Appendix C1

Cultural Resources Assessment

CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

The Hemet JD Fields Project (APN 456-140-008)
Hemet, Riverside County, California

Prepared for:

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Project No. KIM2110

Data Base (NADB) Information:
Type of Study: Intensive Survey
Resources Recorded: KIM2110-H-1
Keywords: Irrigation, Weir, Stand Pipe
USGS Quadrangle: 7.5-minute *Hemet*, *California* (1979)

BCRCONSULTING LLC

August 4, 2022

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Kimley-Horn to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the JD Fields Project (Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008; the project/subject property) located in the City of Hemet, Riverside County, California. A cultural resources records search, intensive level pedestrian field survey, a Sacred Lands File search with the Native American Heritage Commission, and paleontological resources overview were conducted for the subject property in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The records search results revealed that four previous cultural resource studies have taken place, and one cultural resource has been recorded within one half-mile of the project site. Of the four previous studies, none have assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries.

During the field survey, BCR Consulting personnel identified one historic-period irrigation feature consisting of a weir box and stand pipe, temporarily designated KIM2110-H-1. It is recommended not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and as such is not significant under CEQA. It does not warrant further consideration. No other cultural resources (including historic-period architectural resources, prehistoric archaeological resources, or historic-period archaeological resources) have been identified within the project site boundaries, despite relatively high surface visibility. The project site has been subject to severe disturbances associated with mechanical clearing, discing, and water leveling associated with former cultivation. These factors confer low sensitivity for significant buried resources within the project site boundaries. However, while the current study has not indicated sensitivity for unknown cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist would have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks;
- human remains;
- historic-period artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic-period structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements.

Findings were negative during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC. The City will initiate Assembly Bill (AB) 52 Native American Consultation for the project. Since the City will initiate and carry out the required Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary. The results of the Sacred Lands File search are provided in Appendix C.

According to CEQA Guidelines, projects subject to CEQA must determine whether the project would "directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource". The Paleontological Overview provided in Appendix E has recommended that:

> The geologic units underlying the project area are mapped as Quaternary alluvium dating to the Pliocene-Holocene. Quaternary alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area, but does have numerous localities within similarly mapped alluvial sediments throughout the region. Pleistocene alluvial deposits in southern California are well documented and known to contain abundant fossil resources including those associated with Columbian mammoth (Mammuthus columbi), Pacific mastodon (Mammut pacificus), sabertooth cat (Smilodon fatalis), ancient horse (Equus sp.), and many other Pleistocene megafauna.
>
> Any fossils recovered from the BCR Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Quaternary alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection and make recommendations for the treatment and disposition of the human remains, within 48 hours of being granted access to the site, not of being notified by the NAHC.

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INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Kimley-Horn to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 (the project/subject property) located in the City of Hemet (City), Riverside County, California. A cultural resources records search, intensive pedestrian field survey, a Sacred Lands File Search with the Native American Heritage Commission, and paleontological resources overview were conducted for the subject property in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The subject property is located within Section 16 of Township 5 South, Range 1 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS*) Hemet, California* (1979) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). The owner is pursuing the development of the 9.53-acre parcel located, which is located on the east side of Gilmore Street. The proposed development will include a 25,000 square foot warehouse building, 3,000 square foot office, and associated parking and driveways. The majority of the site will be used as outdoor storage. The City Community Development Department is the lead agency for CEQA.

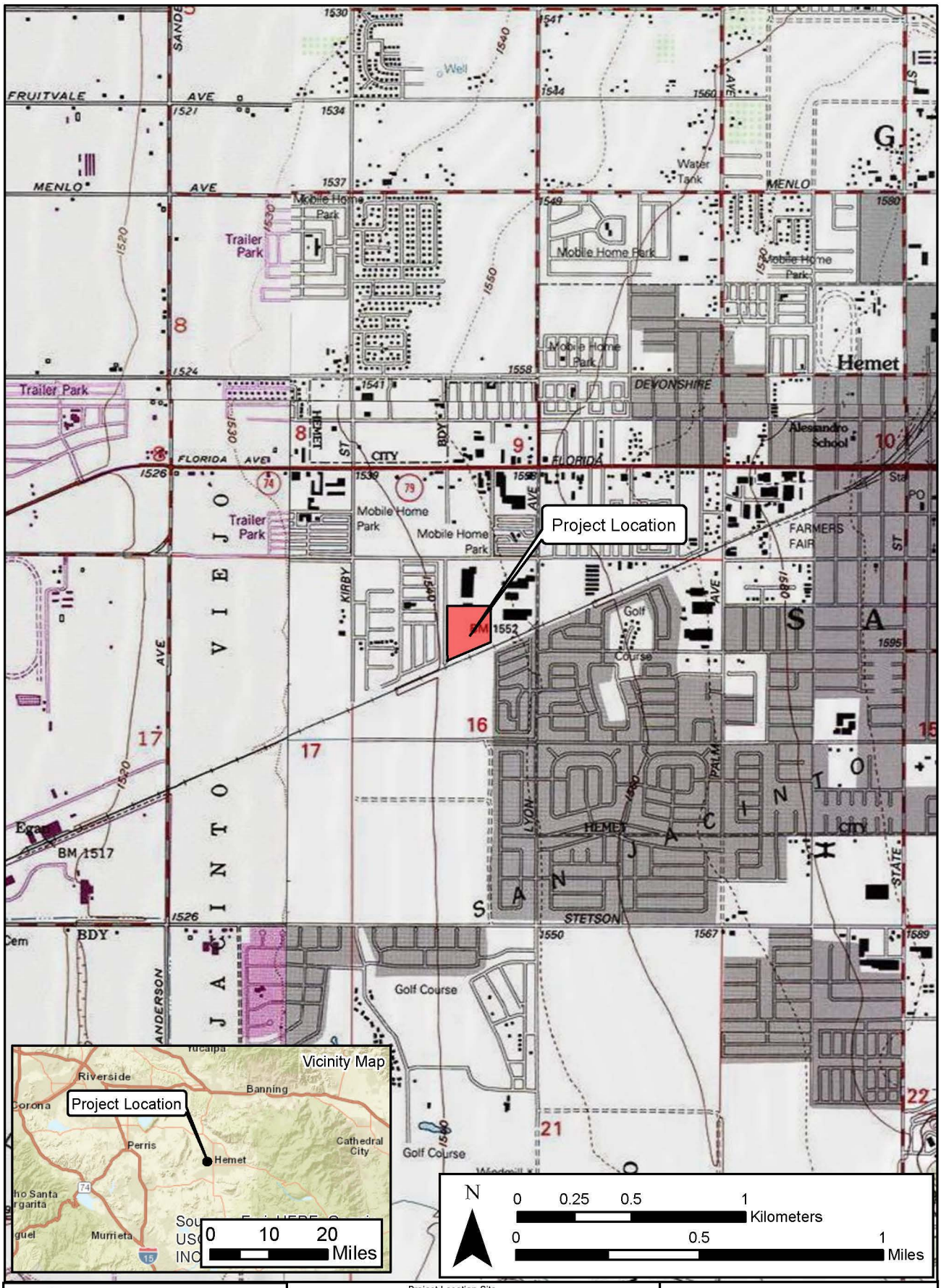
Regulatory Setting

The California Environmental Quality Act. CEQA applies to all discretionary projects undertaken or subject to approval by the state's public agencies (California Code of Regulations 14(3), § 15002(i)). Under CEQA, "A project with an effect 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" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(b)). State CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(a) defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register)
- Listed in a local register of historical resources (as defined at Cal. Public Res. Code § 5020.1(k))
- Identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of § 5024.1(g) of the Cal. Public Res. Code
- Determined to be a historical resource by a project's lead agency (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a))

A historical resource consists of "Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California…Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)).

The significance of a historical resource is impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for the California Register. If an impact on a historical or archaeological resource is significant, CEQA requires feasible measures to



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Project Location Site
Assessor Parcel Number
456-140-008 Project

Figure 1

Reference: ESRI; USGS Quad: Hemet (1979), California

Kimley-Horn

minimize the impact (State CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4 (a)(1)). Mitigation of significant impacts must lessen or eliminate the physical impact that the project will have on the resource. Section 5024.1 of the Cal. Public Res. Code established the California Register. Generally, a resource is considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)). The eligibility criteria for the California Register are similar to those of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), and a resource that meets one of more of the eligibility criteria of the National Register will be eligible for the California Register.

The California Register program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural significance, identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes, determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding and affords certain protections under CEQA. Criteria for Designation:

1. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). Fifty years is normally considered sufficient time for a potential historical resource, and in order that the evaluation remain valid for a minimum of five years after the date of this report, all resources older than 45 years (i.e. resources from the "historic-period") will be evaluated for California Register listing eligibility, or CEQA significance. The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Assembly Bill 52. California Assembly Bill 52 was approved on September 25, 2014. As stated in Section 11 of AB 52, the act applies only to projects that have a notice of preparation or a notice of negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration filed on or after July 1, 2015.

AB 52 establishes "tribal cultural resources" (TCRs) as a new category of resources under CEQA. As defined under Public Resources Code Section 21074, TCRs are "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe" that are either: (1) included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register; included in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k); or (2) determined by the lead agency to be

significant pursuant to the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(c), if supported by substantial evidence and taking into account the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe. A "historical resource" as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21084.1, a "unique archaeological resource" as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g), or a "nonunique archaeological resource" as defined in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(h) may also be TCRs.

AB 52 further establishes a new consultation process with California Native American tribes for proposed projects in geographic areas that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with that tribe. Per Public Resources Code Section 21073, "California Native American tribe" includes federally and non-federally recognized tribes on the NAHC contact list. Subject to certain prerequisites, AB 52 requires, among other things, that a lead agency consult with the geographically affiliated tribe before the release of an environmental review document for a proposed project regarding project alternatives, recommended mitigation measures, or potential significant effects, if the tribe so requests in writing. If the tribe and the lead agency agree upon mitigation measures during their consultation, these mitigation measures must be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document (Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21084.2, and 21084.3). Since the City will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address comments as necessary.

Paleontological Resources. CEQA provides guidance relative to significant impacts on paleontological resources, indicating that a project would have a significant impact on paleontological resources if it disturbs or destroys a unique paleontological resource or site, or unique geologic feature. Section 5097.5 of the California Public Resources Code specifies that any unauthorized removal of paleontological remains is a misdemeanor. Further, California Penal Code Section 622.5 sets the penalties for damage or removal of paleontological resources. CEQA documentation prepared for projects would be required to analyze paleontological resources as a condition of the CEQA process to disclose potential impacts. Please note that as of January 2018 paleontological resources are considered in the geological rather than cultural category. Therefore, paleontological resources are not summarized in the body of this report. A paleontological overview completed by professional paleontologists from the Western Science Center is provided as Appendix E.

City of Hemet. The City of Hemet General Plan Historic Resources Element lists goals and objectives for preserving historic resources and promoting an appreciation of Hemet's history and presents an implementation strategy to meet the Element's goals and objectives (see https://www.hemetca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/809/9_Historic_Resources_web?bidId=). The goals and policies are listed below.

Goal HR-1: Identify, maintain, protect, and enhance elements of Hemet's cultural, historic, social, economic, architectural, agricultural, archaeological, and scenic heritage.

- HR-1.1: Encourage the preservation and re-use of historic structures, landscape features, roads, landmark trees, and trails as well as public access to significant scenic vistas, viewpoints, and view corridors.

- HR-1.2: Promote an understanding and appreciation of Hemet's history and built environment.

- HR-1.3: Provide incentives wherever possible to protect, preserve, and maintain the City's heritage by offering alternatives to demolition and encouraging restoration and rehabilitation. Where feasible, allocate resources and/or tax credits to prioritize the retrofitting of irreplaceable historic structures.

- HR-1.4: Require development applications that include the demolition of structures older than 50 years or are listed in the Eastern Information Center Historic Data File for Riverside County, to consider alternatives to demolition such as architecturally compatible rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, and relocation.

- HR-1.5: Encourage retention of the character of existing historic structures and design elements that define the built environment of the City's older neighborhoods.

- HR-1.6: Encourage retention of structures in their original use or reconversion to their original use where feasible. Encourage sensitive, adaptive re-use where the original use is no longer feasible.

- HR-1.7: Encourage the incorporation of historic design features, as well as safety, when street or other public improvements are proposed in older neighborhoods and districts.

- HR1.8: Utilize use of the California State Historic Building Code to facilitate the proper restoration and rehabilitation of historic structures.

- HR-1.9: Public Buildings and Sites Maintain and improve City-owned or City-funded historic buildings and sites in an architecturally and environmentally sensitive manner.

Goal HR-2: Preserve significant archaeological and paleontological resources in areas under the City's jurisdiction, to the greatest extent possible.

- HR-2.1: Consult with the Soboba Band and any other interested Indian tribes to identify and appropriately address cultural resources and tribal sacred sites through the development review process. Require a Native American Statement as part of the environmental review process of development projects with identified cultural resources.

- HR-2.2: Require monitoring of new developments where resources or potential resources have been identified in the review process

- HR-2.3: Resources found prior to or during site development shall be evaluated by a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist, and appropriate mitigation measures shall be applied before resumption of development activities. Development project proponents shall bear all costs associated with the monitoring and disposition of cultural resources management within the project site.

- HR-2.4: To the extent practicable and appropriate, newly uncovered non-Native American archeological and paleontological resources shall be transferred to the Western Science Center of Diamond Valley for cataloguing, study and, if appropriate, display.

Goal HR-3: Foster increased community awareness and appreciation of Hemet's unique heritage.

- HR-3.1: Coordinate with community organizations, local Indian tribes, property owners, educational institutions, and other governmental agencies to facilitate Hemet's historic preservation program.

- HR-3.2: Encourage and promote activities and events designed to educate the community about the history of the Hemet area and the recognition of local historical and cultural resources.

NATURAL SETTING

The elevation of the subject property is approximately 1545 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Artificial disturbances associated with mechanical clearing, discing, and water leveling for cultivation have been severe. Sparse seasonal grasses inhabit the property, although coastal sage scrub represents the dominant regional native vegetation community in the area.

Biology

As noted above, coastal sage scrub vegetation community is typical of the area (see Williams 2008). For details on local prehistoric use of plant and animal species, see Bean and Shipek (1978:552) and Oxendine (1983:19-29). Sparkman (1908) and Bean and Saubel (1972) can be referenced for overviews of prehistoric harvesting and processing methods, and to review seasons and conditions in which edible plants grow locally.

Geology

The subject property is located in the Peninsular Range geologic province of California that encompasses western Riverside County. It occupies the eastern margin of the Perris Block (Kenney 1999), which is bounded on the east by the San Jacinto Fault (Reynolds 1988, Morton 1972, 1977). Crystalline rocks present in the region include late Jurassic and cretaceous granitics of the southern California batholith. These resistant rocks weather to form gray or tan colored, boulder-covered conical buttes and hills. Locally, a thin veneer of Holocene soils typically obscures late Pleistocene sediments that often erode away to reveal the base of local boulder outcrops (Rogers 1965). During prehistory in Western Riverside County the boulders that form such outcrops were widely utilized as milling slicks for seed processing, although no boulders of this type were observed in the subject property area. Decomposing granite in the form of light colored silty sand dominates sediments observed within the subject property.

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Context

The local prehistoric cultural setting has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for Riverside County are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the area and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, local chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends review of Warren and Crabtree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

Ethnography

The project region was peripherally occupied by the Luiseño and the Cahuilla (Bean and Shipek 1978; Kroeber 1925). Ethnographic summaries are provided for each group, below.

Luiseño. Typically, the native culture groups in southern California are named after nearby Spanish missions, and such is the case for this Takic-speaking population. For instance, the term "Luiseño" is applied to the natives inhabiting the region within the "ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Mission San Luis Rey…[and who shared] an ancestral relationship which is evident in their cosmogony, and oral tradition, common language, and reciprocal relationship in ceremonies" (Oxendine 1983:8). The first written accounts of the Luiseño are attributed to the mission fathers. Sparkman (1908), Oxendine (1983) and others produced later documentation. Prior to Spanish occupation of California, the territory of the Luiseño extended along the coast from Agua Hedionda Creek to the south, Aliso Creek to the northwest, and the Elsinore Valley and Palomar Mountain to the east. These territorial boundaries were somewhat fluid and changed through time. They encompassed an extremely diverse environment that included coastal beaches, lagoons and marshes, inland river valleys and foothills, and mountain groves of oaks and evergreens (Bean and Shipek 1978:551).

Cahuilla. The territory of the Cahuilla ranges from the area near the Salton Sea up into the San Bernardino Mountains and San Gorgonio Pass (Bean 1978; Kroeber 1925). The Cahuilla are generally divided into three groups: Desert Cahuilla, Mountain Cahuilla, and Western (or Pass) Cahuilla (Kroeber 1925). The term Western Cahuilla is preferred over Pass Cahuilla because this group is not confined to the San Gorgonio Pass area. The distinctions are believed to be primarily geographic, although linguistic and cultural

History

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

Spanish Period. The first European to pass through the vicinity is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

Mexican Period. In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

American Period. The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19th century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

Hemet. Early reference to Hemet included a Hemet post office which was listed in 1898, and by 1900 “Hemet” appeared on the Official Railway Map. The name’s origin is a matter of some dispute. It does not appear to have a Spanish derivative like many of its neighbors. Kroeber surmised that it sounded like a “Luiseño Shoshonean” word and may have been the local name for the valley prior to European contact. Another theory connects it with the Swedish “hemmet” for “in the home”. In the early 1800s, the region comprised Rancho San Jacinto, a huge Spanish Ranch that served Mission San Luis Rey. In 1845, after Mexican independence from Spain and consequent secularization of the Mission system, prominent Californio and former Alcade of San Diego Jose Antonio Estudillo received title to the rancho. He owned the property until his death in 1852 and the Estudillo family operated the ranch for a generation into the American era. During the 1880s large portions of the valley were sold off and distributed among several speculators who eventually conceived several townsites. A lack of a reliable water source and thoroughfare precluded any consequential development until 1888

when the California Southern Railroad Company laid tracks beginning at Perris, California and terminating at a townsite named Mayberry near San Jacinto, north of Hemet. The Hemet Dam was constructed by the Lake Hemet Water Company between 1886 and 1890 and expanded between 1891 and 1895. It was located at 4600 feet above sea level in the Hemet Valley of the San Jacinto Mountains, approximately 15 miles to the southeast of Hemet. When it was built it was the highest elevation masonry dam in the United States. The system outlet fed the South Fork of the San Jacinto River and downhill reservoirs distributed by gauging weirs and canals, which included the San Jacinto and Pleasant Valley Company canal that supplied water to the gravity-fed irrigation systems for farms in the study area. In 1894 the railroad had expanded to Hemet, and the Hemet Depot was constructed by the end of that year. The new developments prompted more permanent settlements and businesses, and by 1895 the unincorporated town of Hemet was occupied by at least 39 families and businesses that were domestic water customers of the Lake Hemet Water Company. The plentiful water source promoted significant local agriculture dominated by alfalfa, fruit orchards, and row crops. Land speculator William Whittier had been instrumental in early local development having constructed a warehouse, commercial properties prior to 1900. Eventually he established a bank, racetrack, stock farm, water filtration system, electrical infrastructure, and a stage line between Hemet and Idyllwild. Hemet continued to grow and prosper and by 1910 residents voted to incorporate as a city, electing T.S. Brown as mayor. Steady growth continued and Hemet remained an important agricultural center through the 1920s and 1930s. By the end of the depression, a more diversified economy had begun to flourish, punctuated by infrastructure that included paved roads and reliable telephone service. The Ryan School of Aeronautics (now Hemet Ryan Airport) was formed in the late 1930s, and between 1940 and 1944 6,000 fliers were trained at the facility for the Army Air Corps. After World War II, the growing population prompted several important developments. A community hospital was constructed in 1943 and by 1950 the Eastern Municipal Water District had been established. In 1959 the Hemet Police Department was built and in 1966 several local school districts combined to form Hemet Unified School District. Although agriculture remained important in the early post War years, mobile home parks and retirement developments had taken over much of the local landscape by the 1960s. The community remains well known for retirement services and a significant segment of the economy is currently devoted to related services, including financial institutions and health care (McShane 1969, Gudde 1962: 130, City of Hemet 2022, USGS 1901, Hemet Area Museum Association 2008:9, 13-14).

PERSONNEL

BCR Consulting Principal Archaeologist David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. The cultural resources records search was completed by the Eastern Information Center (EIC) at the University of California, Riverside. BCR Consulting Archaeological Crew Chief Nicholas Shepetuk and Archaeological Field Technicians Fabian Martinez, B.A., and Johnny DeFachelle, B.A., performed the field survey. Mr. Brunzell compiled the technical report with contributions by Mr. Shepetuk.

METHODS

Research

Prior to fieldwork, a records search was requested through the Eastern Information Center (EIC), the local clearinghouse for cultural resource records. This archival research reviewed

the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one half-mile of the subject property site. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, and documents and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

Field Survey

An archaeological field survey of the subject property was conducted on September 3, 2021. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the accessible subject property. Soil exposures were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

RESULTS

Research

Records Search. Data from the EIC revealed that four previous cultural resource studies have taken place, and one cultural resource has been recorded within one half-mile of the project site. Of the four previous studies, none have assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. The records search is summarized in Table A, and a records search bibliography is provided in Appendix A.

Table A. Cultural Resource Reports Within One Half-Mile of the Project Site

Report Number	Author/Date	Title
RI-5523	Riordan Goodwin (2004)	Results of the Cultural Resource Records Search and Field Survey 7.54 Acres (APNs 441-210-059 and -060) in the City of Hemet, Riverside County, California
RI-5524	Riordan Goodwin (2005)	Cultural Resources Assessment, Sanderson Square (APN456-030-11, -12, -13, and -14), City of Heme, Riverside County, California
RI-10265	Bonnie Bruce, Sarah A. Williams, Carrie D. Wills (2017)	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC, Candidate CLV0329(CSL00329) [Hemet Unified School Dist Bus Yard], 435 South Lyon Avenue & 1791 West Acacia Avenue, Hemet, Riverside County, California, CASPR No. 3551699365
RI-10643	N/A (2003)	Cultural Resouces Survey of 43.46 Acres in Hemet, California: APN 456-030-020-2

Table B. Cultural Resources Within One Half-Mile of the Project Site

Primary No.	Trinomial	Description	Location
P-33-15743	N/A	Historic-Period San Jacinto Railway	Adjacent South

Field Survey

During the field survey, BCR Consulting staff carefully inspected the project site and identified a historic-period irrigation structure that served as a weir box and stand-pipe along the eastern boundary of the project site. It is temporarily designated KIM2110-H-1 and is described in detail below. No other cultural resources were identified within the project site boundaries.

The project site has been subject to severe disturbances associated with mechanical clearing, discing, and water leveling associated with former cultivation. The project site exhibited approximately 80 percent surface visibility. Vegetation observed included seasonal grasses. The historic-period San Jacinto Railway (designated P-33-15743) is located adjacent to the project site's southern boundary. No artifacts associated with development or use of the railway were identified within the project site, despite high surface visibility. Furthermore, the project site has been water leveled so that irrigation water could evenly cover large areas of the project site at the same depth (see KIM2110-H-1 for detail and citations). This leveling would have used mechanical equipment, significantly transforming local topography. Exact depths of disturbance from water leveling of the project site is not known, although the natural topography indicates that between one and six feet of excavation would be necessary to level the project site. Based on this information, leveling has disturbed the sediments that might otherwise contain potential for archaeological deposits beyond depths at which such resources are likely.

KIM2110-H-1. This resource consists of a historic-period rectangular concrete irrigation structure that served as a weir box and stand-pipe. The feature measures approximately eight feet in height, by three feet, four inches, by three feet, with approximately 5-inch thick walls. It is constructed of unreinforced poured concrete and capped with seven courses of concrete masonry units that do not appear to be original. It features two threaded steel hand-cranks typically used as weir gate releases, which are no longer connected to anything. No irrigation pipes leading to or from the feature, and no irrigation pipes or additional features, were identified in the surrounding property. It is in poor condition. The irrigation feature is located on a vacant 9.2-acre parcel. Historic aerial photographs and topographic maps show no cultivation on the property prior to 1947 (Army Map Service 1947, USGS 1901). By 1953 most of the surrounding properties had been water leveled and terraced for flood irrigation crops (probably alfalfa), and were oriented so that water could be distributed by gravity from east to west, or from northeast to southwest (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1953). By this time the subject property had also been cleared and water leveled for a gravity-fed irrigation system and by 1957 it contained flood irrigation crops and comprised about 90 acres extending to the north, east, and southeast of the subject parcel (Ibid., USDA 1957). Aerial photos show a north/south oriented linear irrigation system at the eastern subject property boundary by 1953. Its size, location, and orientation are consistent with a pumphouse used to distribute water to stand-pipes (including KIM2110-H-1) that irrigated the property. By 1972 the larger property had been subdivided, most of the irrigation system was gone, and cultivation on the subject property was no longer taking place (USDA 1966, 1967, 1972). Based on this information, it is likely that KIM2110-H-1 is the only remnant of an irrigation system constructed between 1947 and 1953 and mostly demolished and abandoned by 1972.

SIGNIFICANCE EVALUATIONS

During the field survey, a single feature remaining from a former irrigation system designated KIM2210-H-1 was identified within the project site boundaries. CEQA calls for the evaluation and recordation of historic and archaeological resources. The criteria for determining the significance of impacts to cultural resources are based on Section 15064.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* and Guidelines for the Nomination of Properties to the California Register. Properties eligible for listing in the California Register and subject to review under CEQA are

those meeting the criteria for listing in the California Register, or designation under a local ordinance.

Significance Criteria

California Register of Historical Resources. The California Register criteria are based on National Register criteria. For a property to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register, one or more of the following criteria must be met:

1. It is associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the U.S.;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or U.S. history;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values; and/or
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

City of Hemet General Plan Historic Resources Element. The City General Plan Historic Resources Element goals and objectives for preserving historic resources and promoting an appreciation of Hemet's history should be considered to discern whether the project is consistent with these goals and objectives.

The California Register evaluation of the resource identified within the project site boundaries is provided below and the City General Plan Historic Resources Element is addressed.

California Register of Historical Resources Evaluation

KIM2110-H-1. Criterion 1: KIM2110-H-1 is part of an irrigation system that was developed between 1947 and 1953. The system was used to water the project site when it was part of a larger agricultural property that developed relatively late in Hemet's agricultural era. It was likely formed as an ancillary system supplied by Lake Hemet. However, there is no evidence to connect this resource with the development of significant local water systems. It is therefore not significantly associated with important events related to the development of the region and is not eligible for the California Register under Criterion 1. Criterion 2: Research has not connected the feature with any important individuals. It is therefore not eligible under Criterion 2. Criterion 3: The feature represents a common and deteriorating portion of a water system that no longer functions. Most of the irrigation system has been removed. Therefore, the property does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represent the work of an important creative individual or possess high artistic values. As such, the property is not eligible under Criterion 3. Criterion 4: Most of any

original system has been demolished. As such it has not and is not likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. It is not eligible under Criterion 4. KIM2110-H-1 is therefore recommended not eligible under any of the four criteria for listing on the California Register, and is not recommended a historical resource under CEQA.

City of Hemet General Plan Historic Resources Element Consideration

The resource does not meet the definition of a historic resource. As such, demolition of the resource will not be in conflict with City goals and objectives for preserving historic resources and promoting an appreciation of Hemet's history.

RECOMMENDATIONS

During the field survey, BCR Consulting personnel identified one historic-period irrigation feature consisting of a weir box and stand pipe, temporarily designated KIM2110-H-1. It is recommended not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and as such is not significant under CEQA. It does not warrant further consideration. No other cultural resources (including historic-period architectural resources, prehistoric archaeological resources, or historic-period archaeological resources) have been identified within the project site boundaries, despite relatively high surface visibility. The project site has been subject to severe disturbances associated with mechanical clearing, discing, and water leveling associated with former cultivation. These factors confer low sensitivity for significant buried resources within the project site boundaries. However, while the current study has not indicated sensitivity for unknown cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist would have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks;
- human remains;
- historic-period artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic-period structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements.

Findings were negative during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC. The City will initiate Assembly Bill (AB) 52 Native American Consultation for the project. Since the City will initiate and carry out the required Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary. The results of the Sacred Lands File search are provided in Appendix C.

According to CEQA Guidelines, projects subject to CEQA must determine whether the project would "directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource". The Paleontological Overview provided in Appendix E has recommended that:

> The geologic units underlying the project area are mapped as Quaternary alluvium dating to the Pliocene-Holocene. Quaternary alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area, but does have numerous localities within similarly mapped alluvial sediments throughout the region. Pleistocene alluvial deposits in southern California are well documented and known to contain abundant fossil resources including those associated with Columbian mammoth (Mammuthus columbi), Pacific mastodon (Mammut pacificus), sabertooth cat (Smilodon fatalis), ancient horse (Equus sp.), and many other Pleistocene megafauna.
>
> Any fossils recovered from the BCR Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Quaternary alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection and make recommendations for the treatment and disposition of the human remains, within 48 hours of being granted access to the site, not of being notified by the NAHC.

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City of Hemet
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1929 Aboriginal Society in Southern California. *University of California Publications in American Archaeology and Ethnology* 26(1):1-358.

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APPENDIX A

CULTURAL RESOURCES RECORDS SEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
RI-05523	NADB-R - 1086886	2004	GOODWIN, RIORDAN	RESULTS OF THE CULTURAL RESOURCE RECORDS SEARCH AND FIELD SURVEY 7.54 ACRES (APNS 441-210-059 AND -060) IN THE CITY OF HEMET, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA	LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.	
RI-05524	NADB-R - 1086887; Submitter - SAI530	2005	GOODWIN, RIORDAN	CULTURAL RESORUCE ASSESSMENT, SANDERSON SQUARE (APN 456-030-11, -12, -13, AND -14), CITY OF HEMET, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA	LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.	
RI-10265		2017	Bonnie Bruce, Sarah A. Williams, and Carrie D Wills	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC, Candidate CLV0329(CSL00329) [Hemet Unified School Dist Bus Yard], 435 South Lyon Avenue & 1791 West Accacia Avenue, Hemet, Riverside County, California, CASPR No. 3551699365	Environmental Assessment Specialists, Inc.	
RI-10643		2003	NA	Cultural Resouces Survey of 43.46 Acres in Hemet, California: APN 456-030-020-2	Applied EarthWorks, Inc.	

Resource List

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-33-015743	CA-RIV-008196	National Register - 6Z; Other - BNSF Railroad; Other - San Jacinto Valley Railway; Other - Santa Fe Valley Railroad; Other - CRM TECH 2225-1H; Other - Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad; Other - 3CS; Other - SJ-32; Other - CRM TECH 2917-1; Other - CRM TECH 3084; Other - SRI-3145	Site	Historic	AH07	2005 (P.Easter. And P. Beedle, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.); 2006 (Peggy Beedle, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.); 2007 (Theordore Cooley, Jones & Stokes); 2007 (Craft, Andrea, Jones and Stokes); 2008 (Daniel Ballester, CRM TECH); 2009 (M.C. Hamilton, J. George, Applied EarthWorks, Inc.); 2010 (S. Justus and A. Giacinto, ASM Affiliates); 2011 (Joshua Trampier, Statistical Research, Inc.); 2012 (Stacie Wilson and Jill Gibson, AECOM); 2012 (C. Cotterman, E. Denniston, ECORP Consulting); 2015 (Daniel Ballester, CRM TECH); 2016 (Michael Hogan, CRM TECH)	RI-07528, RI-07833, RI-08955, RI-08980, RI-09002, RI-09021, RI-09364, RI-10069, RI-10160

APPENDIX B

DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND RECREATION 523 FORMS

P1. Other Identifier: N/A
***P2. Location:** ☐ **Not for Publication** ☑ **Unrestricted** ***a. County:** Riverside
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
***b. USGS 7.5' Quad:** *Hemet, California* **Date:** 1979 **T** 5 S; R 1 W; Section 16**;** SBBM
c. Address: N/A City: Hemet Zip:
d. UTM: Zone: 11S; 500625 mE/ 3733306 mN (G.P.S.; NAD83) Elevation: 1,540 Feet AMSL
e. Other Locational Data: The resource is 700 feet E. of S. Gilmore St., 300 feet N. of the San Jacinto Valley Railway in Hemet.

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements: design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, boundaries)
This resource consists of a historic-period rectangular concrete irrigation structure that served as a weir box and stand-pipe. The feature measures approximately 8ft. x 3ft. 4 in. x 3 ft. with approximately 5-inch thick walls. It is constructed of unreinforced poured concrete and capped with seven courses of concrete masonry units that do not appear to be original. It features two threaded steel hand-cranks typically used as weir gate releases, but no longer connected to anything. No irrigation pipes leading to or from the feature, and no irrigation pipes or additional features, were identified in the surrounding property. It is in poor condition. The irrigation feature is located on a vacant 9.2 acre parcel. Historic aerial photographs and topographic maps show no cultivation on the property prior to 1947 (Army Map Service 1947, USGS 1901). By 1953 most of the surrounding properties had been water leveled and terraced for flood irrigation crops (probably alfalfa), and were oriented so that water could be distributed by gravity from east to west, or from northeast to southwest (United States Department of Agriculture [USDA] 1953). By this time the subject property had also been cleared and water leveled for a gravity-fed irrigation system and by 1957 it contained flood irrigation crops and comprised about 90 acres extending to the north, east, and southeast of the subject parcel (Ibid., USDA 1957). A north/south oriented linear irrigation system was visible at the eastern subject property boundary by 1953. Its size, location, and orientation are consistent with a pumphouse used to distribute water to stand-pipes (including KIM2110-H-1) that irrigated the property. By 1972 the larger property had been subdivided, most of the irrigation system was gone, and cultivation on the subject property was no longer taking place (USDA 1966, 1967, 1972). Based on this information, it is likely that KIM2110-H-1 was part of an irrigation system constructed between 1947 and 1953 and mostly demolished and abandoned by 1972.

References:
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United States Geological Survey. 1901. *San Jacinto* 1:125,000 Topographic Quadrangle.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** AH16. Other

P5a. Photo or Drawing

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession)
Feature Overview, 09/03/2021, Photo 1, View East

***P6. Date Built 1947-1953:**
☑Historic ☐Prehistoric ☐Both

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Foxgate Capital
55 Waugh, Suite 1250
Houston, TX 77007

***P8. Recorded by:**
N. Shepetuk, F. Martinez
BCR Consulting LLC
Claremont, CA 91711

***P9. Date:** 09/03/2021

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive.

***P11. Report Citation:** *Cultural Resources Assessment of the Hemet JD Fields Project (APN 456-140-008) Hemet, Riverside County, California.*

***Attachments:** ☐NONE ☑ Location Map ☐ Sketch Map ☐ Continuation Sheet ☐Building, Structure, and Object Record ☐Archaeological Record ☐District Record ☐Linear Feature Record ☐Milling Station Record ☐Rock Art Record ☐Artifact Record ☐Photograph Record ☐ Other (List):

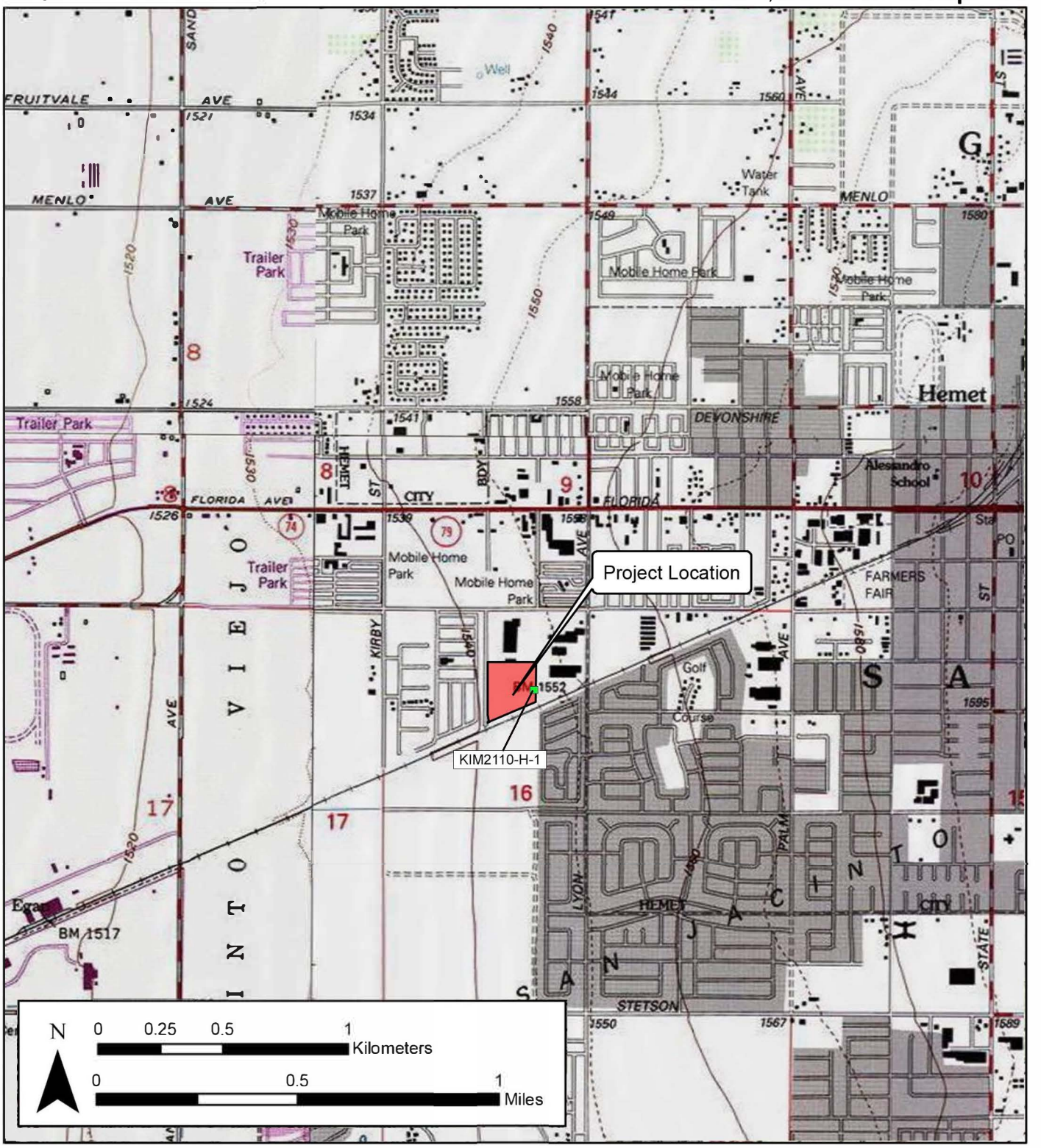
State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
Location Map

Primary #
BERD #
Trinomial

***Resource Name or #**: KIM2110-H-1

***Map Name:** *Hemet, California*

***Scale:** 1:24,000 ***Date of Map:** 1979



***Required Information**

APPENDIX C

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

July 18, 2021

Joseph Orozco
BCR Consulting LLC

Via Email to: josephorozco513@gmail.com & david.brunzell@yahoo.com

Re: Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project, Riverside County

Dear Mr. Orozco:

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

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

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

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
7/18/2021

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hhaines@augustinetribe.com

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jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov

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Chairman@cahuilla.net

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians
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Fax: (760) 782-0712

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Ann Brierty, THPO
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Fax: (760) 742-3189
sgaughen@palatribe.com

Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
Mark Macarro, Chairperson
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Phone: (951) 770 - 6000
Fax: (951) 695-1778
epreston@pechanga-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 Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project, Riverside County.

Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
Paul Macarro, Cultural Resources Coordinator
P.O. Box 1477 Luiseno
Temecula, CA, 92593
Phone: (951) 770 - 6306
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Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
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P.O. Box 1899 Quechan
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Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
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Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians
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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 Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project, Riverside County.

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
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This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project, Riverside County.

APPENDIX D

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: Project Site Overview from East Boundary

Photo 2: Project Site Boundary from Northern Boundary

Photo 3: Project Site Overview from SE Corner

Photo 4: Project Site Overview from Western Boundary

APPENDIX E

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

WESTERN SCIENCE CENTER

BCR Consulting LLC
Joseph Orozco
U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Member
Claremont, CA 91711

July 7, 2021

Dear Mr. Orozco,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for BCR Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project in Hemet, Riverside County, California. The project site is located in Section 16 of Township 5 South and Range 1 West on the Hemet (1979), California SBBM USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle.

The geologic units underlying the project area are mapped as Quaternary alluvium dating to the Pliocene-Holocene. Quaternary alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area, but does have numerous localities within similarly mapped alluvial sediments throughout the region. Pleistocene alluvial deposits in southern California are well documented and known to contain abundant fossil resources including those associated with Columbian mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*), Pacific mastodon (*Mammut pacificus*), sabertooth cat (*Smilodon fatalis*), ancient horse (*Equus* sp.), and many other Pleistocene megafauna.

Any fossils recovered from the BCR Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project area would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with development of the area has the potential to impact the paleontologically sensitive Quaternary alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation plan be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the current study area.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at amcdonald@westerncentermuseum.org

Sincerely,

Andrew McDonald
Curator

BCR Assessor Parcel Number 456-140-008 Project

Project location, one mile radius, any known fossil localities, and geologic mapping

Legend

- Fault,
- Q: Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits (Pliocene to Holocene)