PRE-CONSTRUCTION PALEONTOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE VALLE RESEDA PROJECT, A 37.87 ACRE PARCEL AS SHOWN ON TTM 38066 LOCATED SOUTHWEST OF THE INTERSECTION OF N. RAMONA BLVD. AND RANCH VIEW LANE IN THE CITY OF SAN JACINTO, RIVERSIDE COUNTY

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Prepared for

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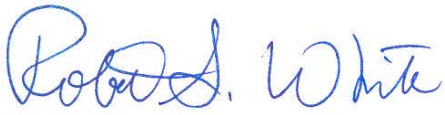
TTM 38066
APNs 436-030-001, 436-040-006 & -008

Location: USGS topographic map, 7.5' *San Jacinto* 1978/79.
Southeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 20 and the West ½ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 21, Township 4 South, Range 1 West, SBBM.

February 9, 2023

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



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Richard Guttenberg, M.A.
Principal Investigator

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Pre-construction Paleontological Survey Report documents the findings of a paleontological site investigation conducted by Archeological Associates for Camellia Homes. The project site (Valle Reseda) comprises 37.84 acres of vacant land identified as TTM 38066 (APNs 436-030-001, 436-040-006 & -008). The study area is located immediately southwest of the intersection of North Ramona Boulevard and Ranch View Lane in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County. Presently, it is desired to construct a residential subdivision on the property.

The survey investigation included a records search, literature review, a field reconnaissance, and report. The survey was completed using currently accepted paleontologic methods that satisfy mitigation requirements for paleontological resources. The on-site field reconnaissance conducted on September 30, 2022 was performed in order to: 1) evaluate existing paleontological resources, 2) determine the impact to identified and/or anticipated paleontological resources resulting from the proposed undertaking, and 3) to determine appropriate mitigation measures necessary to minimize anticipated adverse impacts to paleontological resources resulting from construction (if any).

The parcel is underlain by Older Quaternary Alluvium that is considered to have a low to high potential for the discovery of significant fossils. No recorded fossil localities are known from the project site and the field study failed to identify any exposed fossils. However, present site conditions indicate paleontological monitoring is warranted during earth disturbing activities associated with the proposed development of the property.

I. INTRODUCTION

The following report was written for Camellia Homes by Archaeological Associates. It details the results of a Pre-Construction Paleontological Assessment for a 37.86 acre parcel as shown on TTM 38066 identified as the Valle Reseda residential project. The study area is located adjacent to the south side of North Ramona Boulevard immediately west of Ranch View Lane, City of San Jacinto, Riverside County. Presently, project proponents desire to develop the property with 184 single family homes and two retention basins (fig. 5).

The survey was performed in order to: (1) evaluate existing paleontological resources at the site and surrounding area, (2) determine if the proposed development poses any significant adverse impact to existing paleontological resources, and (3) to outline appropriate mitigation measures in order to minimize adverse impacts to the paleontological resources (if any).

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

Regionally, the study area lies in the southeasterly portion of the San Jacinto Valley approximately 2 ½ miles northwest of the historic core of San Jacinto and 1.25 miles southwest of the San Jacinto River, southwestern Riverside County (fig.1). The parcel is irregular in shape and adjoins N. Ramona Blvd. on the north and Ranch View Lane on the east. The remaining project boundaries abut active or fallow farm land. Legally, the subject property lies within the Southeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 20 and the West ½ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 21, Township 4 South, Range 1 West, SBBM as shown on a portion of the *San Jacinto* USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle (fig. 2).

Geographically, the site is situated on the southern part of the Perris Plain on the boundary between the sloping alluvial fan surface and the steep mountain front of the base of the Santa Ana Mountains. Topographically, the property consists of a portion of a larger valley floor. Topographically, the property is flat and devoid of any relief. Elevations average 1480 feet above mean sea level throughout the property. On-site vegetation is virtually non-existent due to recent farming and discing. What native vegetation remains is restricted to the periphery of the study area comprising exotic weeds and forbes. One very large cotton wood tree lies in the southern portion of the development area. No bedrock exposures, isolated boulders or sources of natural surface water were encountered anywhere on the property (fig 3).

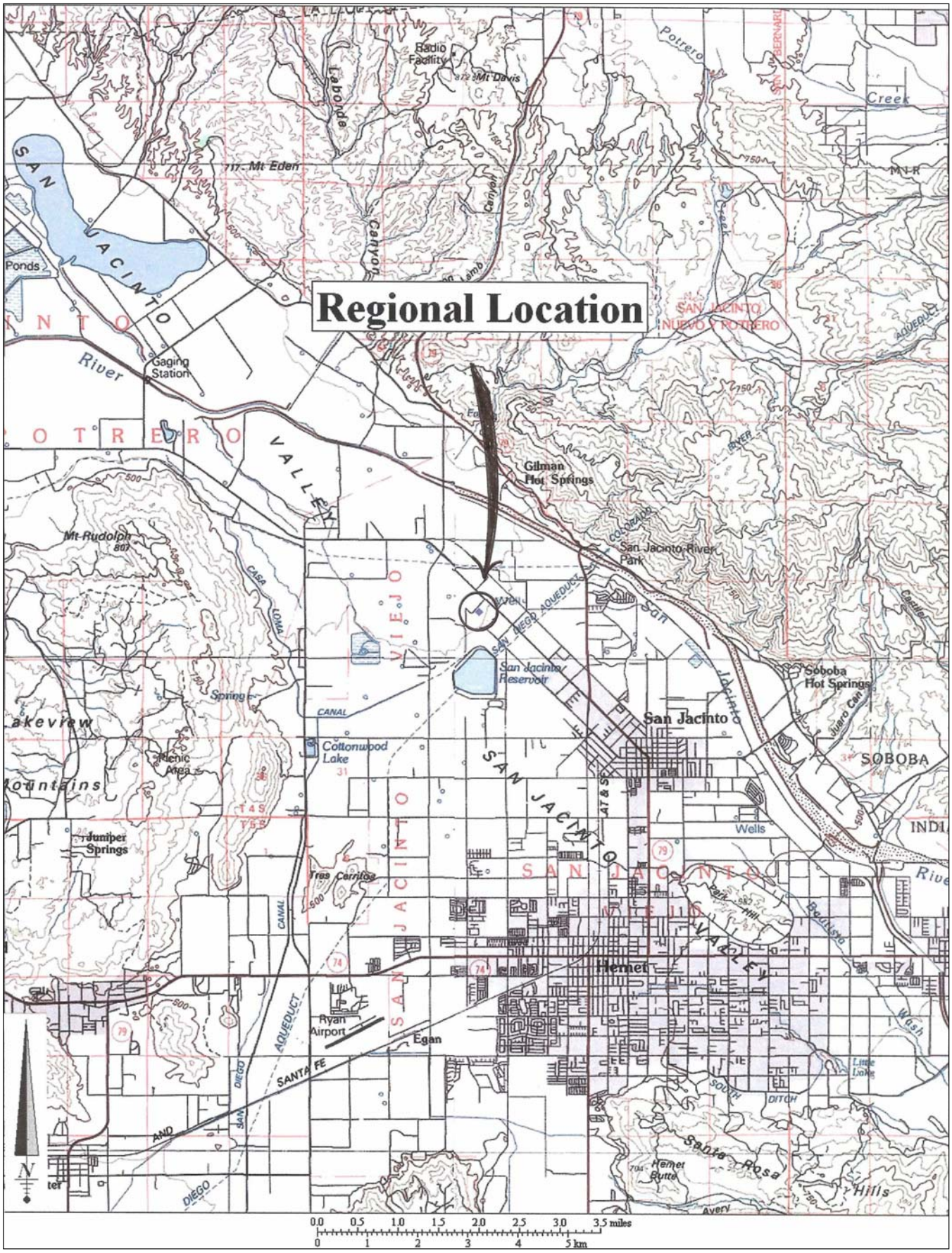


Figure 1. Regional location map (USGS *Santa Ana* 1:100,000 scale Topographic Map Sheet).

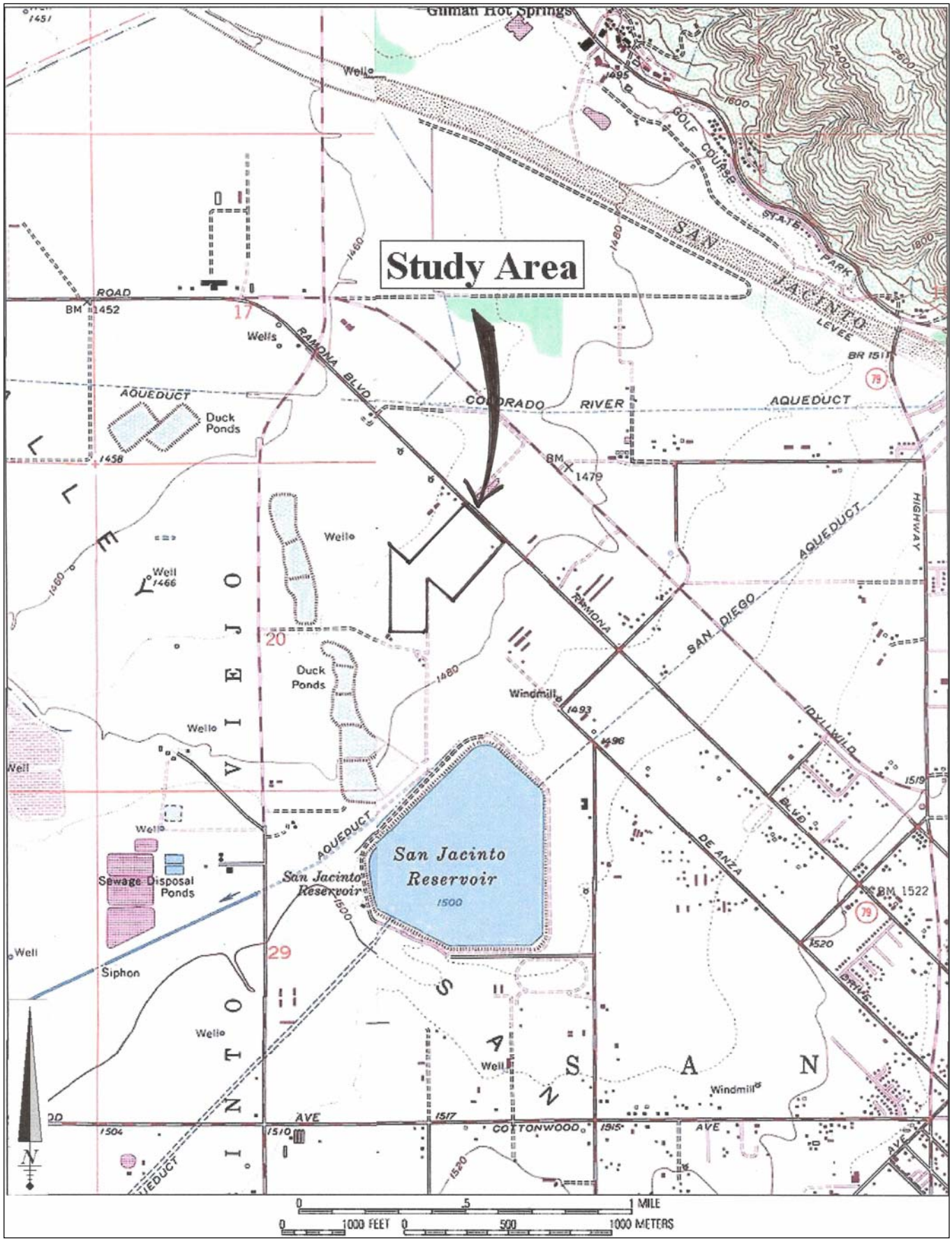


Figure 2. Study area plotted on a portion of the *San Jacinto* USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle (1978/79).

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

All available literature considered pertinent to the site, including previously recorded lists of fossils and paleontological fossil localities recorded for the general site vicinity, was reviewed. The purpose of the literature search was to determine: (1) pertinent geologic and paleontologic site information, and (2) the paleontologic sensitivity of identified and/or anticipated geologic units underlying the site. The literature search began with procurement of a records search from the Western Science Center (WSC) in Hemet. The results of the WSC search show no fossil localities are mapped within the boundaries of the study area nor within a mile radius (Stoneburg 2023)

A review of other unpublished documents relating to regional and/or detailed geologic studies was also conducted. These were supplemented with an examination of the regional geologic map delineating the geology of the rock formations underlying the project site (Diblee, 2003). No additional recorded fossil localities, fossil lists, published or unpublished literature within the boundaries of the project site were discovered during the additional research.

IV. GEOLOGY/BIOSTRATIGRAPHY

The study area is underlain by sediments that have been mapped as Quaternary Alluvium (fig 4). The Alluvium is variously mapped as Older Terrace Deposits, Older Quaternary Alluvium, and Recent Alluvium. These sediments are all deposited in the same alluvial fan environment and consist of light brown to red brown angular to sub rounded, poorly sorted, fanglomerate and coarse arkosic sandstone. The observable difference between the three Pleistocene to Recent alluvial units is in the relative position of each unit with the older units uplifted more and slightly more consolidated.

As a result of the low rates of sedimentation in broad flat valleys the sediments in areas mapped as Quaternary Alluvium are typically as old as Pleistocene in age. The Older Alluvium and some younger alluvium are known to contain highly significant fossil localities. The Quaternary Alluvium in this area is considered to be of low to moderate paleontologic sensitivity at the surface. This sensitivity increases to moderate to high with depth.

Many to most geologic maps indicate the broad valley areas as Quaternary Alluvium (Holocene to latest Pleistocene) when in fact these surfaces were largely formed sometime in the Pleistocene and were probably formed before the latest Pleistocene. The sediments in the active channels are Holocene while the surrounded surfaces are older. Many of these channels are incised

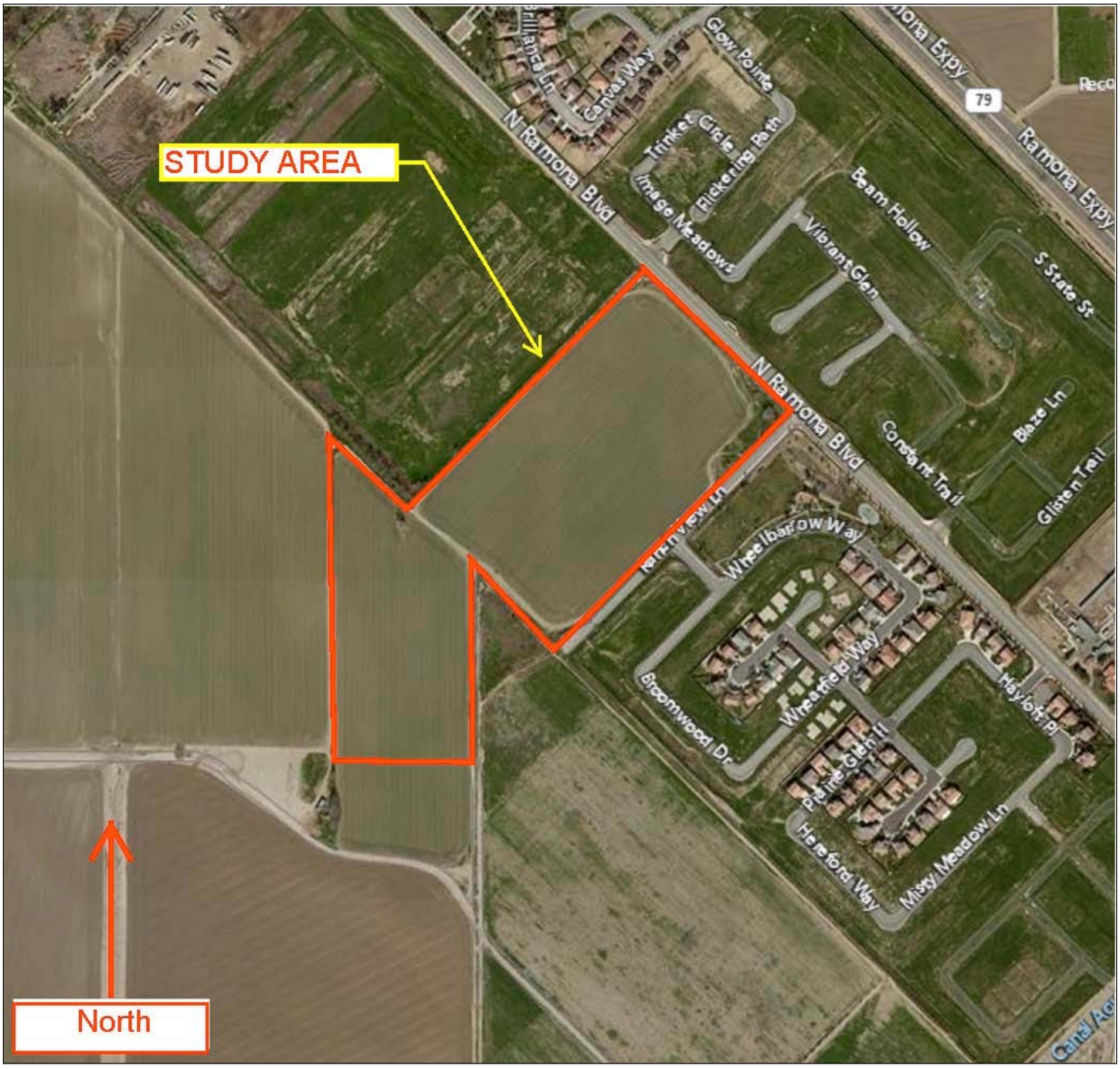
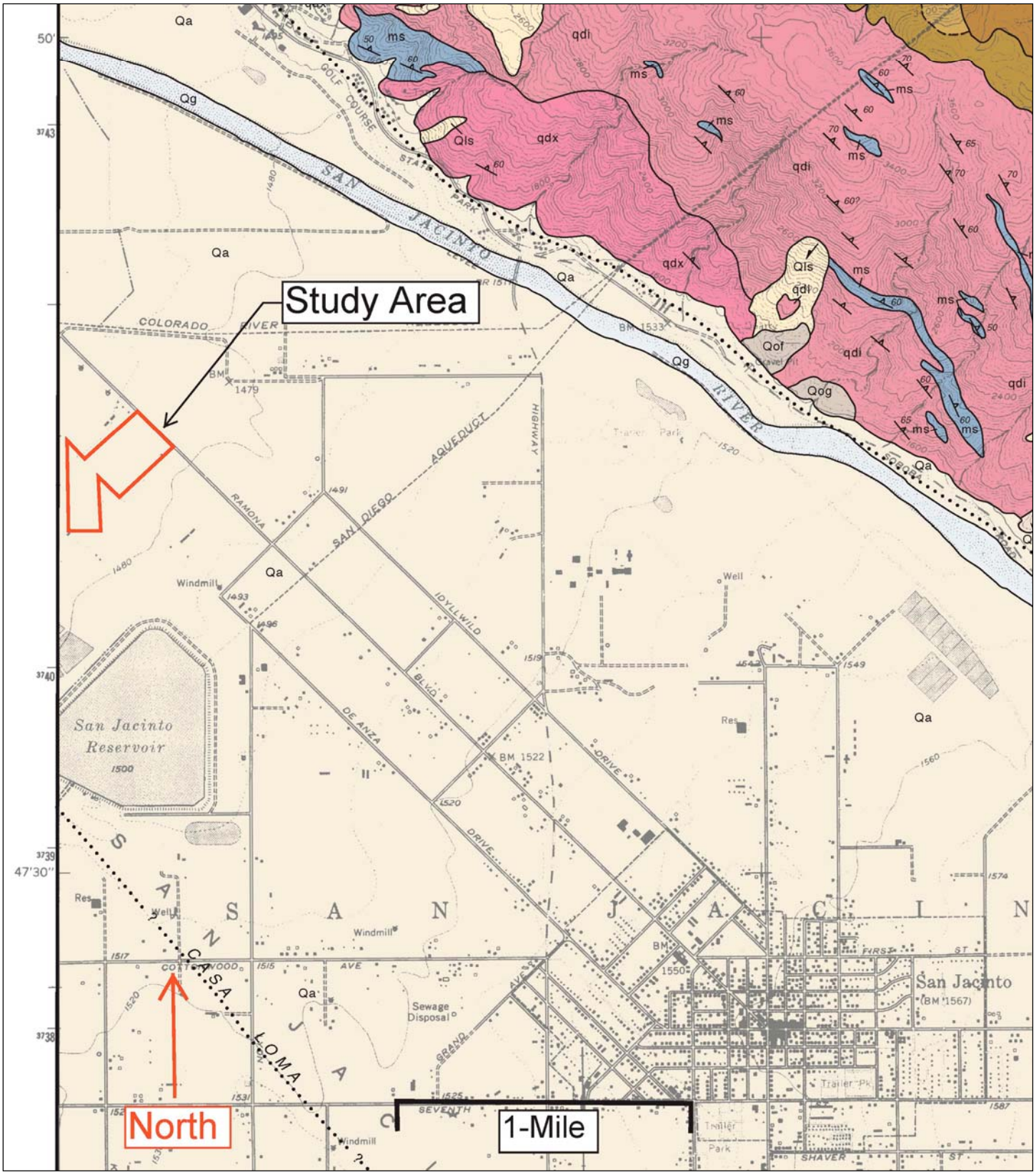


Figure 3. Study area as shown on aerial photograph



Qa: Quanternary Alluvium
Qg: Surficial Sediments
Qog: Older Suficial Sediments
Qls: Landslide of rock rubble
qdx: Plutonic Rocks, Quarts diorite
ms: Metasedimentary Rocks, Schist

Figure 4. Geologic map of study area (Dibblee, 2003). *San Jacinto 7.5'* USGS Topographic Quadrangle).

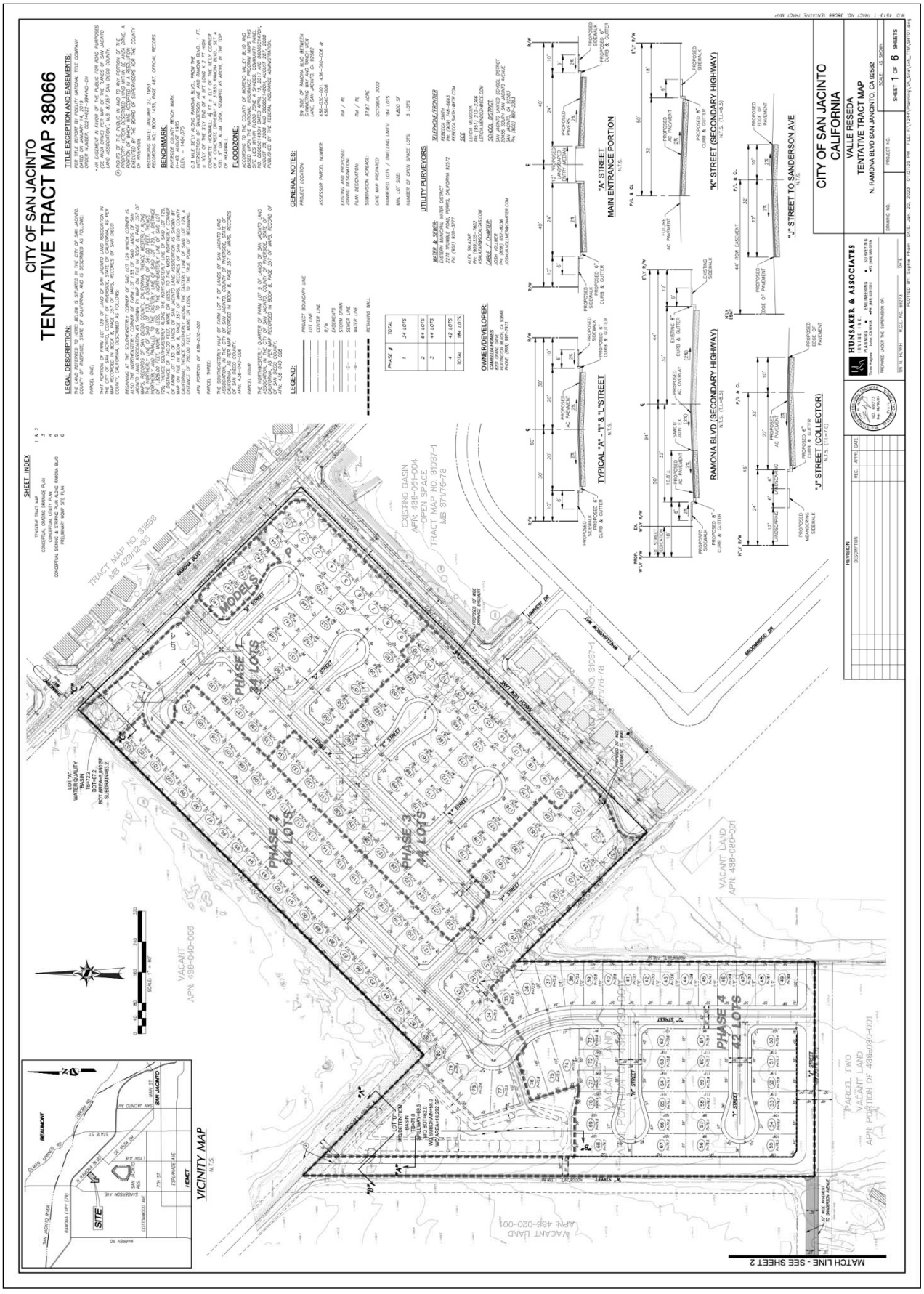


Figure 5. Study area as shown on TTM 38066

into the surface indicating a lowering of base level, probably related to lowering of sea level. The deeper alluvium in these channels often contains a Pleistocene vertebrate fauna.

V. FIELD RECONNAISSANCE

A pedestrian survey of the study area was conducted by Robert S. White and Richard Guttenberg, M.A. a Riverside County Approved Paleontologist. The field reconnaissance was conducted on December 21, 2022 to investigate and make visual observations of each geologic unit present on the surface of the site. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced at 10-15 meter intervals across the property. Surface visibility was excellent, approaching 100% throughout the parcel. No paleontologic resources were encountered during the field reconnaissance.

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No published fossil localities are known to exist on the site. No fossil remains were encountered on the site during the field reconnaissance. The Older Alluvium and Older Terrace deposits were deposited by streams flowing across the study area during the Pleistocene Epoch. Fossils of land animals are known from the greater surrounding region in the San Jacinto Valley.

A. Potential Environmental Impacts

1. The surface of the project site is covered with Recent Alluvium (Holocene). It has no potential for the discovery of significant fossils, because it is too young geologically to contain fossils.

2. The Older Quaternary Alluvium and Older Terrace Deposits underlying the Recent Alluvium are considered to have a low to high potential for the discovery of significant fossils.

B. Mitigation Recommendations

- Present site conditions indicate paleontological monitoring is warranted during earth disturbing activities associated with development of the property. Supervision by AA's paleontologist will be maintained during paleontologic grading observations when grading in the on-site geologic units. In the event that fossils are exposed, the paleontologist shall be allowed to divert or direct grading in the area of exposure to facilitate evaluation, and (if identified as potentially significant) to salvage significant fossils.

- All fossils collected shall be prepared and identified by a qualified paleontologist. Excavated significant fossil finds shall be offered to the City or its designee (Western Science Center), on a first-refusal basis. These actions, as well as, final mitigation and disposition of the resources, shall be subject to City guidelines and regulations.

REFERENCES

DIBLEE, THOMAS W., Jr.

2003 Geologic Map of the *San Jacinto* 7.5' Quadrangle, Riverside County, California, John A. Minch, *editor*, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, DF-112, 1:24,000, color.

STONEBURG, BRITTNEY E.

2023 Paleontological Records Search for TTM 38066 in the City of San Jacinto, Riverside County. Western Science Center, Hemet. Unpublished letter report on file with Archaeological Associates, Sun City.

Plate I. Top: Looking southwest from the northeast property corner.
Bottom: Looking northeast from the southwest property corner.

Plate II. Top: Looking west across the southern project boundary from the eastern access road (south half of property). **Bottom:** Looking northwest from the extreme southeast corner (south half or property).