



CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE LANCASTER FORBES INDUSTRIAL PROJECT, CITY OF LANCASTER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

October 10, 2022



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CALIFORNIA**

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning, Inc. to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed Lancaster Forbes Industrial Project (Project). The Project involves the development of 12.44 acres of undeveloped land on Assessor's Parcel Number 3128-008-009 and is bounded by West Avenue L8 to the south, commercial properties to the north, an unpaved extension of Division Street to the east, and undeveloped desert to the west. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the City of Lancaster (City) is the lead agency.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area. The investigation included background research, communication with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and interested Native American groups, and a cultural resource survey of the Project area. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the potential for the Project to impact cultural resources.

A cultural resource records search and literature review was completed at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System (CHRIS) housed at California State University, Fullerton. The records search indicated that 21 previous cultural resource studies have been conducted within 0.5-mile (mi) of the Project area resulting in the identification of four cultural resources. All four resources are historic period sites comprised of a refuse scatter, a single-family residence, structural debris and landscaping, and a water pump with a concrete cylinder. None of the previously recorded cultural resources were documented in the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource assessment of the Project area, PaleoWest also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the NAHC. Results of the SLF search indicate that there are no known Native American cultural resources within the immediate Project area. The NAHC suggested contacting nine individuals representing six Native American groups to find out if they have additional information about the Project area. PaleoWest conducted outreach to those individuals named on the NAHC contact list via email on August 19, 2022. Follow up phone calls were made on September 9, 2022. Two responses have been received to date in response to PaleoWest's outreach.

PaleoWest completed a pedestrian survey of the Project area on August 29, 2022. The Project area consists of an undeveloped lot that has been heavily disturbed by off-road activity, rodent activity, and modern refuse dumping. No cultural resources were identified during the survey.

In the event that potentially significant cultural resources are encountered during construction activities associated with the Project, a qualified archaeologist shall be obtained to assess the significance of the find in accordance with the criteria set forth in the CRHR. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

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1 INTRODUCTION

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning, Inc. to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed Lancaster Forbes Industrial Project (Project), in the city of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the City of Lancaster (City) is the lead agency.

1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project area consists of approximately 12.44 acres of undeveloped land on Assessor's Parcel Number 3128-008-009 and is bounded by West Avenue L8 to the south, commercial properties to the north, an unpaved extension of Division Street to the east, and undeveloped desert to the west (). The Project area is within Section 34 of Township 7 North, Range 12 West, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (Figure 1-2). The elevation of the Project area is approximately 2500 feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsl). The Project will consist of the development of the parcel for industrial warehouse purposes. Two warehouse buildings are planned, along with associated docks and parking areas, as well as two detention basins.

1.2 REPORT ORGANIZATION

This report documents the results of a cultural resource investigation completed for the proposed Project. Section 1 introduces the Project location and description. Section 2 outlines the regulatory context that should be considered for the Project. Section 3 synthesizes the natural and cultural setting of the Project area and surrounding region. Section 4 presents the results of the existing cultural resource data literature and resource record review, the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, and a summary of the Native American communications. Section 5 describes the field methods employed during this investigation and survey findings. Section 6 presents the management recommendations based on the result of the background research and survey findings.



Figure 1-1. Project vicinity map.

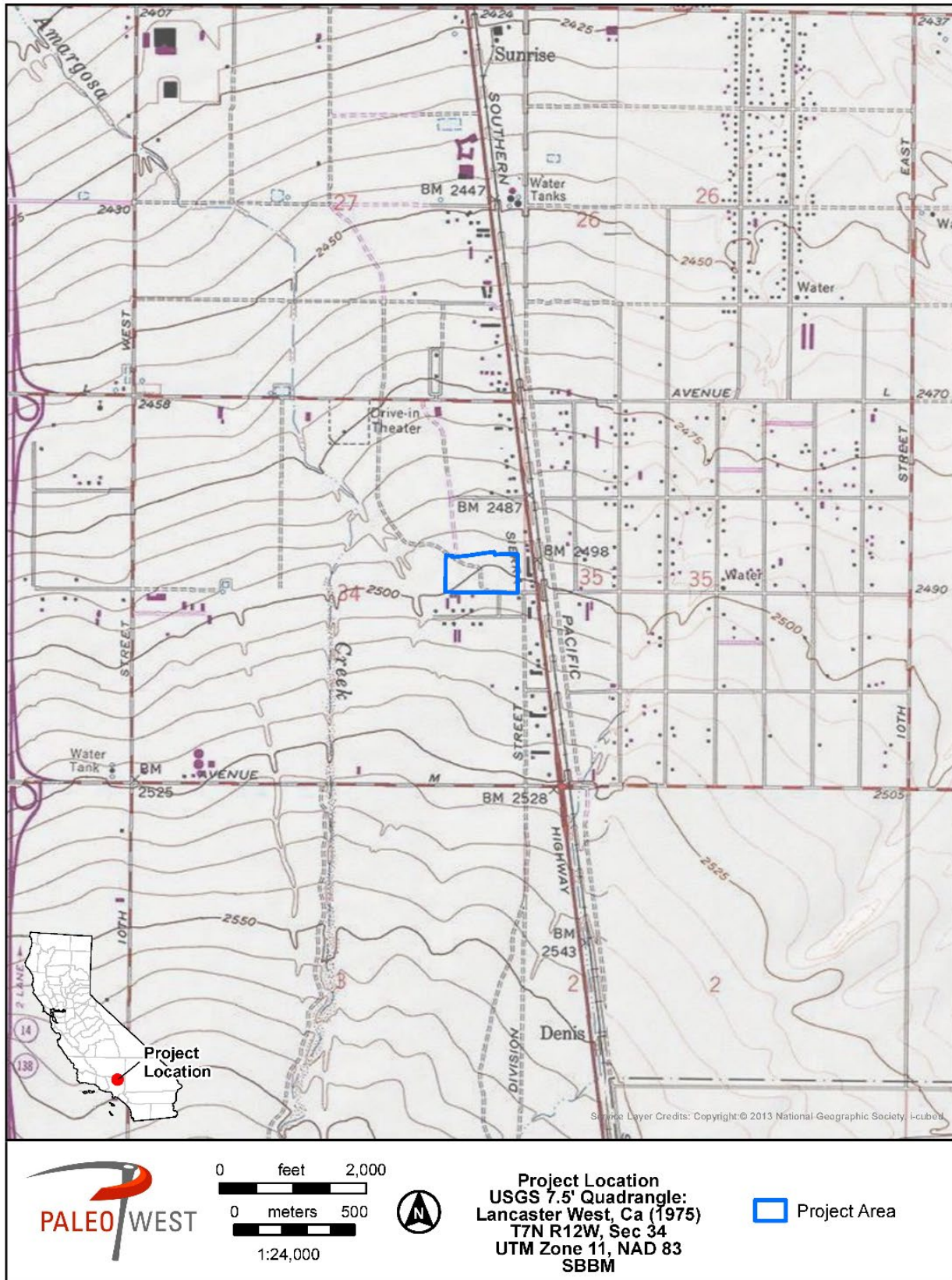


Figure 1-2. Project location map.

2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

2.1 STATE

2.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with CEQA, as amended. Compliance with CEQA statutes and guidelines requires both public and private projects with financing or approval from a public agency to assess the project's impact on cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21082, 21083.2, and 21084 and California Code of Regulations 10564.5). The first step in the process is to identify cultural resources that may be impacted by the project and then determine whether the resources are "historically significant" resources.

CEQA defines historically significant resources as "resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)" (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A cultural resource may be considered historically significant if the resource is 45 years old or older, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.¹ In addition, it must meet at least one of the following criteria for listing on the CRHR:

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; or,
4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1).

Cultural resources are buildings, sites, human-modified landscapes, traditional cultural properties, structures, or objects that may have historical, architectural, cultural, or scientific importance. CEQA states that if a project will have a significant impact on important cultural resources, deemed "historically significant," then project alternatives and mitigation measures must be considered.

2.1.2 California Assembly Bill 52

Signed into law in September 2014, California Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) created a new class of resources—tribal cultural resources (TCRs)—for consideration under CEQA. TCRs may include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects with cultural value to California Native American tribes that are listed or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, included in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead CEQA agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant and

¹ The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) guidelines recognize a 45-year-old criteria threshold for documenting and evaluating cultural resources (assumes a 5-year lag between resource identification and the date that planning decisions are made) (OHP 1995:2). The age threshold is an operational guideline and not specific to CEQA statutory or regulatory codes.

eligible for listing on the CRHR. AB 52 requires that the lead CEQA agency consult with California Native American tribes that have requested consultation for projects that may affect tribal cultural resources. The lead CEQA agency shall begin consultation with participating Native American tribes prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. Under AB 52, a project that has potential to cause a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource constitutes a significant effect on the environment unless mitigation reduces such effects to a less than significant level.

2.2 LOCAL

2.2.1 City of Lancaster General Plan

The General Plan's Plan for Active Living includes measures to protect cultural resources, as follows:

GOAL 12: To promote community appreciation for the unique history of the Antelope Valley and the City of Lancaster and to promote community involvement in the protection, preservation, and restoration of the area's significant cultural, historical, or architectural features.

Objective 12.1: Identify and preserve and/or restore those features of cultural, historical, or architectural significance.

- Policy 12.1.1: Preserve features and sites of historical and cultural value consistent with their intrinsic and scientific values.
 - Specific Action 12.1.1(a): As part of the CEQA review process, require site-specific historical, archaeological, and/or paleontological studies where there exists a possibility that significant environmental impacts might result or where there is a lack of sufficient documentation on which to determine potential impacts.
 - Specific Action 12.1.1(b): Include a condition of approval on all development projects that addresses State and Federal regulations with respect to the disposition of cultural resources.
 - Specific Action 12.1.1(c): Process requests for inclusion in state and federal historic registers those historic and prehistoric sites and features which meet state or federal criteria.
 - Specific Action 12.1.1(d): Prior to permitting demolition of any historic structure, require that an evaluation of the condition of the structure, potential adaptive reuse of the structure, and the cost of rehabilitation are undertaken.
 - Specific Action 12.1.1(e): Work with area schools and historical/archaeological/paleontological preservation support groups to establish educational programs relates to all phases of Lancaster's cultural and historical heritage.

3 SETTING

This section of the report summarizes information regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Project area, including the prehistoric, ethnographic, and historical contexts of the general area. Several factors—including topography, available water sources, and biological resources—

affect the nature and distribution of prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic-period human activities in an area. This background provides a context for understanding the nature of the cultural resources that may be identified within the region.

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project area is within the Antelope Valley in the western Mojave Desert. The Mojave Desert is bounded on the west by the Sierra Nevada Mountains, on the south by the Transverse and Peninsular ranges, on the southeast and east by the Yuma and Colorado deserts, and on the north by the Great Basin. The western Mojave Desert is composed of several valleys, including the Antelope Valley, Fremont Valley, Victor Valley, Lucerne Valley, along with the Mojave River and the Barstow area.

Geologically, the Mojave Desert region is a wedge-shaped fault block, which has been termed the “Mojave Block” (Dibblee 1967:4). It is bounded by the San Andreas and Garlock fault zones on the southwest and north, respectively. Rocks within the western Mojave Desert region can be grouped into three main divisions that include crystalline rocks of pre-Tertiary age; sedimentary and volcanic rock of Tertiary age; and sediments and local basalt flows of Quaternary age. Units of the pre-Tertiary crystalline rocks and Quaternary sediments and basalt are widespread with Tertiary volcanic and sedimentary rocks more limited in their areal distribution (Dibblee 1967).

The Mojave is a warm-temperature desert situated between the subtropical Sonoran Desert to the south and the cold-temperature Great Basin to the north. The arid Mojave Desert is characterized by sparse rainfall, generally ranging from 5–25 centimeters (cm) (2–10 inches [in]) per year. Some areas receive as little as 2.5 cm (1 inch [in]) of annual precipitation, while others receive more than 25 cm (10 in) (Warren 1984:342). Lancaster receives approximately 8 in of precipitation annually. The present-day climate and concomitant vegetation within the Mojave Desert was substantially different during the so-called Wisconsin Glacial Stage (60,000–10,500 years before present [B.P.]), where the climate was influenced by the massive continental ice sheets that resulted in cooler summer and warmer winter temperatures than at present (Bupp et al. 1998, as cited in Basgall and Overly 2004).

The Joshua tree is often used as the common vegetative marker of the Mojave Desert (Sutton 1996:223), although the creosote bush is considered to be the dominant plant of both the Mojave and Colorado deserts (Grayson 1993; Warren 1984:342). Lower elevations of the Mojave Desert are dominated by creosote bush with higher elevations giving way to yuccas and agaves and piñon-juniper habitats. Other vegetation may include catclaw acacia, white brittlebush, white bursage, barrel and hedgehog cactus, littleleaf krameria, ocotillo, desert sand verbena, branched pencil and teddybear cholla, coastal bladderpod, desert agave, Douglas and rubber rabbit brush, Mojave yucca, beavertail, prickly pear, jojoba, desert senna, and Anderson’s wolfberry. Various forbs and grasses also vary but can be found throughout desert scrub habitats (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988:88).

Large game animals are rare in the Mojave Desert, deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and black bear (*Ursus americanus*) make infrequent treks from the nearby Sierra Nevada slopes. More common to the desert floor are various reptiles and rodents, such as Couch’s spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus couchii*), desert tortoise (*Xerobates [Gopherus] agassizii*), chuckwalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), leopard lizard (*Crotaphytus wislizenii*), horned lizard (*Prynosoma platyrhinos*), Mojave rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*), whitetail antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*), and

kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys spp.*). Other species found in the Mojave include blacktail jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*), kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) coyote (*Canis latrans*), and bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) (Laudenslayer and Boggs 1988:114; Martyn and Moore 1996). More than 300 species of birds are known to inhabit the northern Mojave Desert.

3.2 PREHISTORIC SETTING

Over the past century, archaeologists have generally divided the prehistory of the Western Mojave Desert into five distinct periods or sequences distinguished by specific material (i.e., technological) or cultural traits. Early cultural chronologies were proposed by Amsden (1937), Campbell and Campbell (1937), and Rogers (1939), that were later adapted by Warren and Crabtree (1986) and further detailed by Warren in 1984. Alternative sequences have since emerged (e.g., Bettinger and Taylor 1974) proposing new nomenclature (e.g., Newberry Period vs. Rose Spring Period vs. Saratoga Springs), slightly adjusted cultural chronologies, or attempting to link the Great Basin chronological framework to the Mojave Desert.

Recently, Sutton et al. (2007:233) proposed a cultural-ecological chronological framework based on climatic periods (e.g., Early Holocene) “to specify spans of calendric time and cultural complexes (e.g., Lake Mojave Complex) to denote specific archaeological manifestations that existed during (and across) those periods.” In this scheme, the cultural history for the area is divided into the Late Pleistocene (10,000–8000 cal B.P.), the Early Holocene (8000–6000 cal B.P.), the Middle Holocene (7000–3000 cal B.P.), and the Late Holocene (2000 cal B.P.–Contact). The new sequence draws heavily from Warren and Crabtree (1986) and Warren (1984), as well as from the vast body of recent archaeological research conducted in the region.

3.2.1 Late Pleistocene (ca. 10,000–8000 cal B.P.)

The earliest cultural complex recognized in the Mojave Desert is Clovis, aptly named for the fluted projectiles often associated with Pleistocene megafaunal remains. Arguments for pre-Clovis Paleoindian human occupation in the Mojave Desert rely on relatively sparse evidence and unpublished data, although in light of the growing body of evidence suggesting a pre-Clovis occupation of the Americas, the argument cannot simply be ruled out. Paleoindian culture is poorly understood in the region due to a relative dearth of evidence stemming from a handful of isolated fluted projectile point discoveries and one presumed occupation site on the shore of China Lake. Archaeologists tend to interpret the available data as evidence of a highly mobile, sparsely populated hunting society that occupied temporary camps near permanent Pleistocene water sources.

3.2.2 Early Holocene (ca. 8000–6000 cal B.P.)

Two archaeological patterns are recognized during the Early Holocene: the Lake Mojave Complex (sometimes referred to as the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition) and the Pinto Complex. The Lake Mojave Complex is characterized by stemmed projectile points of the Great Basin Series, abundant bifaces, steep-edged unifaces, and crescents. Archaeologists have also identified, in less frequency, cobble-core tools and ground stone implements. The Pinto Complex, on the other hand, is distinguished primarily by the presence of Pinto-style projectile points. Although evidence suggests some temporal overlap, the inception of the Pinto Complex is generally considered a Middle Holocene cultural complex that begins during the latter part of the Early Holocene.

During the Lake Mojave cultural complex, inhabitants of the region used more extensive foraging ranges, as indicated by an increased frequency of extra-local materials. Spheres of influence also expanded as potential long-distance trade networks were established between desert and coastal peoples. Groups were still highly mobile, but they practiced a more forager-like settlement subsistence strategy. Residential sites indicate more extensive periods of occupation and recurrent use. In addition, residential and temporary sites also indicated a diverse social economy, characterized by discrete workshops and special-use camps (e.g., hunting camps). Diet also appears to have diversified, with a shift away from dependence upon lacustral environments such as lakeside marshes, to the exploitation of multiple environments containing rich resource patches (Sutton et al. 2007).

3.2.3 Middle Holocene (ca. 7000–3000 cal B.P.)

The Pinto Complex is the primary cultural complex in the Mojave Desert during the Middle Holocene. Once thought to have neatly succeeded the Lake Mojave Complex, a growing corpus of radiocarbon dates associated with Pinto Complex artifacts suggest that its inception could date to the latter part of the Early Holocene. Extensive use of tool stone other than obsidian and high levels of tool blade reworking were characteristic of this complex and the earlier Lake Mojave Complex. A reduction in tool stone source material variability, however, suggests a contraction of foraging ranges that had expanded during the Early Holocene. Conversely, long distance trade with coastal peoples continued uninterrupted, as indicated by the presence of *Olivella* shell beads.

The most distinguishing characteristic of the Pinto Complex is the prevalence of ground stone tools, which are abundant in nearly all identified Pinto Complex sites. The emphasis on milling tools indicates greater diversification of the subsistence economy during the Middle Holocene. Groups increased reliance on plant processing while continuing to supplement their diet with protein from small and large game animals.

Recent archaeological research in the Mojave Desert suggests there was a greater degree of regional cultural diversity during the Middle Holocene than previously thought. Sutton et al. (2007) have proposed a new Middle Holocene cultural complex associated with sites exclusively at Twentynine Palms in the southeastern Mojave Desert. Artifacts recovered from Deadman Lake Complex sites, such as *Olivella Dama* from the Sea of Cortez, and contracting-stem and lozenge-shaped projectile points similar to those recovered from Ventana Cave in Arizona, may suggest closer cultural contact with Southwest Archaic cultures than Pinto cultures to the north and west. However, it is also possible that the proposed complex simply reflects a technologically distinct segment of the Pinto, rather than a distinct culture.

3.2.4 Late Holocene (ca. 2000 cal B.P.–Contact)

The Late Holocene in the greater Southern California region is characterized by increases in population, higher degrees of sedentism, expanding spheres of influence, and greater degrees of cultural complexity. In the Mojave Desert, the Late Holocene is divided into several cultural complexes: the Gypsum Complex (2000 cal B.C.–A.D. 200), the Rose Spring Complex (cal A.D. 200–1100), and the Late Prehistoric Complexes (cal A.D. 1100–Contact).

The Gypsum Complex is defined by the presence of side-notched (Elko series), concave-based (Humboldt series), and well-shouldered contracting stem (Gypsum series) projectile points. Other indicative artifacts include quartz crystals, painted ceramics, rock art, and twig figures—

which are generally associated with ritual activities. Warren (1984) considers the appearance of these artifact types at Gypsum Complex sites as evidence of the Southwest's expanding influence in the region. Conversely, Sutton et al. (2007) opt to associate Gypsum sites, which tend to cluster in the northern Mojave Desert, with temporal sequences modeled for the adjacent Great Basin. It is most likely that the Gypsum Complex was exposed to various cultural influences stemming from long-distance exchange and social interaction networks that linked groups occupying the Mojave Desert to those on the Pacific Coast, and in the American Southwest and the Great Basin.

The Rose Spring Complex can also be defined by the presence of distinct projectile points (i.e., Rose Spring and Eastgate series) and artifacts, including stone knives, drills, pipes, bone awls, milling implements, marine shell ornaments, and large quantities of obsidian. Of greater significance, however, are the characteristic advancements in technology, settlement strategies, and evidence for expanding and diverging trade networks.

The Rose Spring Complex marks the introduction of bow and arrow technology to the Mojave Desert, likely from neighboring groups to the north and east. As populations increased, groups began to consolidate into larger, more sedentary residential settlements indicated by the presence of well-developed middens and architectural styles. West and north of the Mojave River, increased trade activity along existing exchange networks ushered in a period of relative material wealth, exhibited by increased frequencies of marine shell ornaments and tool stone, procured almost exclusively from the Coso obsidian source. East and south of the Mojave River, archaeological evidence suggests there was a greater influence from Southwest and Colorado River cultures (i.e., Hakataya; Patayan).

Between approximately A.D. 1100 and contact, several cultural complexes emerged that archaeologists believe may represent prehistoric correlates of known ethnographic groups. Collectively known as the Late Prehistoric Cultural Complexes, material distinctions between groups were more apparent during this time, as displayed by the distribution of projectile point styles (e.g., Cottonwood vs. Desert Side-notched), ceramics, and lithic materials. Long-distance trade continued, benefiting those occupying "middleman" village sites along the Mojave River where abundant shell beads and ornaments, and lithic tools were recovered from archaeological contexts (Rector et al. 1983). Later on, trade in Coso obsidian was significantly reduced as groups shifted focus to the procurement of local silicate stone.

The Late Prehistoric Cultural Complex was also a time of increasing regional influence and territorial expansion. Warren (1984) noted "strong regional developments" in the Mojave Desert that included Anasazi interest in turquoise in the Mojave Trough, Hakatayan (Patayan) influence from the Colorado River, and the expansion of Numic Paiute and Shoshonean culture eastward. These developments led Sutton (1989) to propose that several interaction spheres were operating in the Mojave Desert during the Late Prehistoric. Sutton (1989) delineated interaction spheres based on the distribution of projectile point styles, ceramics, and obsidian and argued that the spheres broke along geographical lines that reflected the territorial boundaries of known ethnohistoric groups.

3.3 ETHNOHISTORIC SETTING

Four groups consider the Antelope Valley to be part of their traditional use area—the Serrano, Vanyume, Tataviam and Kitanemuk. Ethnographic information on each of these groups is provided below.

3.3.1 Serrano

The Serrano territory included the San Bernardino Mountains, east of Cajon Pass, as well as the desert area that is immediately south of Victorville, extending east as far as Twentynine Palms and south as far as Yucaipa Valley. The Serrano were primarily hunters and gatherers. Vegetal staples varied with village locality: acorns and pinyon nuts in the foothills; mesquite, yucca roots, cacti fruits, and piñon nuts in or near the desert regions. Diets were supplemented with other roots, bulbs, shoots, and seeds. An increased yield of herbaceous plants was created by periodic burning (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Communal gathering expeditions, involving several lineages under one leader's authority, were not uncommon (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391–392; Drucker 1937). Deer, mountain sheep, antelope, rabbits, and other small rodents were among the principal animals hunted. Various game birds were also hunted—quail being the most important. The bow-and-arrow was used for large game, while smaller game and birds were killed with curved throwing sticks, traps, and snares. Occasionally, game was hunted communally, especially during annual mourning ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391-392; Drucker 1937).

Individual family dwellings were occupied by a husband, wife, their unmarried female children, sometimes the husband's parents, and occasionally a widowed aunt or uncle. The Serrano lived in circular, domed structures that were constructed of willow frames and covered with tule thatch. These structures were used primarily as sleeping and storage areas, with most Serrano activities taking place outside or under a shade structure consisting simply of four posts and a roof. On occasion, an individual would erect a separate house for private use (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Kroeber 1925).

Technologically, the Serrano were quite accomplished and produced a vast array of articles. Their manufactured goods included baskets, pottery, rabbit-skin blankets, awls, arrow straighteners, sinew-backed bows, arrows, drills, stone pipes, musical instruments (rattles, rasps, whistles, bull-roarers, and flutes), feathered costumes, mats, bags, storage pouches, and nets (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Food acquisition and processing required the manufacture of additional items such as knives, stone or bone scrapers, pottery trays and bowls, bone or horn spoons, and stirrers. Mortars, made of either stone or wood, and metates were also manufactured (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Strong 1929).

The Serrano were organized into exogamous clans. Each of these, in turn, was affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties (Strong 1929). Although the exact nature of these clans, including their structure, function, and number is unknown, Strong (1929) determined that the clan was the largest autonomous political and landholding unit of the Serrano. The clan was patrilineal: all the male members recognized descent from a common male ancestor. The descendants and wives of these men were also regarded as clan members. When women married, however, they retained their own lineage names and participated in ceremonies of their natal lineage (Strong 1929:17).

Every clan had a headman or chief, which was a hereditary position passed from father to son. Under unusual circumstances this could pass to the wife of the previous headman (Strong 1929; Gifford 1918). Duties of the head of the clan included determining when and where to collect or hunt, as well as conducting religious and other ceremonies. An assistant (also a hereditary post passing from father to son) assisted the head or chief in these ceremonies. The assistant's duties included taking charge of the sacred bundle (a kit of ceremonial paraphernalia), notification of the time and location of the ceremonies, carrying shell money

between groups for ceremonial purposes, and attending to the division of shell money and food at ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:572).

Like other California Native American groups, the Serrano had a shaman who acquired his various powers through datura-enhanced dreaming (Strong 1929). Shamans were mainly curers, who healed their patients through administering herbal remedies and sucking out disease-causing agents (Benedict 1924).

3.3.2 Vanyume

The Vanyume inhabited the Mojave River. Unlike their neighbors, the Serrano, the Vanyume maintained friendly relations with the Chemehuevi and Mojave peoples. The Vanyume had a small population, which dwindled rapidly following Spanish settlement of California. No Vanyume speaking members survived into the twentieth century, so there is not much known about this group (Bean and Smith 1978:570; Kroeber 1970:614).

3.3.3 Tataviam

The Tataviam are a Native American group that resided in and around the region encompassing the Project area. They belong to the family of Serrano people who migrated down into the Antelope, Santa Clarita, and San Fernando valleys some time before 1550 B.P. They settled into the Santa Clara River drainage system, east of Piru Creek, but also marginally inhabited the upper San Fernando Valley. Their territory also may have extended over the Sawmill Mountains to include at least the southwestern fringes of the Antelope Valley, which they apparently shared with the Kitanemuk, who occupied the greater portion of the Antelope Valley.

The Tataviam were hunters and gatherers who prepared their foodstuffs in much the same way as their neighbors. Their primary foods included yucca, acorns, juniper berries, sage seeds, deer, the occasional antelope, and smaller game such as rabbits and ground squirrels. There is no information regarding Tataviam social organization, though information from neighboring groups shows similarities among Tataviam, Chumash, and Gabrielino ritual practices. At first contact with the Spanish in the late eighteenth century, the population of this group was estimated at less than 1,000 people. However, this ethnographic estimate of the entire population is unlikely to be accurate, since it is based only on one small village complex and cannot necessarily be indicative of the entire population of Tataviam. Given the archaeological evidence at various Tataviam sites, as well as the numbers incorporated into the Spanish Missions, pre-contact population and early contact population easily exceeded 1000 people (Blackburn 1962; Johnston 1962).

The Tataviam people lived in small villages and were semi-nomadic when food was scarce. Labor was divided between the sexes. Men carried out most of the heavy but short-term labor, such as hunting and fishing, conducted most trading ventures, and the well-being of the village and the family were their central concerns. Women were involved in collecting and processing most of the plant materials and basket production. The elderly of both sexes taught children and cared for the young (Blackburn 1962; Johnston 1962).

3.3.4 Kitanemuk

The Kitanemuk belonged to the northern section of the people known as the "Serrano." The name, "Serrano," however, is only a generic term meaning "mountaineers" or "those of the

Sierras.” Ethnographers group the Kitanemuk with the Serrano based on linguistic similarities, though the Kitanemuk did not identify themselves as Serrano. They lived on the upper Tejon and Paso creeks and also held the streams on the rear side of the Tehachapi Mountains, the small creeks draining the rear slope of the Liebre and Sawmill Range, with Antelope Valley and the westernmost part of the Mojave Desert. The extent of their territorial claims in the desert region is not certain.

The Kitanemuk lived in permanent winter villages of 50–80 people or more. During the late spring, summer, and fall months they dispersed into smaller, highly mobile gathering groups. They followed a seasonal round, visiting different environmental regions as the important food producing plants became ready for harvest. Some staple foods important to the Kitanemuk include acorns, pinyon pine nuts, yucca, elderberries, and mesquite beans were available as well (Duff 2004).

The Kitanemuk shared some elements of culture with the rest of the Serrano groups, who lived to the east in parts of the Antelope Valley, the upper Mojave River area, and the San Bernardino Mountains (Blackburn and Bean 1978). Some customs, such as rituals and practices to honor the dead, may have been different. The Kitanemuk appear to have buried their dead, while the Serrano cremated them. The population of the Kitanemuk has been placed in the 500–1000 range at the time of Spanish contact (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

There were no permanent communities on the valley floor. Instead, the Antelope Valley provided a Native American trade route from Arizona and New Mexico to the California coast. The Native American population of California was estimated to be 133,000 in 1770, just before the Mission Era. But by 1910, they numbered about 16,350. The Native American population of the Antelope Valley consisted of just a few families in 1910 (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

3.4 HISTORICAL SETTING

3.4.1 Mojave Desert Region

European exploration of the Mojave Desert began in the sixteenth century, but sustained Euro-American settlement of the region did not occur until the mid-nineteenth century. This extended period of exploration without expansion creates a long proto-historic period in the region, during which Europeans and local Native American groups knew of one another but interacted very little. This period is discussed above from the point of view of Native American history. Below, the Euro-American expansion into the region and subsequent historical developments are described.

The European settlement in the Mojave Desert began when Spanish missionaries and explorers entered the area in the eighteenth century. Among the first Europeans in the area was Pedro Fages, who led an expedition into the western Mojave in 1772 in pursuit of Spanish soldiers who had deserted (Pourade 1960). Later forays into the Mojave were undertaken in 1776 by Franciscan missionary, Francisco Garces. Garces was tasked with exploring overland routes between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Southern California. During his expedition, he stayed in what is today the town of Mojave (Coues 1900; Sutton 1991). The establishment of trade routes between Santa Fe and Los Angeles and the establishment of missions in the Mojave Desert were difficult in the eighteenth century because the native Mohave people

hindered Spanish expansion beyond the coastal areas of California (Bean and Bourgeault 1989). The Old Spanish Trail, which passes through the Mojave Desert, was not firmly established as a travel route until the 1830s (Norris and Carrico 1978).

The Mexican War of Independence from Spain began in 1810. The Mexicans were victorious in 1821 and declared the Republic of Mexico in 1823. California was made a territory of the Republic in 1825. During Mexican rule, from 1825–1847, the rancheros became wealthy from trade in hides, tallow, wine, and brandy. The missions' properties were redistributed between 1834 and 1836, making the rancheros even wealthier. American traders, drawn by low prices for cowhides and other raw materials, made contacts with the Californios. Some married the daughters of the rancheros, started business enterprises, and became increasingly influential in the finance and commerce of the region (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

During the Mexican American War, on August 13, 1846, Captain John Fremont entered the pueblo of Los Angeles and declared it an American territory. The Treaty of Cahuenga ended the conflict in California in 1847 and The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the war in 1848 (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

American exploration into the Mojave Desert began in the nineteenth century. Jedediah Smith was the first American to enter the Mojave in 1826 and 1827. Little is known about Smith's time in the Mojave since his notes were lost in a fire (Pourade 1961). Smith followed the Old Spanish Trail, which runs south and east of the current Project area, and ultimately reached the Pacific Ocean where Spanish authorities prevented him from continuing further and temporarily imprisoned him (Beck and Haase 1974; Norris and Carrico 1978). In 1844, John C. Fremont traveled through the Mojave from the north and eventually met up with the Old Spanish Trail (Beck and Haase 1974; Fremont 1845). Fremont was named "The Great Pathfinder" because his explorations helped open the West for Americans to move into California in the middle and late nineteenth century (Barnard 1977).

By the 1850s, the Old Spanish Trail was established as a reliable overland route to California, and it became easier for people to move into the area. Once California was ceded to the United States, the land was open for settlement and development. With the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, California's population boomed. Most of the early mining in California took place in the north, near Sacramento and San Francisco. Mining led to the creation of roads throughout the state. Later, these mining roads would be used to establish railroads that operated in the region.

In the Mojave, scientific exploration was being undertaken in conjunction with investigations into proposed railroads from the east (Sherer 1994). An expedition led by Lt. Amiel Weeks Whipple in 1854 sought to survey a railroad route leading from Arkansas to Los Angeles along the 35th parallel, passing near Fremont Valley. The proposed railroad was meant to tie into lines that originated in both the north and the south (Barnard 1977). Whipple's expedition included scientists who recorded information about the geology, climatology, and biology of the region (Sherer 1994). A later expedition undertaken by Edward Beale in 1857 tested the feasibility of using camels for transport across the desert and established an early wagon road through the area (Norris and Carrico 1978; Sherer 1994).

Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR), linking San Francisco to Los Angeles via the Mojave Desert, was completed in 1876. Large numbers of Chinese workers were employed in the construction of the railroad, and following its completion, many became

involved in placer mining in the upper Santa Clarita River area (Earle 2003). The SPRR Mojave line also included a 20-day (round trip) rail route that extended over 165 mi of mountains and desert, running from the Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley (Inyo County) to the railroad loading dock in Mojave (Kyle 1990:129).

With the construction of the railroad, historic development of Antelope Valley increased. Lancaster was first settled in 1876 with the completion of the SPRR. Promotional literature espousing the charms of the new township location attracted settlers. In the early 1880s, Moses Langley Wicks founded a Scottish agricultural colony of around 150 people near present-day Lancaster. In 1884, Wicks purchased and platted the town site, which he named Lancaster after his Pennsylvania hometown. In the late 1880s, Lancaster was sold to James P. Ward, and the first land boom occurred in Antelope Valley. Ample rain during this period led to bumper wheat and barley harvests. The subsequent ten-year drought had severe consequences for farmers in Palmdale and Lancaster. The Antelope Valley experienced another swell of population growth in the early 1900s, when the region housed large numbers of workers constructing the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The area experienced a period of growth in the 1930s following construction of the Muroc Air Force Base (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007).

3.4.2 Antelope Valley

The Antelope Valley is on the west end of the Mojave Desert, in the northern extent of Los Angeles County and extends into southern Kern County. Several non-native expeditions transversed the Antelope Valley starting with Friar Francisco Garces in 1776, but the first non-native settlements did not occur until the 1850s through a combination of factors. Discovery of gold in Kern County and Silver in Inyo County in the early 1850s established new wagon routes, followed by the Butterfield mail stagecoach mail route in 1858, and the Los-Angeles Havilah Stage Line in 1864. The establishment of Fort Tejon in 1854 on the west end of the valley created a safe outpost for travelers, and a telegraph line that connected San Francisco to Los Angeles was completed in 1860. Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad through this section of the Antelope Valley was completed in 1876 as part of the connecting route between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The alignment passed through the newly established railroad towns of Rosamond and Lancaster (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2021; Lien 2021).

3.4.3 Lancaster

The city of Lancaster originated as a water stop along the Southern Pacific Railroad. The railroad was completed between Los Angeles and San Francisco in 1876, and the first homes in what would become Lancaster were constructed to house permanent rail employees shortly after. The townsite was laid out by Moses Wicks in 1884, though the city remained an unincorporated area until 1977. The city was initially occupied by agriculturalists, but region-wide drought struck the area in the mid-to-late 1890s, forcing a pivot to other local industries.

Mining in the Mojave Desert led to increased settlement during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Gold was discovered in the southwestern portion of Antelope Valley in 1842 in what is today known as Placerita Canyon. Gold seekers flocked to the canyon and an estimated \$100,000 of gold was mined there. Some of the miners settled permanently in the southwest Antelope Valley in the 1850s and 1860s, while others headed north to continue their search for wealth. Gold, silver, and copper were also mined from the Soledad Canyon region during the

Civil War Period (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007; Earle 2003). The town of Mojave was the rail terminus for the 20-mule-team borax wagons that operated from Death Valley between the years 1884 and 1889 (Kyle 1990:129). The United States Borax and Chemical Company (formerly the Pacific Coast Borax Company) developed sodium borate mining at Boron, about 30 mi north of Victorville. Gold was discovered at Standard Hill in 1894, and the Cactus Queen Mine produced the largest quantity of silver ore in California until World War II (Kyle 1990:130). By 1896, the Alpine Plaster Company had established a gypsum quarry one mile south of Palmdale, the town immediately south of Lancaster, and the Fire Pulp Plaster Company also worked Palmdale's gypsum deposits (California State Mining Bureau 1896:504; Hess 1910:29). All of this activity rejuvenated the development of Antelope Valley.

In 1905, following the end of the drought, irrigation systems using pumps powered by gasoline, and later electricity, replaced the previous reliance on artesian wells. This more reliable source of water revived the agricultural industry in the Antelope Valley (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007). Completion of the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1914 (to the west of Lancaster) further prompted development of the Lancaster area. Alfalfa, pears, and apples became staple crops in the area. Agriculture remained the primary industry of the Antelope Valley, with Palmdale (just south of Lancaster) serving as the "trading center of poultry and cattle ranchers and fruit growers" (Workers of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in Southern California [Writers' Program] 1941:397), until World War II. After World War II, Lancaster and Palmdale grew as a center for aerospace and defense industries with the establishment of Edwards Air Force Base in Kern County and U.S. Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale (Palmdale City Library 2006).

Until it was incorporated in 1977, the area was under the political influence of Los Angeles County. Although the aerospace industry remains the area's largest source of employment, both Palmdale and Lancaster are trying to entice industry and jobs into the area. Increased population in the last decade provides a large labor force available to employers, and is expected to attract more companies, thus broadening the area's economic base).

4 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

On August 23, 2022, a literature review and record search was conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC). This inventory effort included the Project area and a 1/2-mi radius around the Project area, collectively termed the study area. The objective of this records search was to identify prehistoric or historic period cultural resources that have been previously recorded within the study area during prior cultural resource investigations.

As part of the cultural resources inventory, PaleoWest staff also examined historical maps and aerial images to characterize the developmental history of the Project area and surrounding area. A summary of the results of the record search and background research are provided below.

4.1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS

The records search results indicate that 21 previous investigations have been conducted and documented within the study area since 1988 (Table 4-1). None of these studies encompassed the Project area. As such, the Project area has not been previously inventoried.

Table 4-1. Previous Cultural Investigations within the Project Study Area

| Report No. | Year | Author(s) | Title |
|-------------------|-------------|---|--|
| LA-00116 | 1988 | Bruce Love | Archaeology Report for Amargosa Drainage North of Avenue M in the City of Lancaster, California |
| LA-01713 | 1988 | Gwendolyn R. Romani and Roberta S. Greenwood | Cultural Resource Investigation Spears Manufacturing and Distribution Center, City of Lancaster |
| LA-01780 | 1989 | Mark L. Raab | Summary of Data from Site CA-LAN-264, Malibu Lagoon, California |
| LA-01975 | 1989 | Neal J. Neuenschwander | Cultural Resource Survey and Clearance Report for the Proposed American Telephone and Telegraph Los Angeles Airport Central Office to the Santa Monica Central Office Fiberoptic Communication Route |
| LA-02376 | 1991 | Richard H. Norwood | Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Avenue L. Grade Separation Lancaster, California. Separation Lancaster, California. |
| LA-02512 | 1991 | Richard H. Norwood | Phase I Cultural Resource Evaluation for Historic Site LAN-1990 H the Winchester-Graham Property Lancaster, California |
| LA-02593 | 1992 | Richard H. Norwood | Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Amargosa Creek Channelization Project, Avenue L to Avenue K-8 and 10th Street East, Lancaster, Los Angeles County California |
| LA-02634 | 1992 | Kenneth M. Becker | Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Antelope Valley Courts Facility, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-02779 | 1993 | Richard H. Norwood | Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Vesting Tentative Map, Tract 51078 Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-04008 | 1996 | Science Applications International Corporation | Cultural Resources Investigation Pacific Pipeline Emidio Route (Including West Liebre Gulch Ridge Alignment and Mojave Alternatives) Los Angeles and Kern Counties, California |
| LA-04393 | 1998 | Clay A. Singer | Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for a Commercial Property at the Intersection of Avenue M and Sierra Highway in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. |
| LA-05316 | 2000 | Bruce Love | Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties Antelope Valley Transit Authority Transportation Facility: City of Lancaster Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-07967 | 2006 | Scott M. Hudlow | A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for Property on Avenue M, APN 3128-013-015 and -016 City of Palmdale, California |
| LA-07991 | 2006 | Bai "Tom" Tang, Michael Hogan, and Josh Smallwood | Cultural Resources Technical Report City of Lancaster General Plan Update |
| LA-08427 | 2007 | Theodore G. Cooley | Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company 66kv Antelope Bus Split Project Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-09679 | 2008 | Shannon L. Loftus and Robin D. Turner | Cultural Resource and Paleontological Assessment, North Los Angeles / Kern County, Regional Recycled Water Master Plan, Los Angeles / East Kern Counties, California. |

| Report No. | Year | Author(s) | Title |
|------------|------|----------------|--|
| LA-09995 | 2009 | James Schmidt | Archaeological Letter Report: Roosevelt, Forage, Sun Village, and Assembly 12kV Distribution Circuits Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project, Los Angeles County, CA |
| LA-11034 | 2009 | Thomas Magness | Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Section Recycled Water 1 (RW1) Pipeline Project, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-11035 | 2010 | Unknown | Continued Consultation Regarding the North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Recycled Water 1 Pipeline (RW1) Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California |
| LA-11453 | 2011 | Rebecca Orfila | Archaeological Survey for the Southern California Edison Company: Nineteen deteriorated power poles on the Petan 12kv, Forage 12kv, Hangar 12kv, Lupine 12kv Assembly 12kv, Force 12kv, Moonglow 12kv, and Highes Lake 12kv circuits in Los Angeles County, CA |
| LA-12670 | 2014 | Dave Brunzell | Cultural Resources Assessment for the Emsierra Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California (BCR Consulting Project No. TRF1415) |

4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORTED WITHIN 0.5 MILE OF THE PROJECT AREA

The records search indicated that four cultural resources have been previously documented within the study area. These resources include four historic period archaeological sites, none of which are within the Project area. These resources are listed in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resource within the Project Study Area

| Primary No. | Trinomial | Age | Type | Description |
|-------------|----------------|----------|------|--|
| P-19-001990 | CA-LAN-001990H | Historic | Site | Winchester (Graham) Property |
| P-19-002039 | CA-LAN-002039H | Historic | Site | Structural debris, east-west fence line, well and pump stand, and ornamental trees |
| P-19-003709 | – | Historic | Site | Water pump and large concrete cylinder |
| P-19-004793 | CA-LAN-004793H | Historic | Site | 1950s–1960s trash scatter and domestic trash dump |

4.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Historical maps consulted include Elizabeth Lake, CA (1915 and 1917) 30-minute; Lancaster, CA (1930 and 1933) 30-minute; Los Angeles, CA (1949, 1955, 1966) 1 degree by 2-degree USGS series; and Los Angeles, CA (1958) 7.5-minute topographic maps. Historical aerial images from NETROnline dated 1948, 1953, 1956, 1959, 1965, 1971, 1974, 1987, 1990, 1994, 2005, 2010, and 2018 were also reviewed (NETROnline 2022). Aerial imagery and historic topographic maps indicate that by 1915 the Project area was undeveloped except for sparse roads that were built in the vicinity during the early twentieth century; segments of the San Francisco and New Orleans Railroad and the Southern Pacific Railroad; and Sierra Highway to the east, the city of Lancaster to the north. Additionally, by 1948, four to five structures were outside of the Project

area but near the eastern, western, and southern edges of it. The USGS topo quads do not identify any structures within the Project area. Additionally, a search the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) General Land Office Records identified one land patent which was issued in December of 1915 to Marion M. Morrison for 80 acres, which encompasses the entire Project area (BLM 2022).

4.4 BURIED SITE SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

The underlying geology consists of Early and Middle Holocene quaternary alluvium comprising the unconsolidated fill of the Antelope Valley and has an estimated thickness of 100 ft or more (Dibblee 1960). These deposits consist of unconsolidated to weakly consolidated fine to medium sand with fine gravel. Gravels are primarily from granitic sources with many sub-angular fine gravel quartz clasts. This depositional environment is generally not conducive to the preservation of buried cultural deposits due to the high energy involved in the transportation of sand and gravel. Given the lack of natural resources in the Project area and the lack of prehistoric sites identified in the records search area, the Project area appears to have a low sensitivity for preserving buried archaeological sites.

4.5 NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

PaleoWest contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on June 28, 2022 for a review of the SLF. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on August 4, 2022, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results. Additionally, the NAHC suggested that nine individuals representing six Native American tribal groups be contacted to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project (Appendix A). PaleoWest sent outreach letters to the six recommended tribal groups on August 19, 2022, and conducted follow up phone calls on September 9, 2022.

To date, two responses have been received:

- Mr. Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer for the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, responded via email and stated that two lithic scatter sites have been recorded within one mile of the Project area. He suggested that PaleoWest provide some information within the Cultural Resources Report pertaining to the trails and natural resources in the vicinity of the Project as the Tribe recognizes them as TCRs. Additionally, Mr. Avila states that the Tribe will address project concerns directly with the Lead Agency during the AB52 Consultation process.
- Mr. Ryan Nordness, Cultural Resources Analyst for the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, responded via email and stated that the Project is not located near any known tribal cultural resources.

4.6 FIELD METHODS

A cultural resources survey of the Project area was completed by PaleoWest archaeologist Gena Severen, M.A., RPA on August 29, 2022. The fieldwork effort included an intensive

pedestrian survey of the entire Project area, totaling approximately 12 acres. The intensive pedestrian survey was conducted by walking a series of parallel transects running north/south spaced at 10-meter (m) (33-ft) intervals. The archaeologist carefully inspected all areas within the Project area likely to contain or exhibit sensitive cultural resources to ensure discovery and documentation of any visible, potentially significant cultural resources within the Project area.

Prehistoric site indicators may include areas of darker soil with concentrations of ash, charcoal, bits of animal bone (burned or unburned), shell, flaked stone, ground stone, or even human bone. Historic period site indicators may include fence lines, ditches, standing buildings, objects or structures such as sheds, or concentrations of materials at least 45 years in age, such as domestic refuse (e.g., glass bottles, ceramics, toys, buttons, leather shoes), refuse from other pursuits such as agriculture (e.g., metal tanks, farm machinery parts, horse shoes), or structural materials (e.g., nails, glass window panes, corrugated metal, wood posts or planks, metal pipes and fittings, railroad spurs, etc.).

4.7 FIELD RESULTS

The Project area is comprised of a heavily disturbed, undeveloped, sandy lot (Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2). The natural soils are comprised of coarse sands with silt and some sub-rounded pebbles; cobbles are absent. Vegetation within the Project area consists of desert scrub, cheesebush (*Ambrosia salsola*), and a sparse number of Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*). Ground visibility in Project area is good to excellent (70–80%). Significant amounts of modern trash were noted throughout the Project area (Figure 4-3), as were six discrete concentrations of rocks and rubble in the southwest corner (Figure 4-4). PaleoWest investigated the concentrations and determined that the concentrations mark the remains of a nearby homeowner's pets and are not historical in age.

No prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 45 years or older) archaeological resources were identified on the surface of the Project area during the archaeological survey.



Figure 4-1. Overview of the Project area from southeast corner, facing north.



Figure 4-2. Overview of the Project area from northwest corner, facing south.



Figure 4-3. Modern refuse dumped in Project area, facing south.



Figure 4-4. Possible modern pet burials in southwest corner of Project area, facing south.

5 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

No prehistoric or historical period archaeological or built-environment resources were identified in the Project area during the cultural resource records search and survey. Based on the sparsity of prehistoric remains identified in the records search area, a review of the underlying geology, the result of the archaeological survey, and the amount of modern disturbance, the Project area appears to have a low sensitivity for buried prehistoric archaeological sites and no to low sensitivity for buried historic period archaeological sites. As such, PaleoWest recommends the following best management practices be implemented during Project construction.

- If cultural resources are encountered during Project related activities, work in the immediate area must halt and the Project Archaeologist should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be CRHR eligible, additional work such as data recovery excavation, Native American consultation, and archaeological monitoring may be warranted to mitigate any adverse effects.
- If human remains are found, existing regulations outlined in the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 state that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code § 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified within 24 hours of positive identification as human. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of being granted access and provide recommendations as to the treatment of the remains to the landowner.

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Workers of the Writers’ Program of the Work Projects Administration in Southern California (Writers’ Program)

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Appendix A. Native American Coordination

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

August 4, 2022

Kyle Knabb
PaleoWest ArchaeologyVia Email to: kknabb@paleowest.com**Re: 22-0405 Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project, Los Angeles County**

Dear Mr. Knabb:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
LuiseñoVICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
ChumashPARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
KarukSECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
MiwokCOMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
ApacheCOMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-CostanoanCOMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
NomlakiCOMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
LuiseñoCOMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
KumeyaayEXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok/Nisenan**NAHC HEADQUARTERS**
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Los Angeles County
8/4/2022**

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

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

Tataviam

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

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

Kitanemuk
Vanyume
Tataviam

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5259
Fax: (951) 572-6004
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Serrano

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

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

Serrano

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5110
Fax: (951) 755-5177
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla
Serrano

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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

Serrano

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (760) 572 - 2423
historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

Quechan

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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

Serrano

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

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

Quechan

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 22-0405 Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project, Los Angeles County.



T: 626.408.8006
info@paleowest.com

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
517 S. Ivy Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016

August 19, 2022

Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer
Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
1019 Second Street, Suite 1
San Fernando, CA, 91340
Transmitted via email to jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Avila,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation for the Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project (Project) in Los Angeles County, California. The Project is located on Assessor's Parcel Number 3128-008-009 within Section 34, Township 7 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (SBBM), as depicted on the Lancaster West, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and the city of Lancaster is the lead agency.

A cultural resource records search and literature review was requested on June 23, 2022 to the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System housed at California State University, Fullerton. Results of the records search from the SCCIC have not yet been received.

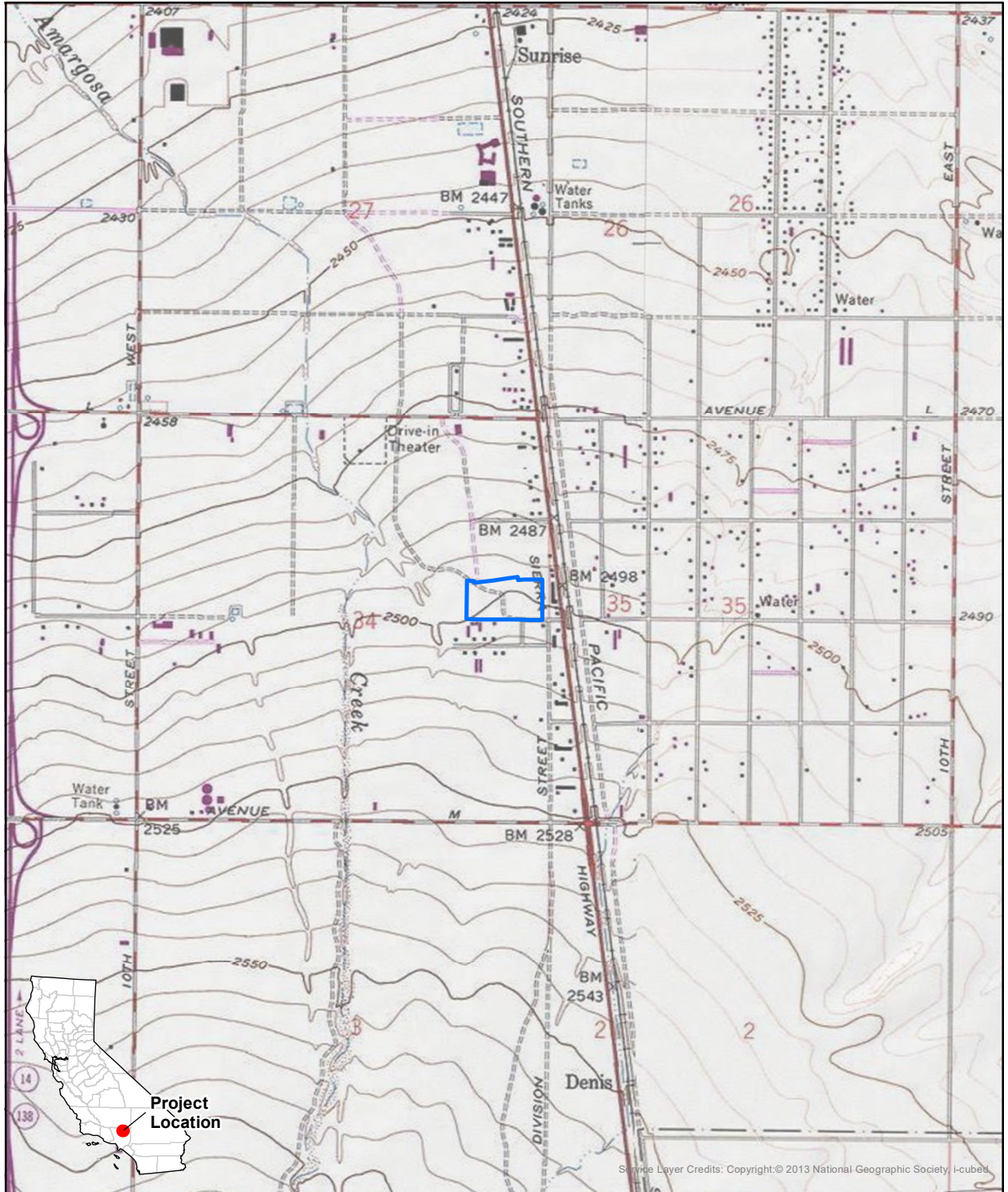
PaleoWest requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) *Sacred Lands File*. The NAHC responded on August 4, 2022 stating that the results of the search were negative and recommended that we contact you for comment. Therefore, I am writing as part of the cultural resources investigation to find out if you have any knowledge of cultural resource that may be impacted by the proposed Project. Please note, this letter **does not** constitute government-to-government consultation pursuant to Assembly Bill 52 or Section 106.

Please contact me at (626) 376-6729 or via email at kknabb@paleowest.com if you any information or concerns pertaining to the proposed Project.

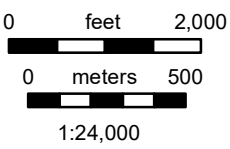
Sincerely,

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA
Senior Archaeologist
PaleoWest





Source Layer Credits: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed



Project Location
 USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
 Lancaster West, Ca (1975)
 T7N R12W, Sec 34
 UTM Zone 11, NAD 83
 SBBM

 Project Area

| Groups Contacted | Date of Correspondence | Tribal Response |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer 1019 Second Street, Suite 1 San Fernando, CA, 91340 Phone: (818) 837 - 0794 Fax: (818) 837-0796 jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us</p> | <p>Via email on 8/19/2022</p> | <p>Mr. Avila responded via email on 8/23/2022 stating that the Tribe is not aware of any cultural sites within the project vicinity, but that their records show two lithic scatter sites within one mile of the project area (P-19-100024 and P-19-100025). Mr. Avila suggested that PaleoWest provide some information within the Cultural Resources Report pertaining to the trails and natural resources in the vicinity of the Project as the Tribe recognizes them as TCRs which should be mentioned in the report. The Tribe will address project concerns directly with the Lead Agency during the AB52 Consultation process.</p> |
| <p>Moronggo Band of Mission Indians Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |
| <p>Moronggo Band of Mission Indians Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |
| <p>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |
| <p>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation H. Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (760) 572 – 2423 historicpreservation@quechantribe.com</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 8/22/2022 via email</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |

| Groups Contacted | Date of Correspondence | Tribal Response |
|---|---|---|
| <p>San Fernando Band of Mission Indians Donna Yocum, Chairperson P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322 Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |
| <p>San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346 Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuel-nsn.Gov</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>Ryan Nordness responded on 9/12/22, stating that the proposed project is not located near any known tribal cultural resources.</p> |
| <p>Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (253) 370 - 0167 serranonation1@gmail.com</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |
| <p>Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (909) 528 - 9032 serranonation1@gmail.com</p> | <p>8/19/2022 via email; 9/9/2022 via telephone</p> | <p>No response/comment</p> |

From: [Jairo Avila](#)
To: [Gena Granger](#)
Cc: [Kyle Knabb](#)
Subject: Re: Cultural Resources Investigations in City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 8:10:25 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Hello Gena,

Thank you for reaching out to the Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians. I am not aware of any cultural sites within the footprint of this project. However, our records show two lithic scatter sites within a one-mile area. P-19-100024 and P-19-100025.

In preparation of the archaeological/cultural resource report, I want to suggest that Paleowest provide some information on the trails and natural resources in the vicinity. The FTBMI recognizes these as TCRs, and they should be mentioned in the report.

The Cultural Resource Management Division will address project concerns to the lead agency during the AB52 consultation process.

Best,

Jairo F. Avila, M.A., RPA.

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer

Cultural Resources Management Division

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Department

Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

1019 Second Street, Suite 1

San Fernando, California 91340

Office: (818) 837-0794

Website: <http://www.tataviam-nsn.us>

From: Gena Granger <GGranger@paleowest.com>

Sent: Friday, August 19, 2022 11:55 AM

To: Jairo Avila <jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us>

Cc: Kyle Knabb <kknabb@paleowest.com>

Subject: Cultural Resources Investigations in City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County

[CAUTION] EXTERNAL Email. Exercise caution.

Please see the attached letters and maps for two separate projects: Lancaster Ave L-4 Industrial Survey Project and the Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project, both in the city of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California.

Warm Regards,



Gena Severen (Granger), MA, RPA | Associate Archaeologist
PaleoWest

ggranger@paleowest.com

mobile: 562-310-0153

www.paleowest.com

Los Angeles, California

517 S. Ivy Avenue

Monrovia, CA 91016



From: [Ryan Nordness](#)
To: [Kyle Knabb](#)
Subject: Information Request for the Lancaster Forbes Industrial Survey Project, Los Angeles County, CA
Date: Monday, September 12, 2022 4:41:07 PM

Hello Kyle,

Thank you for reaching out to the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation (formerly known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians) concerning the proposed project area. YSMN appreciates the opportunity to review the project documentation received by the Cultural Resources Management Department on August 22nd, 2022. The proposed project is not located near any known tribal cultural resources. Thank you again for your correspondence, if you have any additional questions or comments please reach out to me at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

Ryan Nordness

Ryan Nordness

Cultural Resource Analyst

Ryan.Nordness@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

O:(909) 864-8933 Ext 50-2022

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