

HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

MAJESTIC THOUSAND PALMS PROJECT

**Near the Community of Thousand Palms
Riverside County, California**

For Submittal to:

County of Riverside Planning Department
County Administrative Center
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Riverside, CA 92501

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February 9, 2023

Title: Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Majestic Thousand Palms Project, near the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California

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USGS Quadrangle: Cathedral City, Calif., 7.5’ quadrangle (Sections 7, 17, and 18, T4S R6E, San Bernardino Base Meridian)

Project Size: Approximately 83 acres and 4.5 linear miles

Keywords: Coachella Valley region, western Colorado Desert; Phase I cultural resources survey; Assessor’s Parcel Numbers 648-150-034 and -035; Site 33-023935: Rio del Sol; Isolates 3857-1H and -2H (temporary designations): fragmented aqua-colored beverage bottles; no “historical resources” under CEQA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between March 2022 and February 2023, at the request of T&B Planning, Inc., CRM TECH completed a cultural resources study for the proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project near the unincorporated community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California. The project entails primarily the construction of a cross-dock commerce center building with approximately 1,464,112 square feet of interior floor space, including office space and warehouse space, along with a water quality basin, a customer electric substation, and paved parking spaces on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 648-150-034 and -035. In addition, the project proposes to install new above-ground utility lines along Ramon Road, Sierra del Sol, Robert Road, El Centro Way, San Miguelito Drive, and/or 30th Avenue, including its proposed extension.

The project area consists of approximately 83 acres of vacant land on APN 648-150-034 and -035, located at the northeast corner of Rio del Sol and the future extension of 30th Avenue, as well as the potential utility line routes within the rights-of-way of the public roadways listed above. The entire project area lies within the southwest quarter of Section 7, the west half of Section 17, and the east half of Section 18, Township 4 South, Range 6 East, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey Cathedral City, California, 7.5' quadrangle.

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed project. The County of Riverside, as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the study is to provide the County with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any significant cultural resources that may exist in or near the project area, as mandated by CEQA.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a cultural resources records search and a Native American Sacred Lands File search, pursued historical background research, contacted local Native American representatives, and carried out a systematic field survey. As a result of these research procedures, two isolates from the historic period, both containing fragments of aqua-colored hobble skirt Coca-Cola bottles, were recorded within the project area. The research results further indicate that the segment of Rio del Sol lying outside but adjacent to the western project boundary was previously recorded as a part of Site 33-023935. None of these three cultural resources, however, appear to meet the statutory definition of "historical resources" under CEQA provisions.

No other potential "historical resources" were identified within or adjacent to the project area. Based on these findings, CRM TECH recommends to the County of Riverside a conclusion of *No Impact* regarding cultural resources. No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for the project unless development plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are encountered inadvertently during any earth-moving operations associated with the project, all work within 100 feet of the discovery should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the finds. Any human remains unearthed during the project will need to be addressed in accordance with Health and Safety Code §7050.5 and Public Resources Code §5097.98.

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INTRODUCTION

Between March 2022 and February 2023, at the request of T&B Planning, Inc., CRM TECH completed a cultural resources study for the proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project near the unincorporated community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California (Fig. 1). The project entails primarily the construction of a cross-dock commerce center building with approximately 1,464,112 square feet of interior floor space, including office space and warehouse space, along with a water quality basin, a customer electric substation, and paved parking spaces on Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APN) 648-150-034 and -035. In addition, the project proposes to install new above-ground utility lines along Ramon Road, Sierra del Sol, Robert Road, El Centro Way, San Miguelito Drive, and/or 30th Avenue, including its proposed extension.

The project area consists of approximately 83 acres of vacant land on APN 648-150-034 and -035, located at the northeast corner of Rio del Sol and the future extension of 30th Avenue, as well as the potential utility line routes within the rights-of-way of the public roadways listed above (Figs. 2, 3). The entire project area lies within the southwest quarter of Section 7, the west half of Section 17, and the east half of Section 18, Township 4 South, Range 6 East, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Cathedral City, California, 7.5' quadrangle (Fig. 2).

The study is part of the environmental review process for the proposed project. The County of Riverside, as the lead agency for the project, required the study in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; PRC §21000, et seq.). The purpose of the study is to provide

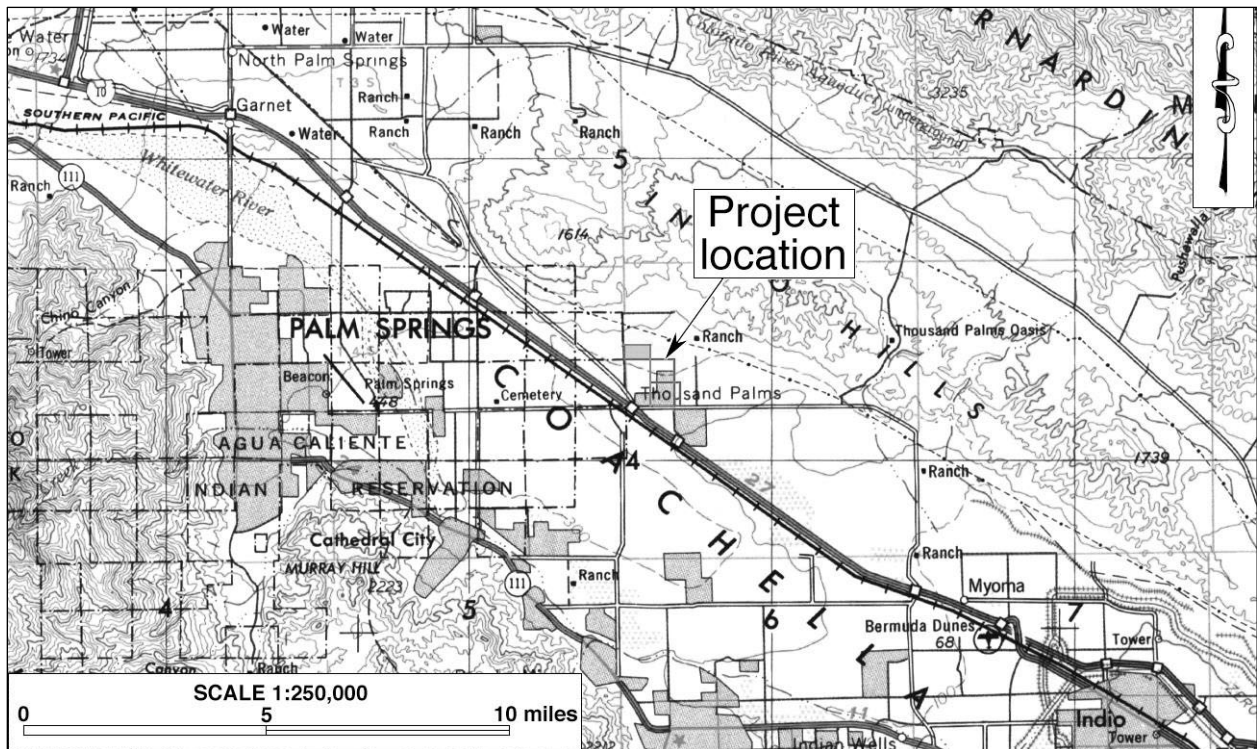


Figure 1. Project vicinity (based on USGS Santa Ana, Calif., 120'x60' quadrangle [USGS 1979]).

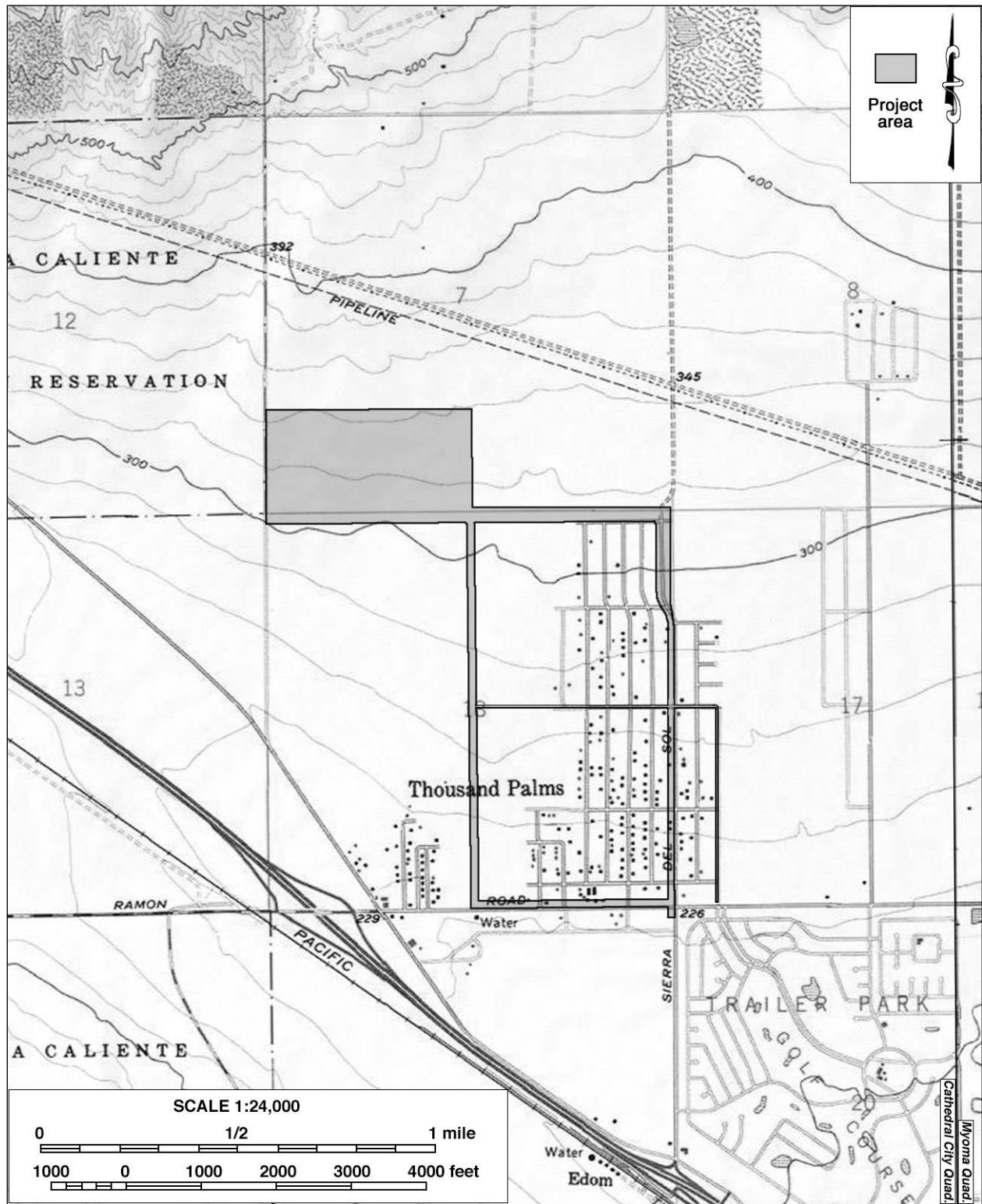


Figure 2. Project area (based on USGS Cathedral City and Myoma, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle [USGS 1978; 1981]).

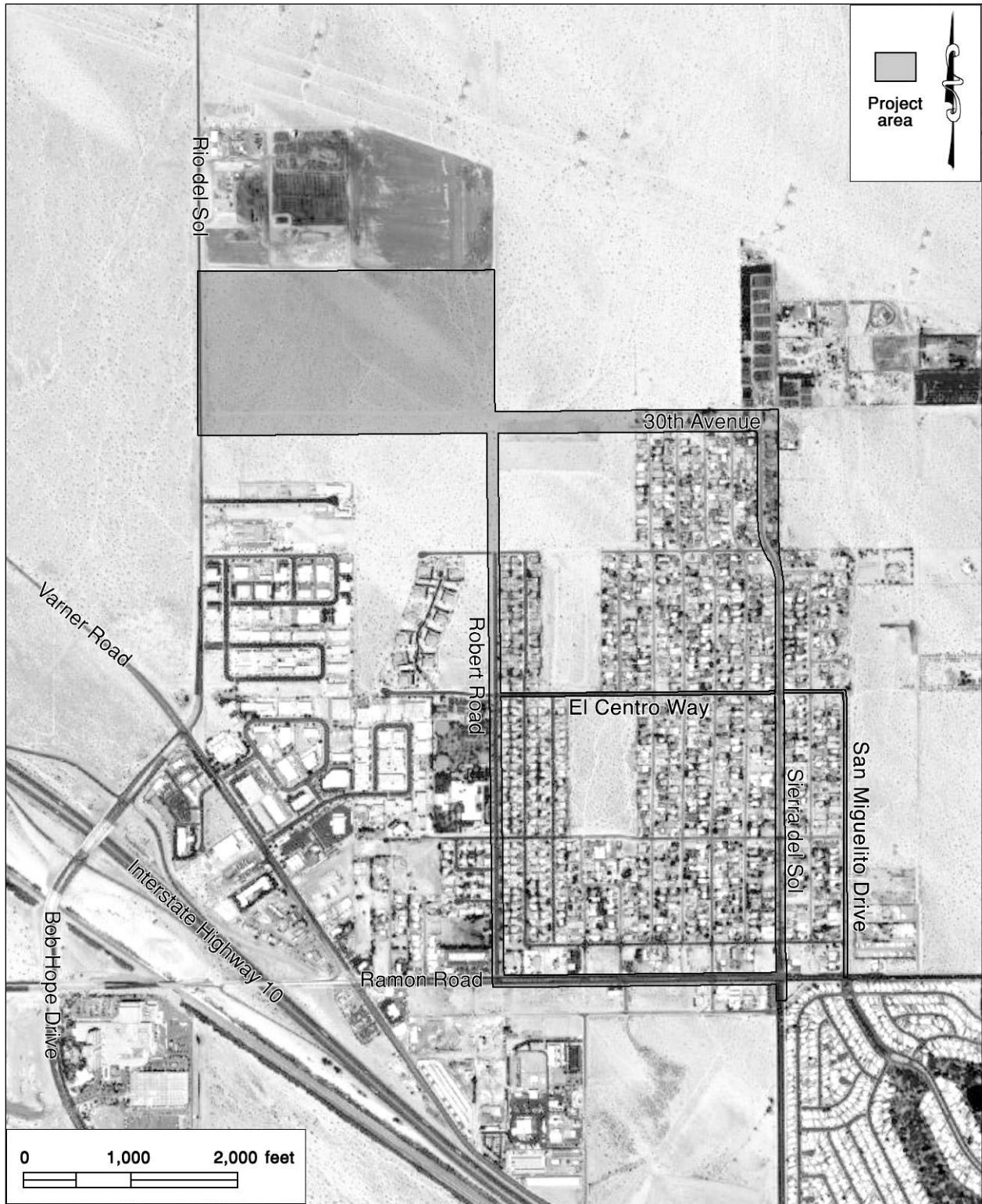


Figure 3. Recent satellite image of the project area (based on Google Earth imagery).

the County with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the proposed project would cause substantial adverse changes to any significant cultural resources that may exist in or near the project area, as mandated by CEQA.

In order to identify such resources, CRM TECH initiated a cultural resources records search and a Native American Sacred Lands File search, pursued historical background research, contacted local Native American representatives, and carried out a systematic 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.

SETTING

CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

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

Situated on the level desert floor to the south of Indio Hills, the project area sits amid residential tracts, an industrial and commercial zone, and open, undeveloped land (Figs. 3, 4). Elevations range around 225 to 340 feet above mean sea level, with a terrain that slopes on a gradual decline towards the south. Prior disturbances to the ground surface include road construction and refuse dumping. Vegetation observed within the project area is sparse and features creosote, cholla, agave and other small grasses and brush as well as landscaping trees and brush along the linear portions of the project area (Fig. 4).



Figure 4. Overview of the main project site (photograph taken on April 15, 2022; view to the south).

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.

In past centuries, Native lifeways in the region was greatly influenced by the lacustral intervals—i.e., inundation and subsequent desiccation—of Holocene Lake Cahuilla, an ancient freshwater lake that repeatedly filled the Salton Basin over a period of at least 2,300 years before the 1730s A.D. (Rockwell et al. 2022). The shoreline of the lake during its last high stand around 1731-1733 coincided roughly with the present-day 42-foot contour (*ibid.*; Wilke 1978; Waters 1983). Because of the many natural resources offered by the lake, the former lakeshore would be a favored setting for aboriginal settlement and is thus highly sensitive for prehistoric archaeological remains today. In contrast, locations at the bottom of the lake during its high stands are generally considered to be of lesser archaeological sensitivity.

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 cooler temperatures and resources available at higher elevations in 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 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.*).

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. Today, Native Americans of Pass or Desert Cahuilla heritage are mostly affiliated with one or more of the Indian reservations in and near the Coachella Valley, including Morongo, Agua Caliente, Cabazon, Torres Martinez, and Augustine. 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.

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 harsh environmental conditions, few non-Indians ventured into the desert valley during the Mexican and early American periods, save a few sporadic travelers along 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 community of Thousand Palms, like two other small localities that once existed in the vicinity, Edom and Dry Camp, owes much of its birth to the presence of railroad facilities. In 1904, two homesteaders, Ned McKesson and August Strelow, arrived in the area to establish a citrus ranch and a date garden, respectively, which would become the dual centers of the budding community during the ensuing decades (Chamber of Commerce n.d.). In 1939, the Southern Pacific Railroad connected its Edom and Dry Camp Sidings into a single, 14,000-foot-long siding and named it the Thousand Palms Siding, after nearby Thousand Palms Canyon and Oasis (Gunther 1984:544). Around the same time, the Edom post office was moved to the vicinity of present-day Thousand Palms to be more convenient for its 20 permanent patrons and 15-20 winter residents (*ibid.*:172). It was subsequently renamed Thousand Palms to reflect the new location (*ibid.*).

After the establishment of U.S. Highway 60/70/99 across the Coachella Valley (now Varner Road in the project vicinity), Thousand Palms enjoyed a brief period of prosperity in the 1930s-1950s hosting businesses that catered to the needs of passing travelers, as did many other small towns in

the California desert region that found themselves next to major arteries in the 1926 United States Numbered Highway System. The same convenience in location also caught the attention of residential developers, who had only limited success before the advantage was negated by the completion of Interstate Highway 10 in the 1950s (Chamber of Commerce n.d.). Since then, Edom and Dry Camp have all but disappeared, but Thousand Palms has grown slowly into a community of several thousand permanent residents today.

RESEARCH METHODS

RECORDS SEARCH

The historical/archaeological resources records search for this study was provided by the Eastern Information Center (EIC), University of California, Riverside, on April 7, 2022. During the records search, EIC staff examined maps and records on file for previously identified cultural resources and existing cultural resources reports within a one-mile radius of the project area. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Riverside County Historic 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 March 11, 2022, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a records search in the commission's Sacred Lands File. The nearby Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians was contacted on March 14 and invited to participate in the upcoming fieldwork. Following the NAHC's recommendations and previously established consultation protocol, on May 16 CRM TECH further contacted a total of 11 tribal representatives in the region in writing for additional information on potential Native American cultural resources in the project vicinity. Correspondence between CRM TECH and the Native American representatives is presented in Appendix 2 and summarized in the sections below.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH principal investigator/historian Bai "Tom" Tang. Sources consulted during the research included published literature in local and regional history, U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1856, USGS topographic maps dated 1904-1981, and aerial/satellite images taken between 1972 and 2021. The historical maps are accessible at the websites of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the USGS, and the aerial/satellite images are available at the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Online website and through the Google Earth software.

FIELD SURVEY

On April 14-15, 2022, CRM TECH field director Daniel Ballester and project archaeologist Hunter O'Donnell carried out the field survey of the project area. The main project site and the linear

portions across open desert land were surveyed on foot at an intensive level by walking a series of parallel north-south transects spaced 15 meters (approximately 50 feet) apart. The portions of the project alignments along paved roads were surveyed at a reconnaissance level by visually inspecting the ground surface from a motor vehicle.

On January 3, 2023, Ballester returned to the project area to conduct a supplemental survey to ensure that all portions of the project area were covered at the appropriate level of intensity. Through these efforts, the ground surface in the entire project area was inspected systematically and carefully for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years or older). Other than the areas covered by existing pavement, visibility of the native ground surface was generally excellent (90-95%) due to the sparse vegetation.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

RECORDS SEARCH

According to EIC records, the main project site had not been surveyed for cultural resources prior to this study, but portions of the linear alignments in the project area had been covered by various past studies on adjacent properties or along the same linear routes (Fig. 5). No cultural resources were previously recorded within the project boundaries. However, one linear site of historical origin, 33-023935, was recorded outside but adjacent to the western boundary of the main project site. The site represents a segment of Rio del Sol, which dates at least to 1941 and possibly as early as 1910. At the time of its initial recordation, 33-023935 was deemed ineligible for listing in either the California Register of Historical Resources or the National Register of Historic Places due to the lack of any notable historical associations or other special merits (Smallwood 2014:2-3; see App. 3).

Within the one-mile scope of the records search, EIC records identify a total of 79 previous studies completed between 1977 and 2018 (Fig. 5; see App. 4). These and other similar studies resulted in the recordation of 45 additional cultural resources within the one-mile radius, including 20 sites, 7 buildings or groups of buildings, 9 linear features, and 9 isolates (i.e., localities with three or less artifacts). Seven of the sites and two of the isolates were of prehistoric (Native American) origin, including several scatters of artifacts and habitation debris such as ceramic sherds, lithic flakes and points, and groundstone artifacts and artifact fragments. Two of the prehistoric sites consisted of human cremation remains, while each of the prehistoric isolates represented a single ceramic sherd. These prehistoric resources were all clustered to the southeast and the southwest of the project location, with none closer than roughly a quarter of a mile (see App. 5).

The other 36 resources all dated to the historic period, including buildings constructed between circa 1920s and the mid-1940s, refuse scatters and isolated refuse items, and linear features such as the Southern Pacific (now Union Pacific) Railroad, power transmission lines, water pipelines, and various roads. Among these, the nearest to the project area was Isolate 33-023935, which consisted of three metal cans found on the adjacent property to the north of the main project site in 2013 (see App. 5). None of the other sites or isolates were located in the immediate vicinity of the project area. Site 33-023935 (Rio del Sol), therefore, is the only previously identified cultural resources that require further consideration during this study.

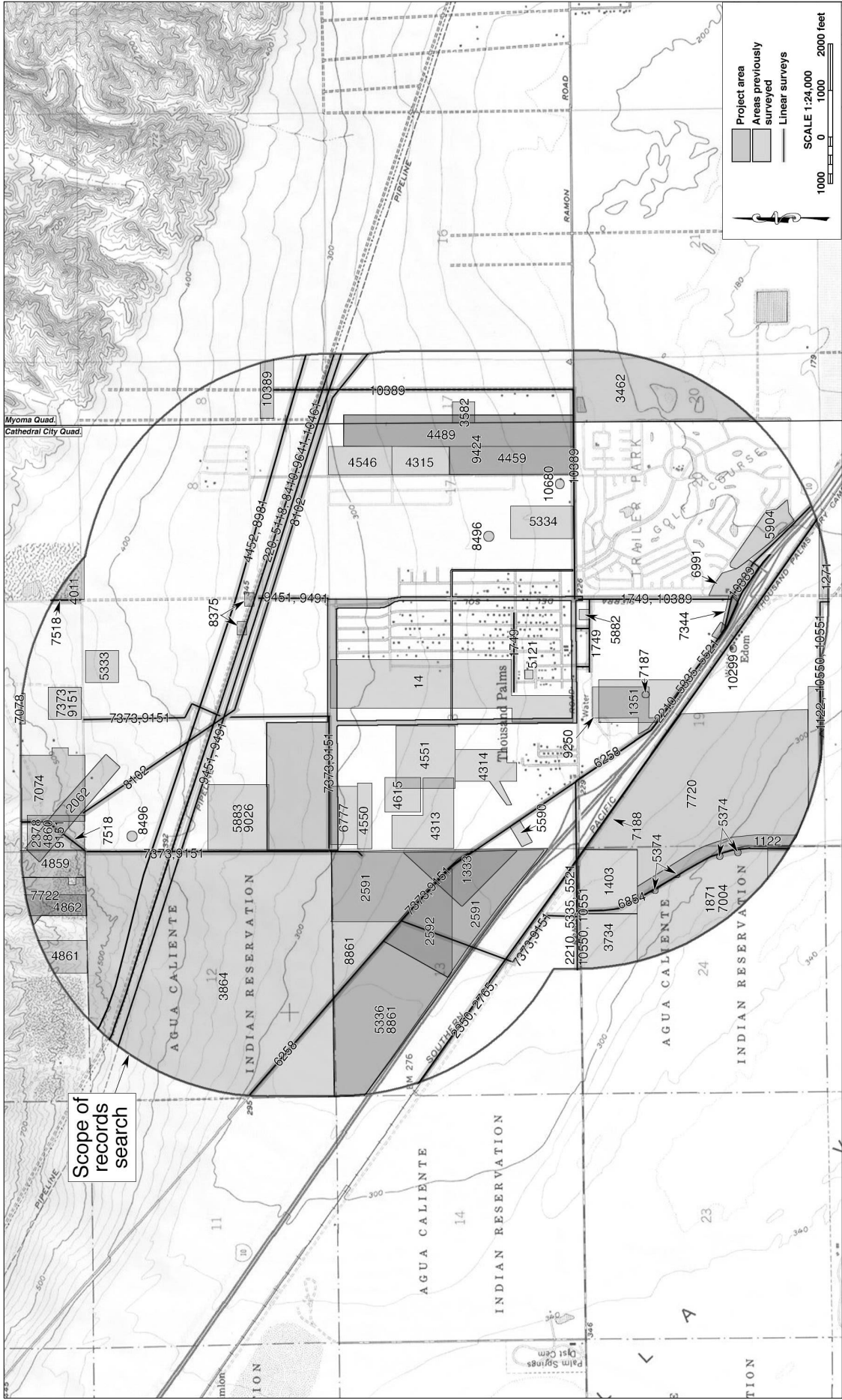


Figure 5. Previous cultural resources studies in the vicinity of the project area, listed by EIC file number. Locations of historical/archaeological resources are not shown as a protective measure.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

In response to CRM TECH's inquiry, the NAHC reports in a letter dated April 28, 2022, that the Sacred Lands File identified no Native American cultural resources in the project vicinity. Noting that the absence of specific information regarding cultural resources would not necessarily preclude the presence of cultural resources, however, the NAHC recommended that local Native American groups be consulted for further information and provided a referral list of 16 individuals associated with 11 local Native American groups who may have knowledge of such resources (see App. 2).

Upon receiving the NAHC's reply, CRM TECH sent written requests for comments to all 11 of the Native American groups on the referral list (see App. 2). For some of the tribes, the designated spokespersons on cultural resources issues were contacted in lieu of the tribal political leaders on the list, as recommended in the past by the tribal government staff. The 11 tribal representatives contacted during this study are listed below:

- Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians;
- Amanda Vance, Chairperson, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians;
- Michael Mirelez, Director of Cultural Affairs, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians;
- BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Coordinator, Cahuilla Band of Indians;
- Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson, Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians;
- Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Morongo Band of Mission Indians;
- Jill McCormick, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation;
- John Gomez, Jr., Environmental Coordinator, Ramona Band of Cahuilla Indians;
- Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator, Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians;
- Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians;
- Alesia Reed, Cultural Chair/Acting Secretary, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians.

As of this time, five of the 11 tribes have responded to the inquiry (see App. 2). Among them, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation offered no comments on this project, and the Quechan Tribe deferred to tribes located in closer proximity. The Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians deferred specifically to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

The Morongo Band of Mission Indians found the project location to be sensitive for tribal cultural resources and also encouraged further consultation with other tribes in closer proximity. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians requested copies of all cultural resource documentation generated in connection with the project for tribal review as well as Native American monitoring during ground-disturbing activities. As mentioned above, the Agua Caliente Band was invited to participate in the field survey but was unable to provide a tribal monitor at the time.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical maps and aerial photographs consulted during this study suggest that, other than the various public roadways that date originally to the early and mid-20th century, the project area is

relatively low in sensitivity for cultural resources from the historic period. In the 1850s, when the U.S government conducted the earliest systematic land surveys in the Coachella Valley, no human-made features were observed in the project area, nor within one mile in any direction (Fig. 6). By the early 1940s, the town of Thousand Palms had been established nearby, represented at that time by a small cluster of buildings at the intersection of U.S. Highway 60/70/99 (present-day Varner Road) and Ramon Road (Fig. 7). Meanwhile, Ramon Road and the unpaved forerunners of Rio del Sol and Sierra del Sol had become the first notable features known to be present within the project boundaries (Fig. 7).

Between then and the 1950s, growth in the Thousand Palms area greatly accelerated, evidently spurred by the post-WWII boom that swept across the entire U.S. Most notably, the residential tracts surrounding the southeastern portion of the project area had taken shape by that time, although the neighborhoods remained rather sparsely populated (Fig. 8). The next growth spurt in the project vicinity took place in the 1970s-1990s period, when the residential neighborhoods were gradually built out and began to expand to the west (NETR Online 1972-1996). Further to the west, commercial development started to reshape the landscape along Rio del Sol around the turn of the century (NETR Online 1996-2005). Throughout these episodes of growth, the main project site, situated on the northern outskirts of Thousand Palms, remained unsettled, undeveloped, and largely unused to the present time (NETR Online 1972-2020; Google Earth 1996-2021).

FIELD SURVEY

During the field survey, two isolates were identified and recorded within the boundaries of the main project site, both dating to the historic period (see App. 3 for further details). They were designated temporarily as 3857-1H and -2H, pending assignment of permanent identification numbers in the California Historical Resources Inventory by the EIC. Isolate 3857-1H consists of the fragmented remains of an aqua-colored, hobble skirt Coca-Cola bottle with an applied ceramic label (ACL). The base fragment contains the embossed maker’s mark of “MG” for the Maywood Glass Company, which only produced Coca-Cola bottles from 1952 to 1957.

Isolate 3857-2H consists of the fragmented remains of three similar bottles, one of them also bearing an applied ceramic label. Two of the base fragments display Owens-Illinois maker’s marks used after 1954, along with the embossed “BOTTLE TRADE MARK.” One of these displays “FRESNO CAL” above and below the trademark while the other shows “BOISE ID”.

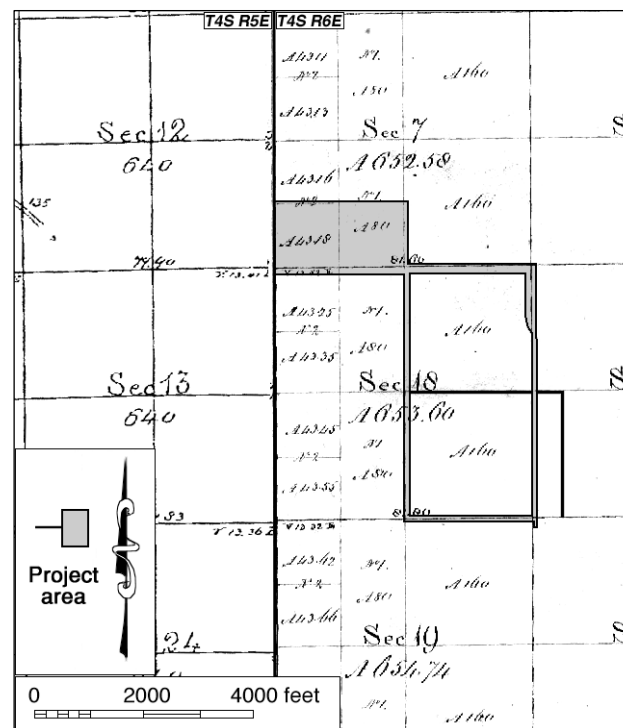


Figure 6. The project area and vicinity in 1855-1856 (source: GLO 1856a; 1856b).

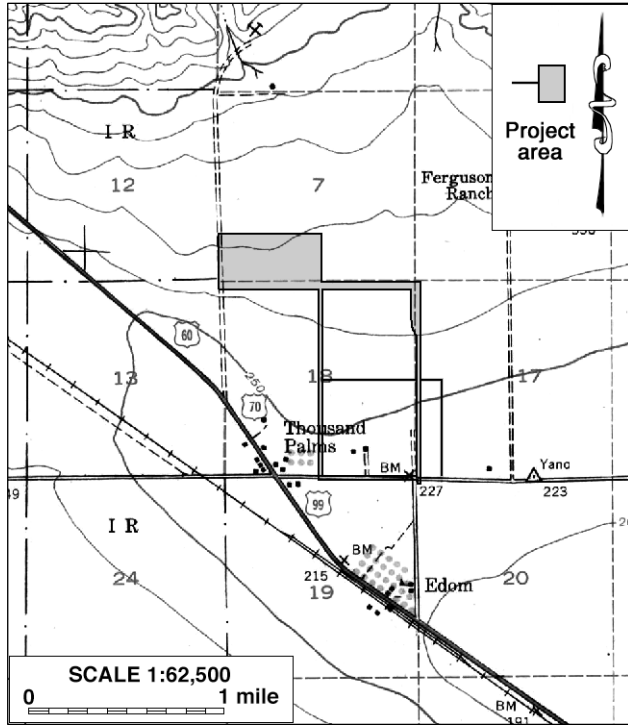


Figure 7. The project area and vicinity in 1941 (source: USGS 1941).

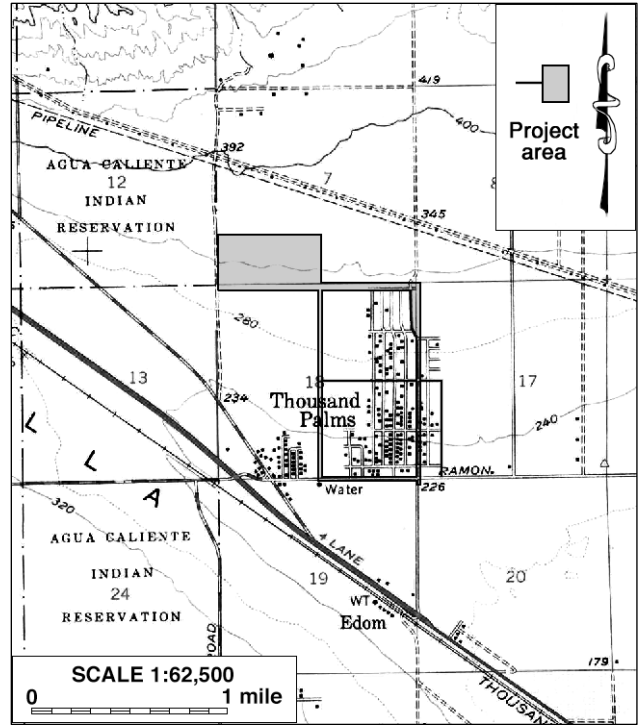


Figure 8. The project area and vicinity in 1951-1958 (source: USGS 1958).

The third bottle base has been heavily sandblasted in the desert environment and no longer displays any trademark or maker's mark.

No other cultural resources, either prehistoric or historical in origin, were encountered within project area. Outside but adjacent to the western boundary of the main project site, Rio del Sol (Site 33-023935) was observed to be a two-lane, asphalt-paved road with soft shoulders. Like the vast majority of other public roadways of historical origin that remain in service today, Rio del Sol is essentially modern in appearance, and its current configuration reflects much more the results of improvements and maintenance in recent decades than its historical origin. While several of the other roads that coincide with the linear portions of the project area also date to the historic period, such as Ramon Road, Sierra del Sol, and parts of Avenue 30 and El Centro Way, they similarly lack any distinctively historical character or potential for historic significance. Therefore, they require no further study.

DISCUSSION

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

the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.”

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

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

In summary of the research results presented above, one cultural resource from the historic period was previously recorded adjacent to the project area, namely the adjacent segment of Rio del Sol (Site 33-023935). At the time of its recordation in 2014, Site 33-023935 was found not to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources because of the lack of any notable historical associations or other special merits (Smallwood 2014:2-3). Based on the results of background research and field observations during the survey, this study concurs with that conclusion. As one of the many common roadways built during the late historic period and a working component of the modern transportation infrastructure, Rio del Sol does not retain any distinctively historical character to relate to its period of origin due to improvements and maintenance in the modern era and in general demonstrate little potential for historical significance.

The field survey resulted in the discovery and recordation of two isolates from the historic period, temporarily designated 3857-1H and -2H, within the main project site. Both of the isolates consist of domestic refuse items, a common type of artifact to be found in the southern California desert region, and both contained solely fragments of aqua-colored, hobble skirt Coca-Cola bottles dating to the 1950s era, from which similar artifacts survive in very large numbers. By definition, the isolates do not constitute archaeological sites due to the lack of depositional context. Therefore, they are not considered potential “historical resources” and require no further consideration in the CEQA-compliance process.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

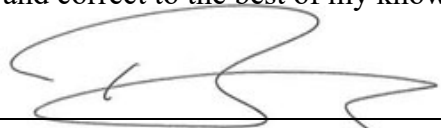
CEQA establishes that “a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment” (PRC §21084.1). “Substantial adverse change,” according to PRC §5020.1(q), “means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of a historical resource would be

impaired.” As stated above, two historic-period isolates were recorded within the project area during the current study, and one built-environment feature of historical origin was previously recorded adjacent to the western project boundary, but none of them meets the statutory definition of a “historical resource” under CEQA provisions. No other potential “historical resources” were encountered throughout the course of this study. Therefore, CRM TECH concludes that no “historical resources” will be impacted by the proposed project and recommends that it may be cleared to proceed in compliance with CEQA provisions on cultural resources under the following conditions, as formulated by the County of Riverside:

- If during ground-disturbance activities, unanticipated cultural resources (i.e., a feature and/or three or more artifacts in close association with each other) are discovered, the following procedures shall be followed:
 - All ground-disturbance activities within 100 feet of the discovered cultural resource shall be halted and the applicant shall call the County Archaeologist immediately upon discovery of the cultural resource. A meeting shall be convened between the developer, the project archaeologist, the Native American tribal representative (or other appropriate ethnic/cultural group representative), and the County Archaeologist to discuss the significance of the find. At the meeting with the aforementioned parties, a decision is to be made, with the concurrence of the County Archaeologist, as to the appropriate treatment (documentation, recovery, avoidance, etc.) for the cultural resource. Resource evaluations shall be limited to nondestructive analysis.
 - Further ground disturbance shall not resume within the area of the discovery until the appropriate treatment has been accomplished.
 - Pursuant to State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, if human remains are encountered, no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made the necessary findings as to origin. Further, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 (b), remains shall be left in place and free from disturbance until a final decision as to the treatment and their disposition has been made. If the Riverside County Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission shall be contacted by the Coroner within the period specified by law (24 hours). Subsequently, the Native American Heritage Commission shall identify the “Most Likely Descendant.” The Most Likely Descendant shall then make recommendations and engage in consultation with the property owner concerning the treatment of the remains as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

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

DATE: February 9, 2023

SIGNED: 
Name: Bai “Tom” Tang
County Registration No.: 114

REFERENCES

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2005 *Tending the Wild: Native American Knowledge and the Management of California's Natural Resources*. University of California Press, Berkeley.
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1978 Cahuilla. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8: *California*; pp. 575-587. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
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1972 *Temalpakh: Cahuilla Indian knowledge and usage of plants*. Malki Museum Press, Banning, California.
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n.d. Thousand Palms: The Yesteryears. http://thousandpalmschamber.com/thousand_palms_history.htm.
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2002 The Native Americans of Joshua Tree National Park: An Ethnographic Overview and Assessment Study. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/jotr/history6.htm.
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1856a Plat map: Township No. 4 South Range No. 5 East, SBBM; surveyed in 1855-1856.
1856b Plat map: Township No. 4 South Range No. 6 East, SBBM; surveyed in 1855-1856.
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1996-2021 Aerial photographs of the project vicinity; taken in 1996, 2002, 2004-2006, 2009-2013, 2015-2019, and 2021. Available through the Google Earth software.
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1987 *The Bradshaw Trail*; revised edition. Historical Commission Press, Riverside.
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1998 *Coachella Valley California: A Pictorial History*. The Donning Company, Virginia Beach, Virginia.
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- Robinson, W.W.
1948 *Land in California*. University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Rockwell, Thomas K., Aron J. Meltzner, Erik C. Haaker, and Danielle Madugo
2022 The Late Holocene History of Lake Cahuilla: Two Thousand Years of Repeated Fillings within the Salton Trough, Imperial Valley, California. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 282 (April 15). <https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0277379122000877>.
- Ross, Delmer G.
1992 *Gold Road to La Paz: An Interpretive Guide to the Bradshaw Trail*. Tales of the Mojave Road Publishing Company, Essex, California.

Schaefer, Jerry

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

Shields Date Gardens

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

Smallwood, Josh

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Strong, William Duncan

1929 *Aboriginal Society in Southern California*. University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology Vol. 26.

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

1904 Map: Indio, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1901.

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

1958 Map: Thousand Palms, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photographs taken in 1951 and 1956, field-checked in 1958.

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

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.

Waters, Michael R.

1983 Late Holocene Lacustrine Chronology and Archaeology of Ancient Lake Cahuilla. *Quaternary Research* 19:373-387.

Wilke, Philip J.

1978 *Late Prehistoric Human Ecology at Lake Cahuilla, Coachella Valley, California*.

Contributions of the University of California Archaeological Research Facility 38. University of California, Berkeley.

**APPENDIX 1
PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS**

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

Education

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

Professional Experience

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

Research Interests

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

Cultural Resources Management Reports

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

Memberships

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

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/REPORT WRITER
Deirdre Encarnación, M.A.

Education

- 2003 M.A., Anthropology, San Diego State University, California.
2000 B.A., Anthropology, minor in Biology, with honors; San Diego State University, California.
- 2021 Certificate of Specialization, Kumeyaay Studies, Cuyamaca College, California.
2001 Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.
2000 Archaeological Field School, San Diego State University.

Professional Experience

- 2004- Project Archaeologist/Report Writer, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
2001-2003 Part-time Lecturer, San Diego State University, California.
2001 Research Assistant for Dr. Lynn Gamble, San Diego State University.
2001 Archaeological Collection Catalog, SDSU Foundation.

Memberships

Society for California Archaeology; Society for Hawaiian Archaeology; California Native Plant Society.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON
Nina Gallardo, B.A.

Education

- 2004 B.A., Anthropology/Law and Society, University of California, Riverside.

Professional Experience

- 2004- Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Co-author of and contributor to numerous cultural resources management reports since 2004.

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

Education

- 2013 M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
- 1998 B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
- 1997 Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
- 1994 University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

- 2007 Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
- 2002 “Historic Archaeology Workshop,” presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base; presented at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

Professional Experience

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

Cultural Resources Management Reports

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

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST
Hunter C. O'Donnell, B.A.

Education

- 2016-2015 M.A. Program, Applied Archaeology, California State University, San Bernardino.
B.A. (*cum laude*), Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
- 2012 A.A., Social and Behavioral Sciences, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, California.
- 2011 A.A., Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, California.
- 2014 Archaeological Field School, Santa Rosa Mountains; supervised by Bill Sapp of the United States Forest Service and Daniel McCarthy of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Professional Experience

- 2017-2016-2018 Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
Graduate Research Assistant, Applied Archaeology, California State University, San Bernardino.
- 2016-2017 Cultural Intern, Cultural Department, Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Temecula, California.
- 2015 Archaeological Intern, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Barstow, California.
- 2015 Peer Research Consultant: African Archaeology, California State University, San Bernardino.

APPENDIX 2

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH
NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES***

* Eleven local Native American representatives were contacted; a sample letter is included in this appendix.

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: Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project (CRM TECH No. 3857)

County: Riverside

USGS Quadrangle Name: Cathedral City and Myoma, Calif.

Township 4 South **Range** 6 East **SB BM; Section(s):** 7, 18, and 19

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 construct a development on approximately 141.4 acres of land (including alignments) that is located generally at the northeast corner of Rio del Sol Road and the future alignment of 30th Avenue and in Ramon Road, Sierra del Sol, Robert Road, and Avenue 30 (including the extension of it), near the community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California.

March 11, 2022

From: ngallardo@crmtech.us
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:00 AM
To: Heredia, Andreas (TRBL)
Cc: 'Padilla, Lacy (TRBL)'; 'ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net'
Subject: Participation in Cultural Resources Fieldwork for the Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project near the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH No. 3857)

Hello Andreas,

I'm writing to inform you that CRM TECH will be conducting the cultural resources study for the proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project near the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH No. 3857). 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 begin to set up 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 project information. 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: Padilla, Lacy (TRBL) <lpadilla@aguacaliente.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 8:19 AM
To: 'ngallardo@crmtech.us'; Heredia, Andreas (TRBL)
Subject: RE: Participation in Cultural Resources Fieldwork for the Proposed Single-Family Homes Project at 78624 Darby Road (CRM TECH No. 3853A) and CRM TECH #3846 and 3857

Good Morning Nina,

We don't have time right now to participate in surveys. The office is really busy at the moment. Please keep us updated and let us know if anything is found.

Thank you!
Lacy Padilla, M.A., RPA
Archaeologist
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264
C: 760-333-5222

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 28, 2022

Nina Gallardo
CRM TECH

Via Email to: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Re: Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms (CRM TECH No. 3857) Project, Riverside County

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Pricilla.Torres-Fuentes@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Pricilla Torres-Fuentes

Pricilla Torres-Fuentes
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment



CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
Karuk

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
William Hungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C. Hitchcock
Miwok/Nisenan

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

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
4/28/2022**

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

**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

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

**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 Majestic Thousand Palms (CRM TECH No. 3857) Project, Riverside County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
4/28/2022**

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**

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

**Soboba Band of Luiseno
Indians**

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

**Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla
Indians**

Cultural Committee,
P.O. Box 1160 Cahuilla
Thermal, CA, 92274
Phone: (760) 397 - 0300
Fax: (760) 397-8146
Cultural-
Committee@torresmartinez-
nsn.gov

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

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms (CRM TECH No. 3857) Project, Riverside County.

May 16, 2022

RE: Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project
Assessor's Parcel Numbers 648-150-034 and -035
Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California
CRM TECH Contract #3857

Dear Tribal Representative:

I am writing to bring your attention to an ongoing CEQA-compliance study for the proposed project referenced above. The project entails zoning and land use changes to approximately 90 acres of land (APNs 648-150-034 and -035) in anticipation of construction of a commerce center building and future commercial use. The project area is located at the northeast corner of Rio del Sol Road and Avenue 30, and additionally includes segments nearby roads including Ramon Road, Sierra del Sol, Robert Road, and the future alignment of 30th Avenue. The project area is located in the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County, California. The accompanying map, based on the USGS Cathedral City and Myoma, Calif., 7.5' quadrangles, depict the project area lying within Sections 7, 18, and 19, T4S R6E, SBBM.

The results of a recent Sacred Lands File search by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) were negative but contacting local Native American groups for further information was recommended (see attached). Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input if you have any specific knowledge of sacred/religious sites or other sites of Native American traditional cultural value in or near the project area, or any other information to consider during the cultural resources investigations. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agency, namely the County of Riverside.

We would also like to clarify that, as the cultural resources consultant for the project, CRM TECH is not involved in the AB 52-compliance process or in government-to-government consultations. The purpose of this letter is to seek any information that you may have to help us determine if there are cultural resources in or near the project area that we should be aware of and to help us assess the sensitivity of the project area. Thank you for your time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American liaison
CRM TECH
Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Encl.: NAHC response letter and project location map

From: Vanessa Minott <vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 3:50 PM
To: ngallardo@crmtech.us
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project: APNs 648-150-034 and -035 in the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH #3857)

Acha'i Tamit,

Santa Rosa doesn't have any comments.

Respectfully,
Vanessa Minott

Tribal Administrator
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
W - 951-659-2700 ext. 102
Please note that my email has changed to vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov

From: GW Res <grestmtm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 5:57 PM
To: ngallardo@crmtech.us
Cc: Torres-Matinez Cultural Committee; Joseph Lavergne
Subject: Re: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project: APNs 648-150-034 and -035 in the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH #3857)

Good afternoon

I am responding on behalf of our Tribes Cultural Committee regarding NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project: APNs 648-150-034 and -035, in the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH # 3857) this project is outside our tribe Prehistoric settlement pattern . Our Cultural Committee would be deferring to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

We appreciate your time and effort in helping us protect our Tribes Traditional Cultural Resource

Any questions comments or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully
Gary Wayne Resvaloso Jr
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians MLD
(442) 256-2964
grestmtm@gmail.com

*Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.
Martin Luther King Jr.*

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

ngallardo@crmtech.us

May 16, 2022

Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
CRM TECH
1016 East Cooley Drive, Suites A&B
Colton, CA 92324

**MORONGO
BAND OF
MISSION
INDIANS**



A SOVEREIGN NATION

**Re: Proposed Parcel Division and Residential Project in Bermuda Dunes (CRM Tech #609-061-006)
Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project (CRM Tech #3853)**

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

The Morongo Band of Mission Indians (Tribe/MBMI) Tribal Historic Preservation Office is in receipt of your letters regarding the above referenced projects. Thank you for reaching out to Tribe at an early stage. The proposed projects are not located in the ancestral territory and traditional use area of the Cahuilla and Serrano people of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

Both these project areas are extremely sensitive for Tribal cultural resources. Thank you for notifying the MBMI about this project. MBMI encourages your consultation with tribes more closely associated with the lands upon which the projects are located.

Respectfully,



Bernadette Ann Brierty

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

CC: Morongo THPO

From: Quechan Historic Preservation <historicpreservation@quechantribe.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 8:06 AM
To: ngallardo@crmtech.us
Subject: RE: NA Scoping Letter for the Proposed Majestic Thousand Palms Project: APNs 648-150-034 and -035 in the Community of Thousand Palms, Riverside County (CRM TECH #3857)

This email is to inform you that we do not wish to comment on this project. We defer to the more local Tribes and support their determinations on this matter.



03-006-2022-026

June 06, 2022

[VIA EMAIL TO:ngallardo@crmtech.us]
CRM TECH
Ms. Nina Gallardo
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Re: Majestic Thousand Palms Project

Dear Ms. Nina Gallardo,

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians (ACBCI) appreciates your efforts to include the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) in the GPA220004, PPT220022 project. The project area is not located within the boundaries of the ACBCI Reservation. However, it is within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. For this reason, the ACBCI THPO requests the following:

- *A cultural resources inventory of the project area by a qualified archaeologist prior to any development activities in this area.
- *A copy of the records search with associated survey reports and site records from the information center.
- *Copies of any cultural resource documentation (report and site records) generated in connection with this project.
- *The presence of an approved Agua Caliente Native American Cultural Resource Monitor(s) during any ground disturbing activities (including archaeological testing and surveys). Should buried cultural deposits be encountered, the Monitor may request that destructive construction halt and the Monitor shall notify a Qualified Archaeologist (Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines) to investigate and, if necessary, prepare a mitigation plan for submission to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Agua Caliente Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Again, the Agua Caliente appreciates your interest in our cultural heritage. If you have questions or require additional information, please call me at (760)699-6956. You may also email me at ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net.

Cordially,

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS



Lacy Padilla
Archaeologist
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
AGUA CALIENTE BAND
OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

APPENDIX 3

**CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN OR
ADJACENT TO THE PROJECT AREA**

**Site 33-023935 and
Isolates 3857-1H and -2H (Temporary Designations)**