7, 2021 by Bruce Love walking parallel east-west transects at 10-meter (33-foot) intervals. The purpose of the inspection was to identify any resources older than 50 years that could possibly be considered historical or archaeological in nature.

Results

Records Search Results

The records search (see Appendix 2) indicates there were five cultural resource studies done within ¼ mile of the subject property (see Figure 4) and no historical resources recorded within or adjacent to the project area.

Report number LA-10596 describes an on-foot survey inspection along both sides of 10th Street West between Avenue K-8 and Avenue L-10, which found two isolates of historic age – a 1917-1929 vegetable can and a 10-inch piece of forged steel strapping from early 20th century. Being isolates, neither of these findings constitutes an archaeological or historical “site” and need not be considered further. A third finding listed in the same report is a feature consisting of concrete piers and lumber of “unknown age,” and likewise need not be considered further.

In summary, five previous cultural resource studies performed with ¼ mile of the subject property found two isolates and one feature that are outside the boundaries of the study area and will not be affected by the proposed project. The subject property itself had not been the object of any previous cultural resource study.

Historic Map Search Results

Two maps, 1958 Lancaster Quadrangle and 1958 Lancaster West Quadrangle, show a structure very close to the subject property (Figure 5, 6), a structure that does not show up on later maps. The growth of population and number of buildings is remarkable between the

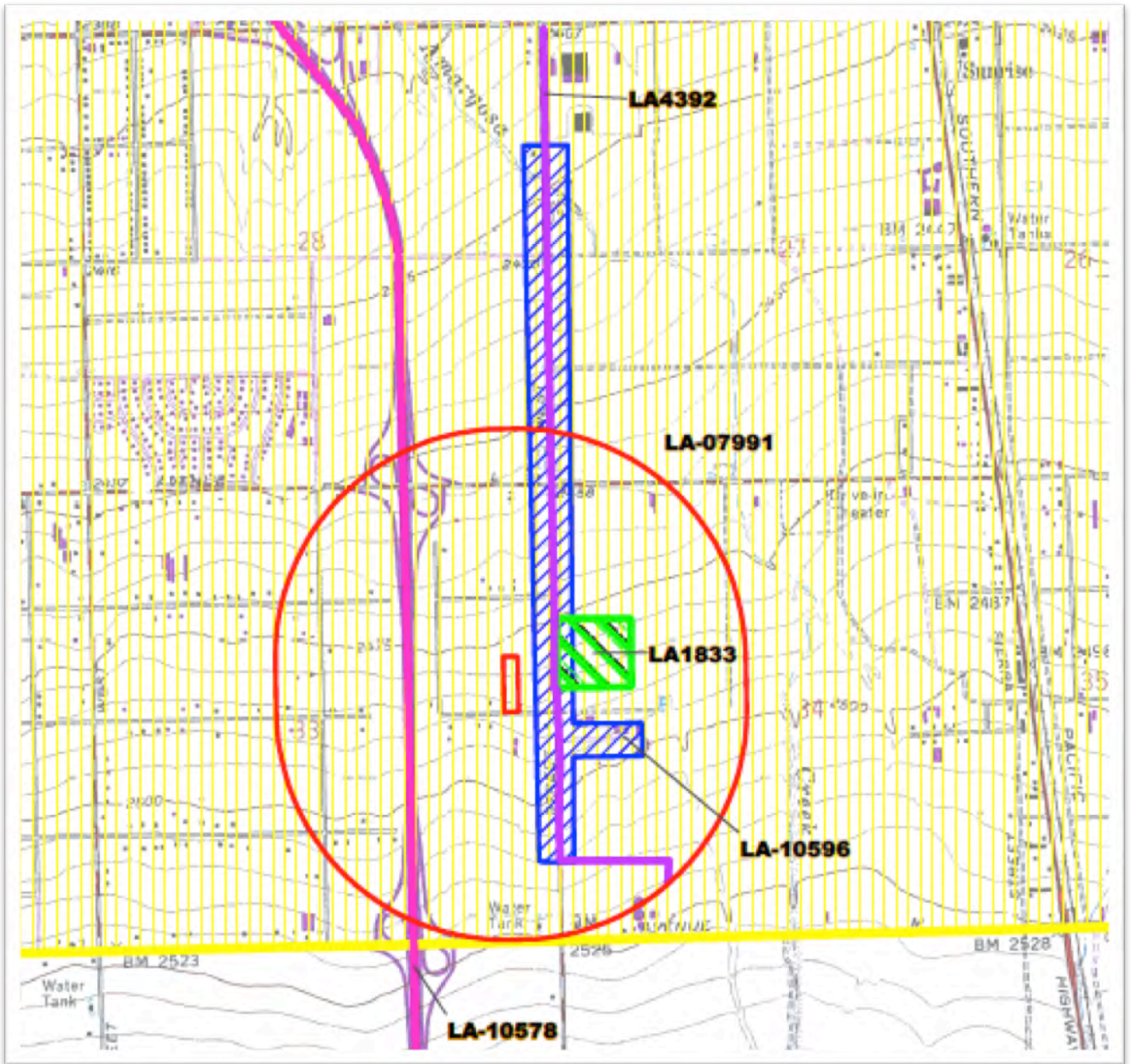


Figure 4. Previous cultural resource studies done within ¼ mile radius of subject property.

1933 map that shows the entire Section 33 devoid of structures compared with the 1958 map showing more than 75 structures within the same Section 33.

Sacred Lands Search Results

The records search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed and the results were negative (see Appendix 3). The NAHC provided a list of Native American contacts that may be contacted for additional input. That list is included

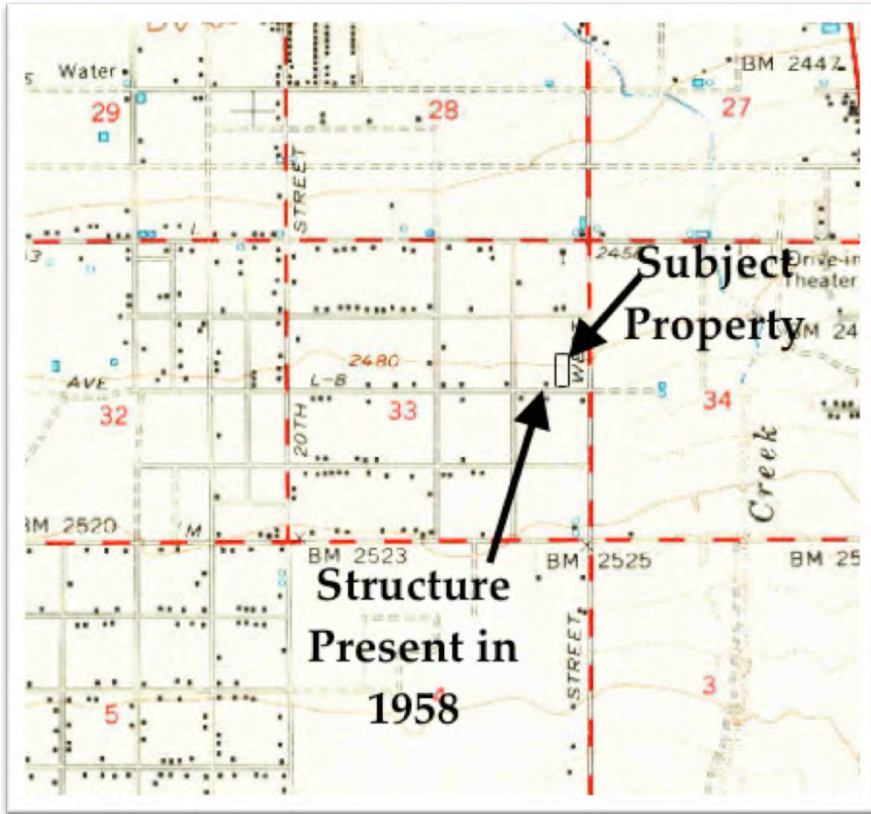


Figure 5. 1958 Lancaster Quadrangle, 1:62,500;

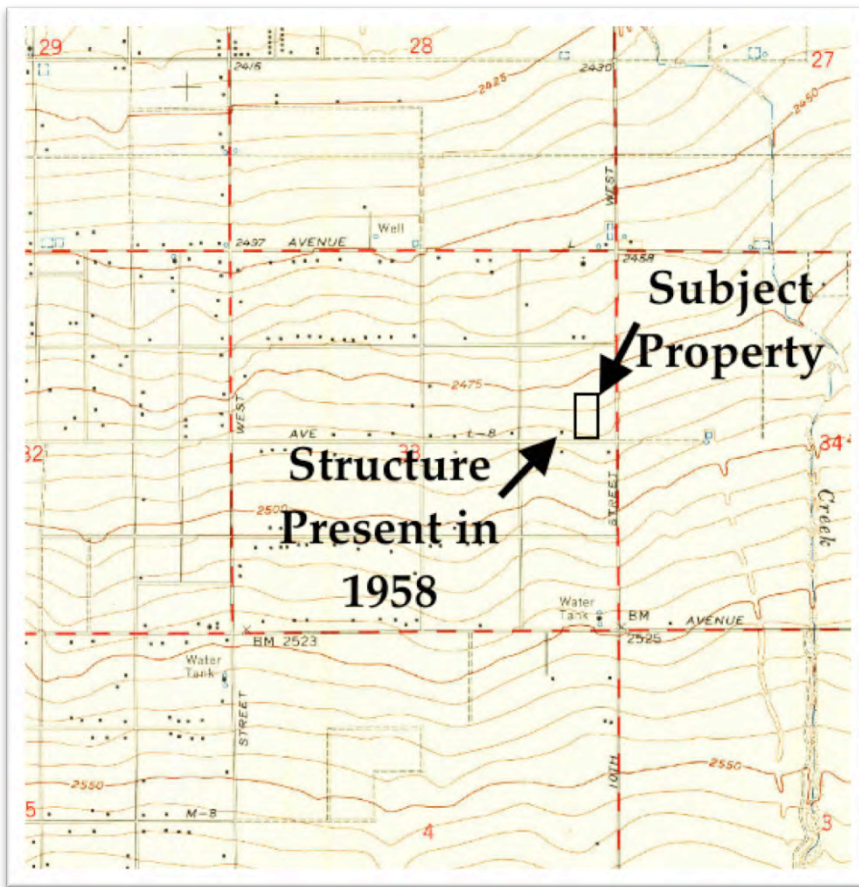


Figure 6. 1958 Lancaster West Quadrangle, 1:24,000.

in Appendix 3. The City of Lancaster may do the additional Native American contacts as part of the AB 52 process, which addresses “tribal cultural resources.”

Walk-over Survey Results

In the course of the walk-over survey, no artifacts or features were noted that could be considered historical or archaeological in nature. A heavily traveled north-south dirt road traverses the length of the property (Figure 7), and scattered throughout the property were



Figure 7. View to the north along a north-south dirt road that traverses the property.

various refuse dumps including construction and household debris (Figure 8). The oldest cans and bottles that were observed appeared to be from the 1970s and therefore not old enough to be considered historical.



Figure 8. Example of refuse debris found scattered throughout the property.

Final Determination

Based on the findings outlined in this report, and in light of the criteria listed above (see *Statutes and Guidelines*), the present study concludes that no “historical resources,” as defined above, exist within or adjacent to the project area, nor have any “tribal cultural resources” been identified, although the final determination on the presence or absence of “tribal cultural resources” in the project area may be made by the City of Lancaster by government-to-government consultations with pertinent Native American tribes pursuant to provisions of Assembly Bill 52.

References

Blackburn, Thomas C., and Lowell John Bean

1978 Kitanemuk. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8. California, pp. 564-569. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

King, Chester, and Thomas C. Blackburn

1978 Tataviam. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8 California, pp. 535-537. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Warren, Claude N.

1984 The Desert Region. In Michael J. Moratto (ed.): *California Archaeology*, pp. 339-430. Academic Press, Orlando, FL.

Warren, Claude N., and Robert H. Crabtree

1986 Prehistory of the Southwestern Area. In Warren L. d'Azevedo (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 11 Great Basin, pp. 183-193. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Zigmond, Maurice L

1986 Kawaiisu. In Warren L. D'Azevedo (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 11. Great Basin, pp. 398-411. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Personnel Qualifications

CV/Resume

Bruce Love, Ph.D. RPA¹

EDUCATION

1986 Ph.D. Anthropology, UCLA

1981 M.A. Anthropology, UCLA

1976 B.A. Anthropology, UCLA

CURRENT POSITIONS

Owner and Principal Investigator: BRUCE LOVE CONSULTING, a Cultural Resource Management company, Littlerock, CA

President: ARC (Anthropological Research Contributions), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to doing and publishing anthropological research in California and Mesoamerica.

Co-publisher: Mesoamerican Research Contributions, a web site and blog, <https://brucelove.com>

PAST POSITIONS

1993-2002 Owner and Principal: CRM TECH, a Cultural Resource Management company, Riverside, CA

1990-1993 Director: Archaeological Research Unit, Anthropology Department, University of California, Riverside

1989-1990 Coordinator: Archaeological Information Center, UCLA

1987-1990 Owner and Principal: Pyramid Archaeology, Palmdale, CA

REPORT PRODUCTION

Since 1987 Love has written more than 1,000 CRM reports ranging from simple land surveys to complex multi-phase testing and mitigation reports.

RECENT VOLUNTEER WORK

Love works with archaeology students at Antelope Valley College, Lancaster, CA, doing survey and analyzing collections; he volunteers with the Antelope Valley Indian Museum, a California State Park; and was volunteer collections manager for the Museum of Art and History in Lancaster, CA. He is Historian for the local Juniper Hills Community Association where he lives.

In 2017 Love curated an archaeological exhibit at the Museum of Art and History (MOAH) in Lancaster, and organized *Tornqava*, an all-day Native American celebration.

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for American Archaeology

Society for California Archaeology

Register of Professional Archaeologists

¹ Register of Professional Archaeologists

Appendix 2: Records Search

South Central Coastal Information Center

California State University, Fullerton
 Department of Anthropology MH-426
 800 North State College Boulevard
 Fullerton, CA 92834-6846
 657.278.5395 / FAX 657.278.5542
sccic@fullerton.edu

California Historical Resources Information System
 Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties

2/2/2021

Records Search File No.: 22006.8143

Bruce Love
 Bruce Love Consulting
 29709 104th Street East
 Littlerock CA 93543

Re: Records Search Results for the BLC 104 Project

The South Central Coastal Information Center received your records search request for the project area referenced above, located on the Lancaster West, CA USGS 7.5' quadrangle. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, we have implemented new records search protocols, which limits the deliverables available to you at this time. **WE ARE ONLY PROVIDING DATA THAT IS ALREADY DIGITAL AT THIS TIME.** Please see the attached document on COVID-19 Emergency Protocols for what data is available and for future instructions on how to submit a records search request during the course of this crisis. If your selections on your data request form are in conflict with this document, we reserve the right to default to emergency protocols and provide you with what we stated on this document. You may receive more than you asked for or less than you wanted. The following reflects the results of the records search for the project area and a ½-mile radius:

As indicated on the data request form, the locations of resources and results are provided in the following format: custom GIS maps shape files hand-drawn maps

Resources within project area: 0	None
Resources within ½-mile radius: 3	SEE ATTACHED MAP or LIST
Reports within project area: 1	LA-07991
Reports within ½-mile radius: 16	SEE ATTACHED MAP or LIST

- Resource Database Printout (list):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Database Printout (details):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Digital Database (spreadsheet):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (list):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Database Printout (details):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Digital Database (spreadsheet):** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Resource Record Copies:** enclosed not requested nothing listed
- Report Copies:** enclosed not requested nothing listed

OHP Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD) 2019: _available online; please go to https://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30338

Archaeo Determinations of Eligibility 2012: _enclosed _not requested _nothing listed

Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments _enclosed _not requested _nothing listed

Historical Maps: _not available at SCCIC; please go to <https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#4/39.98/-100.02>

Ethnographic Information: _not available at SCCIC

Historical Literature: _not available at SCCIC

GLO and/or Rancho Plat Maps: _not available at SCCIC

Caltrans Bridge Survey: _not available at SCCIC; please go to <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/structur/strmaint/historic.htm>

Shipwreck Inventory: _not available at SCCIC; please go to

http://shipwrecks.sl.ca.gov/ShipwrecksDatabase/Shipwrecks_Database.asp **Soil Survey Maps: (see below)** _not available at SCCIC; please go to <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you do not include resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at the phone number listed above. The provision of CHRIS Data via this records search response does not in any way constitute public disclosure of records otherwise exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act or any other law, including, but not limited to, records related to archeological site information maintained by or on behalf of, or in the possession of, the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of Historic Preservation, or the State Historical Resources Commission. Due to processing delays and other factors, not all of the historical resource reports and resource records that have been submitted to the Office of Historic Preservation are available via this records search. Additional information may be available through the federal, state, and local agencies that produced or paid for historical resource management work in the search area. Additionally, Native American tribes have historical resource information not in the CHRIS Inventory, and you should contact the California Native American Heritage Commission for information on local/regional tribal contacts. Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the record search number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Thank you for using the California Historical Resources Information System,



Digitally signed by Michelle Galaz
Date: 2021.02.02 15:20:43 -08'00'

Michelle Galaz
Assistant Coordinator

Appendix 3: Sacred Lands Search and Native American Contacts



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Gavin Newsom, Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

January 8, 2021

Bruce Love
Bruce Love Consulting

Via Email to: brucelove9@gmail.com

Re: BLC 104 Project, Los Angeles County

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

SECRETARY
Merri Lopez-Keifer
Luiseño

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
Karuk

COMMISSIONER
Marshall McKay
Wintun

COMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

COMMISSIONER
**Julie Tumamait-
Stenslie**
Chumash

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Christina Snider
Pomo

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

Dear Mr. Love:

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
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Los Angeles County
1/8/2021**

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer
1019 Second Street, Suite 1 Tataviam
San Fernando, CA, 91340
Phone: (818) 837 - 0794
Fax: (818) 837-0796
jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

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

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

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

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

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

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

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

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

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

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 BLC 104 Project, Los Angeles County.