Appendix E

Cultural Resources Report

CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDY FOR THE SAND CANYON RESORT PROJECT

27734 Sand Canyon Road
City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California

PREPARED FOR:

CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AB	Assembly Bill
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
City	City of Santa Clarita
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
PRC	Public Resources Code
project	Sand Canyon Resort Project
SB	Senate Bill
SCCIC	South Central Coastal Information Center
TCR	tribal cultural resource

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dudek was retained by the City of Santa Clarita (City) to conduct a cultural resources study in support of the environmental impact analysis for the proposed Sand Canyon Resort Project (Project). This cultural resources study includes the following components: (1) a records search covering the proposed Project site and a surrounding 0.5-mile radius at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC); (2) review of historic maps and aerials for project site development, (3) a review of the California Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) Sacred Lands File (SLF) and the results of informal tribal consultation, (4) a Phase I pedestrian survey of the proposed Project site for cultural resources, and (5) summary of findings and recommendations.

This study is compliant with California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California PRC Section 21000 et seq.), and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.). PRC Section 5024.1 requires the identification and evaluation of historical resources that may be affected by a proposed project.

The proposed project is subject to compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and Senate Bill (SB) 18. Native American consultation pursuant to AB 52 and SB 18 was completed by the City. Information provided by the NAHC or tribes regarding potential traditional cultural properties or tribal cultural resources (TCRs) are on file with the City and provided in confidential Appendix B.

The now defunct approximately 75-acre Mountain Course of the former Robinson Ranch Golf Course was constructed between 1994 and 2002 and was designed by renowned golf course architect, Ted Robinson Sr., and his son Ted Robinson Jr. Because the Mountain Course is less than 45 years of age, it not considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA and as such, not evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).

No archaeological resources were identified within the proposed Project site as a result of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search, Native American outreach, and pedestrian survey. To date, four responses have been received from the NAHC-listed contacts. Any additional responses that are received will be forwarded to the City. While the study was negative for archaeological resources, it is always possible that intact archaeological deposits are present at subsurface levels. For these reasons, the proposed Project site should be treated as potentially sensitive for archaeological resources. Management recommendations to reduce potential impacts to unanticipated archaeological resources and human remains during ground-disturbing activities are provided in Section 6.2.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Santa Clarita (City) retained Dudek to complete a cultural resources study for the proposed Sand Canyon Resort Project (project). The project is located at 27734 Sand Canyon Road in the City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California. This study was completed in accordance with the provisions of California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5024.1, Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California PRC Section 21000 et seq.), and Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines (CCR Section 15000 et seq.).

The City is proposing to replace existing open space formerly known as the Mountain Course of the Robinson Ranch Golf Course, with a new resort and spa as part of the newly renamed Sand Canyon Country Club. The now defunct approximately 75-acre Mountain Course was constructed between 1994 and 2002 and was designed by renowned golf course architect, Ted Robinson Sr. and his son Ted Robinson Jr. Because the Mountain golf course is less than 45 years of age, it not considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA and as such, not evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).

This report presents the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search, coordination with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a review of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) and the results of informal tribal consultation, and a pedestrian survey. Tribal consultation completed by the City, pursuant to California Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and Senate Bill (SB) 18 is provided in confidential Appendix B.

1.1 Project Personnel

Dudek archaeologist Linda Kry, BA, is the technical lead, co-authored the report, provided Native American consultation, and participated in the pedestrian survey. Dudek archaeologist Erica Nicolay, MA, completed the records search, Native American consultation, pedestrian survey, and co-authored the report. Dudek senior architectural historian and archaeologist Samantha Murray, MA, RPA, who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for both archaeology and architectural history, provided senior review.

1.2 Project Location

The approximately 77-acre proposed Project site is located at 27734 Sand Canyon Road, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California, Assessor's Parcel Number 2840-022-025, in Township 4 North, Range 15 West, Sections 23 and 24, as shown on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Mint Canyon Quadrangle topographic map (Figure 1). Specifically, the proposed Project is located at the northeast corner of Sand

Canyon Road and Robinson Road and south of State Route 14 in the Sand Canyon area of the City (Figure 2).

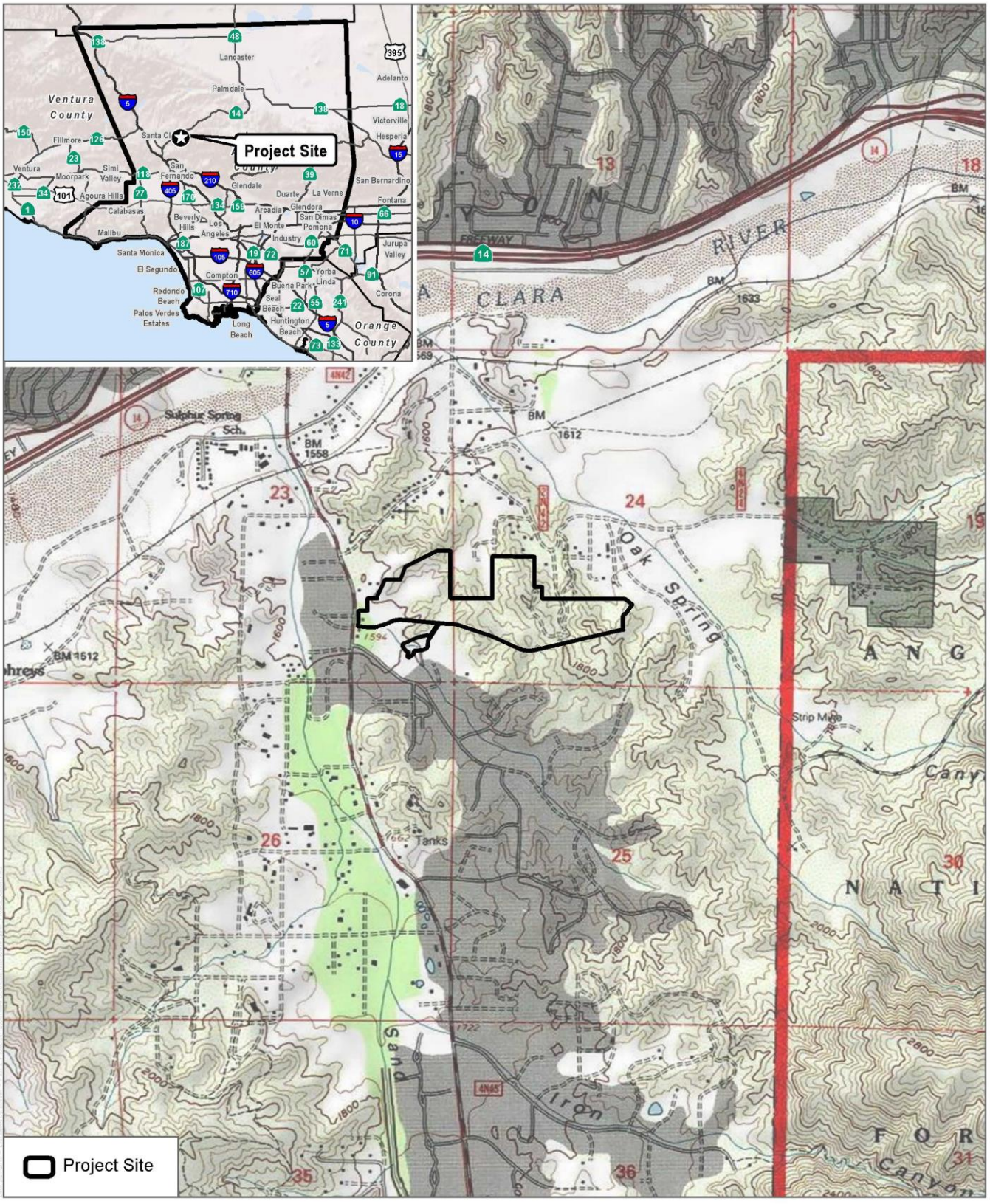
Currently, the approximately 77-acre proposed Project site is vacant and consists of an abandoned nine-hole golf course. The only on-site built-environment resource consists of a small restroom structure, which is no longer in service and is located on the southwest corner of the proposed Project site. The proposed Project site is situated in and associated with the larger 200-acre Sand Canyon Country Club property (formerly Robinson Ranch Golf Club), which consists of another nine-hole golf course, a driving range, a maintenance building, and clubhouse; however, all of aforementioned features of the larger Sand Canyon Country Club property are outside of the proposed Project site boundaries (Figure 3).

1.3 Project Description

In an effort to create a premiere golf destination in northern Los Angeles County, the City is proposing to replace existing open space that was formerly the Mountain Course of the Robinson Ranch Golf Course, with a new resort and spa consisting of a hotel with three three-story buildings; villas associated with the hotel (25 buildings); three restaurants; a spa/gym/salon; conference/ball room space; a grand ballroom; junior ballroom; meeting rooms; outdoor recreation consisting of two pools, one tennis court, six pickleball courts, 3 miles of on-site trails, and a nine-hole miniature golf course; and parking for a total of 375 parking stalls. Additionally, a detention basin was added to the southwestern corner in April of 2019. Table 1 summarizes the building area of proposed Project facilities within the newly renamed Sand Canyon Country Club.

Table 1. Summary of Proposed Project Facilities

Proposed Facility Use	Building Area (square feet)
Main Hotel (three-story building with 250 rooms)	155,800
Wedding Hotel (two three-story buildings with 72 rooms)	50,620
View and Oak Villas associated with the hotel (25 buildings)	124,000
Restaurants (three restaurants)	8,400
Spa/gym/salon	31,380
Grand ballroom, junior ball room, and meeting rooms	13,600
Outdoor recreation, including two pools, one tennis court, six pickleball courts, on-site trails, and a nine-hole miniature golf course	—
Parking (375 parking stalls)	—



SOURCE: USGS 7.5 minute serise Mint Canyon quadrangle

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0 1,000 2,000 Feet

FIGURE 1
Project Location
Sand Canyon Resort Project

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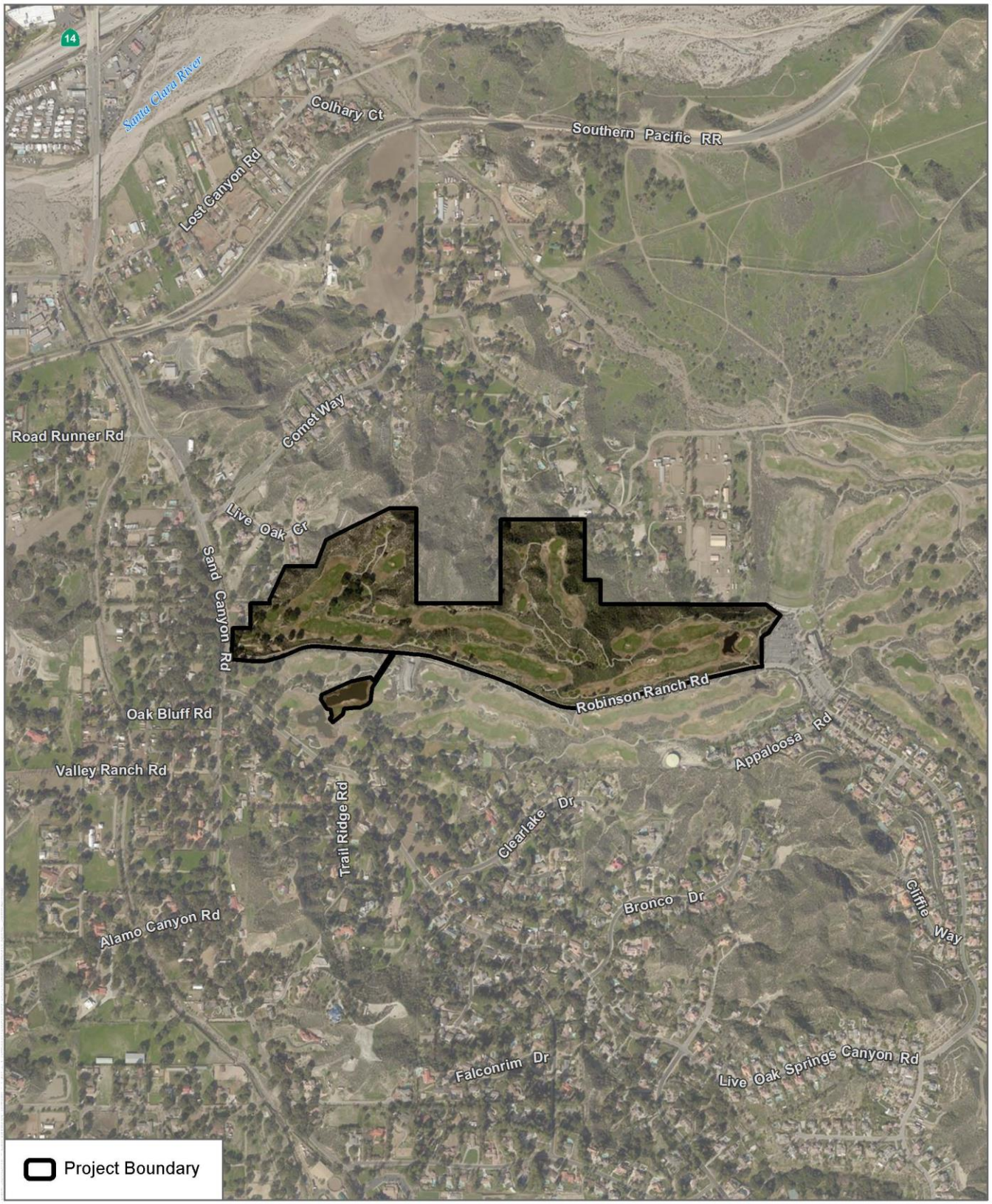

SOURCE: Bing Maps 2018

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FIGURE 2
Project Site
Sand Canyon Resort Project

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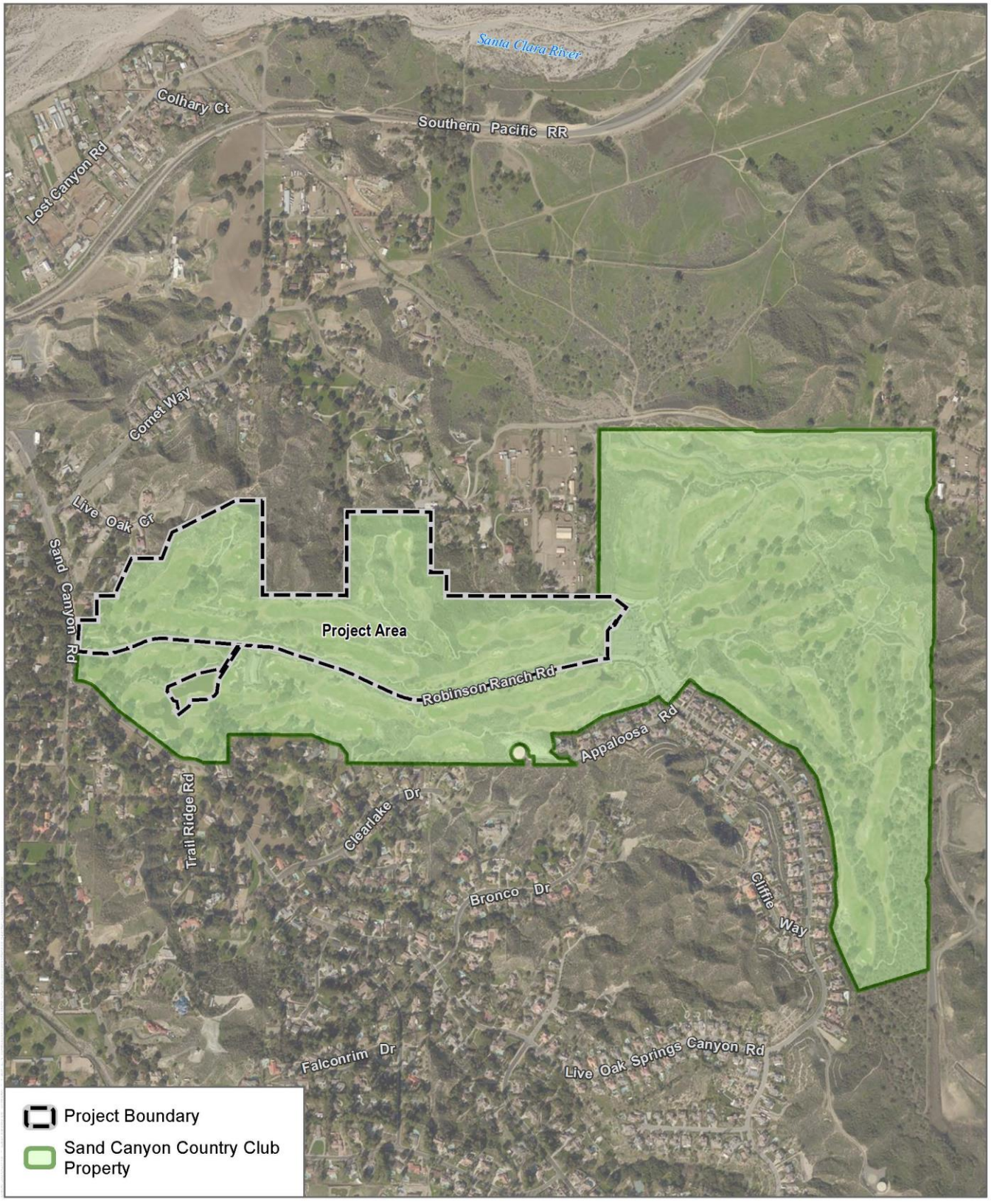

SOURCE: Bing Maps 2018

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FIGURE 3
Sand Canyon Country Club
Sand Canyon Resort Project

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In total, the proposed resort would result in the development of approximately 30 acres of the 77-acre Project site. The resort would include a total of 392 hotel rooms and would provide 49,500 square feet of ballrooms, meeting rooms, and restaurants to host various events. The resort would be divided over four lots along approximately 4,250 linear feet of Robinson Ranch Road. The resort would be located entirely on the north side of Robinson Ranch Road. Upon entering the resort, guests would be met with the Green Oaks Park area.

The resort project would include the following amenities:

- One three-story main hotel building (250 keys)
- Two three-story Spa Garden Inn buildings (72 keys)
- 25 villas (70 keys)
- Two ballrooms and five meeting rooms
- Three upscale restaurants
- A spa and sauna, beauty salon, gym, and kids club
- Two swimming pools
- One tennis court and six pickleball courts
- A nine-hole miniature golf course
- 3 miles of multipurpose trails

The main parking lot located near the hotel buildings and the individual parking bays for the villas contains a total of 374 parking spaces for visitors and employees. The adjacent 27-hole Country Club has additional 319 parking spaces. As such, collectively a total of 693 parking spaces would be available for visitors, hotel guests, and employees.

To the west and northwest of the primary parking would be the Sand Canyon Resort Hotel buildings, which would consist of the main three-story hotel building. The building would be approximately 38 feet in height; 155,800 square feet in size, including the main lobby; 250 hotel rooms (1 president suite, 8 suites, 241 king/queen rooms); a coffee shop; and a small retail sundry shop.

The function building would contain three signature restaurants, two ballrooms (one 8,600-square foot grand ballroom and one 2,600-square foot junior ballroom), small meeting rooms, a kids' clubs, pool snack bar, a celebration garden and supporting facilities such as kitchens and storage. The back of house, which would provide service, deliveries, storage, housekeeping, and engineering, would be located right below the function building and would be connected to the main hotel through a tunnel.

The spa building, which would be approximately 31,000 square feet, would have a walk-out basement level linked to the main level by a spacious sky lit atrium. The building would include a beauty salon, 30 treatment rooms, locker facilities for men and women, and a gym that includes yoga and cycling rooms. Adjacent to the

Spa building, there would be two three-story hotel wings called Spa Garden Inn. Each would have 32 king and queen rooms. The Spa Garden Inn would be approximately 25 feet in height and 50,620 square feet in size.

The View Villa Community would consist of 15 villas for couples, and family retreats would be located just below the main hotel building. Villas would be two stories with two units on each floor. Each unit would be comprised of a two-bedroom suite with living room and porch and/or balcony. Each villa building would be approximately 6,100–6,400 square feet in size and 20 feet in height.

North of the park would be the 10 luxury Oak Villas surrounding groups of oak trees. The Oak Villas would be one-story four-bedroom suites with their own built-in parking garages. The Oak Villas would each be approximately 3,700 square feet in size and 12 feet in height.

The resort would include two swimming pools, one of which would be for families and one for adults only. The family pool would be located on the east side of the kids' club across the fire road. The adult pool would be located between the function and spa building. Additionally, the resort would include a new nine-hole miniature par-3 golf course, one tennis court, six pickleball courts, and a playground.

Construction

Project construction would be phased, with construction of the main hotel building occurring first, followed by additional phases based on market demand. Construction of the hotel building would occur over a period of approximately 24 months. Construction of the project would commence with grading and remedial earthwork excavation. Upon completion of earthwork, the foundations would be constructed, followed by vertical building construction, paving/concrete, and landscape installation.

2 REGULATORY SETTING

This section includes a discussion of the applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources that must be adhered to before and during construction of the proposed Project.

2.1 Federal

National Register of Historic Places

While there is no federal nexus for this Project, the subject property was evaluated in consideration of NRHP designation criteria. The NRHP is the United States' official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. Overseen by the National Park Service, under the U.S. Department of the Interior, the NRHP was authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. Its listings encompass all National Historic Landmarks, as well as historic areas administered by the National Park Service.

NRHP guidelines for the evaluation of historic significance were developed to be flexible and to recognize the accomplishments of all who have made significant contributions to the nation's history and heritage. Its criteria are designed to guide federal agencies, state and local governments, and others in evaluating potential entries in the NRHP. For a property to be listed in or determined eligible for listing, it must be demonstrated to possess integrity and to meet at least one of the following criteria:

> The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Integrity is defined in NRHP guidance, How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, as "the ability of a property to convey its significance. To be listed in the NRHP, a property must not only be shown to be significant under the NRHP criteria, but it also must have integrity" (NPS 1990). NRHP guidance further asserts that properties be completed at least 50 years ago to be considered for eligibility. Properties completed

less than 50 years before evaluation must be proven to be "exceptionally important" (criteria consideration G) to be considered for listing.

2.2 State

California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term "historical resource" includes "any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California" (California PRC Section 5020.1(j)). In 1992, the California legislature established the CRHR "to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (PRC Section 5024.1(a)). The criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP, enumerated below (NPS 1990). According to PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains "substantial integrity," and (ii) meets at least one of the following criteria:

(1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.

(2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.

(3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.

(4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

To understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (14 CC) 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the state landmarks and points of interest. The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

California Environmental Quality Act

The following CEQA statutes (PRC Section 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000 et seq.) are of relevance to the analysis of archaeological, historic, and tribal cultural resources (TCRs):

- PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines "unique archaeological resource."
- PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) defines "historical resources." In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource"; it also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of a historical resource.
- PRC Section 21074(a) defines "tribal cultural resources."
- PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
- PRC Sections 21083.2(b) and 21083.2(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4 provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including examples of preservation-in-place mitigation measures. Preservation in place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites because it maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archaeological context and may help avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the archaeological site(s).

More specifically, under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause "a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource" (PRC Section 21084.1; 14 CCR 15064.5(b)).

A "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource" reflecting a significant effect under CEQA means "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired" (14 CCR 15064.5(b)(1); PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, the significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project does any of the following (14 CCR 15064.5(b)(2)):

(1) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the California Register; or

(2) Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to Section 5020.1(k) of the PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the PRC,

unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or

(3) 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 inclusion in the California Register as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA inquiry begins with evaluating whether a project site contains any "historical resources," then evaluates whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource's historical significance would be materially impaired.

If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that they cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC Sections 21083.2(a)–(c)).

Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria (PRC Section 21083.2(g)):

(1) Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.

(2) Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.

(3) Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

Impacts on non-unique archaeological resources are generally not considered a significant environmental impact (PRC Section 21083.2(a); 14 CCR 15064.5(c)(4)). However, if a non-unique archaeological resource qualifies as a TCR (PRC Sections 21074(c) and 21083.2(h)), further consideration of significant impacts is required.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. These procedures are detailed in PRC Section 5097.98.

California State Assembly Bill 52

AB 52 of 2014 amended PRC Section 5097.94 and added PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3. AB 52 established that TCRs must be considered under CEQA and

also provided for additional Native American consultation requirements for the lead agency. Section 21074 describes a TCR as a site, feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place, or object that is considered of cultural value to a California Native American tribe and that is either:

- On or determined to be eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources or a local historic register; or
- A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1.

AB 52 formalizes the lead agency–tribal consultation process, requiring the lead agency to initiate consultation with California Native American groups that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project site, including tribes that may not be federally recognized. Lead agencies are required to begin consultation prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report.

Section 1 (a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that "a substantial adverse change to a TCR has a significant effect on the environment." Effects on TCRs should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures "capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a TCR or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource." Further, if a California Native American tribe requests consultation regarding project alternatives, mitigation measures, or significant effects to TCRs, the consultation shall include those topics (PRC Section 21080.3.2(a)). The environmental document and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (where applicable) shall include any mitigation measures that are adopted (PRC Section 21082.3(a)).

Senate Bill 18

The Local and Tribal Intergovernmental Consultation process, commonly known as SB 18 was signed into law September of 2004 and took effect March 1, 2005. SB 18 refers to PRC Section 5097.9 and 5097.995, which defines cultural places as:

- Native American sanctified cemetery place of worship, religious or ceremonial site, or sacred shrine (PRC Section 5097.9).
- Native American historic, cultural, or sacred site that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources pursuant to Section 5024.1, including any historic or prehistoric ruins, any burial ground, any archaeological or historic site (PRC Section 5097.993).

SB 18 established responsibilities for local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with California Native American tribes that have been identified by the NAHC and if that tribe requests consultation after local government outreach as stipulated in Government Code Section 65352.3. The

purpose of this consultation process is to protect the identity of the cultural place and to develop appropriate and dignified treatment of the cultural place in any subsequent project. The consultation is required whenever a general plan, specific plan, or open space designation is proposed for adoption or to be amended. Once local governments have sent notification, tribes are responsible for requesting consultation. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65352.3(a)(2), each tribe has 90 days from the date on which they receive notification to respond and request consultation.

In addition to the requirements stipulated previously, SB 18 amended Government Code Section 65560 to "allow the protection of cultural places in open space element of the general plan" and amended Civil Code Section 815.3 to add "California Native American tribes to the list of entities that can acquire and hold conservation easements for the purpose of protecting their cultural places."

California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains can occur until the county coroner has examined the remains (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b)). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC within 24 hours (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(c)). The NAHC will notify the "most likely descendant." With the permission of the landowner, the most likely descendant may inspect the site of discovery. The inspection must be completed within 48 hours of notification of the most likely descendant by the NAHC. The most likely descendant may recommend means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and items associated with Native Americans.

3 PROJECT SETTING

3.1 Environmental Setting

The proposed Project site sits in the Santa Clarita Valley within the eastern portion of the City, located in northwestern Los Angeles County. The Santa Clarita Valley spans almost 500 square miles and ranges in elevation from 1,000 feet above mean sea level at the Santa Clara River to over 3,000 above mean sea level in southwest portions of the City (Rincon Consultants 1996). The City is within the Transverse Range Geomorphic Province of California and is bordered by the Santa Susana and San Gabriel mountain ranges to the south, east, and west and the Sierra Pelona Mountains to the north (Rincon Consultants 1996). Specifically, the proposed Project site is in an area characterized by low foothills and ridges that create the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains. The proposed Project site is located directly west of the Angeles National Forest. Soils within the low levels of the proposed Project site are made up of Quaternary Alluvium derived from erosional remnants of the surrounding Mint Canyon Formation, which are also present within the proposed Project site. Additionally, the proposed Project site contains earth materials brought in from landslides, debris flow, and human activities (i.e., fill) (Rincon Consultants 1996). The climate of the area ranges from very hot and dry in the summers to sunny and warm in the winters (Rincon Consultants 1996). Natural vegetation communities in the project site are chaparral and alluvial scrub (Rincon Consultants 1996). Today much of the proposed Project site is landscaped, though the natural vegetation communities are present mainly in the northern portions of the proposed Project site.

Prior to the construction of the Sand Canyon Country Club, there was a ridgeline oriented northwest to southeast that ran through the proposed Project site. Additionally, there was a large drainage, known as Oak Springs Wash, directly to the east of the current proposed Project site, now occupied by a portion of the Sand Canyon Golf Course (Rincon Consultants 1996). This drainage, as well as the ridgeline, was graded and filled as part of the original construction for the Sand Canyon Country Club. In 2016, the Sand Canyon Fire, which burned several thousand acres in Santa Clarita, destroyed much of the proposed Project site. The following winter the area was also subject to intense mudslides, prompting evacuations around Sand Canyon Road and destroying or damaging several properties in the area (Johnson and DeScocia 2017).

3.2 Prehistoric Overview

Evidence for continuous human occupation in Southern California spans the last 10,000 years. Various attempts to parse out variability in archaeological assemblages over this broad period have led to the development of several cultural chronologies; some of these are based on geologic time, most are based on temporal trends in archaeological assemblages, and others are interpretive reconstructions. To be more inclusive, this research employs a common set of generalized terms used to describe chronological trends in assemblage composition: Paleoindian (pre-5500 BC), Archaic (8000 BC–AD 500), Late Prehistoric (AD 500–1769), and Ethnohistoric (post-AD 1769).

Paleoindian Period (pre-5500 BC)

The evidence for Paleoindian occupation in the region is tenuous. Our knowledge of associated cultural pattern(s) is informed by a relatively sparse body of data that has been collected from within an area extending from coastal San Diego, through the Mojave Desert, and beyond. One of the earliest dated archaeological assemblages in the region is located in coastal Southern California (though contemporaneous sites are present in the Channel Islands) derives from SDI-4669/W-12 in La Jolla. A human burial from SDI-4669 was radiocarbon dated to 9,590–9,920 years before present (95.4% probability) (Hector 2006). The burial is part of a larger site complex that contained more than 29 human burials associated with an assemblage that fits the Archaic profile (i.e., large amounts of ground stone, battered cobbles, and expedient flake tools). In contrast, typical Paleoindian assemblages include large stemmed projectile points, high proportions of formal lithic tools, bifacial lithic reduction strategies, and relatively small proportions of ground stone tools. Prime examples of this pattern are sites that were studied by Davis (1978) on Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake near Ridgecrest, California. These sites contained fluted and unfluted stemmed points and large numbers of formal flake tools (e.g., shaped scrapers, blades). Other typical Paleoindian sites include the Komodo site (MNO-679)—a multicomponent fluted point site, and MNO-680—a single component Great Basined Stemmed point site (Basgall et al. 2002). At MNO-679 and -680, ground stone tools were rare, whereas finely made projectile points were common.

Warren et al. (2004) claimed that a biface manufacturing tradition present at the Harris site complex (SDI-149) is representative of typical Paleoindian occupation in the San Diego region that possibly dates between 10,365 and 8200 BC. Termed San Dieguito (see also Rogers 1945), assemblages at the Harris site are qualitatively distinct from most others in region because the site has large numbers of finely made bifaces (including projectile points), formal flake tools, a biface reduction trajectory, and relatively small amounts of processing tools (see also Warren 1968). Despite the unique assemblage composition, the definition of San Dieguito as a separate cultural tradition is hotly debated. Gallegos (1987) suggested that the San Dieguito pattern is simply an inland manifestation of a broader economic pattern. Gallegos's interpretation of San Dieguito has been widely accepted in recent years, in part because of the difficulty in distinguishing San Dieguito components from other assemblage constituents. In other words, it is easier to ignore San Dieguito as a distinct socioeconomic pattern than it is to draw it out of mixed assemblages

The large number of finished bifaces (i.e., projectile points and non-projectile blades), along with large numbers of formal flake tools at the Harris site complex, is very different than nearly all other assemblages throughout the region, regardless of age. Warren et al. (2004) made this point, tabulating basic assemblage constituents for key early Holocene sites. Producing finely made bifaces and formal flake tools implies that relatively large amounts of time were spent for tool manufacture. Such a strategy contrasts with the expedient flake-based tools and cobble-core reduction strategy that typifies non-San Dieguito Archaic sites. It can be inferred from the uniquely high degree of San Dieguito assemblage formality that the Harris site complex represents a distinct economic strategy from non-San Dieguito assemblages.

San Dieguito sites are rare in the inland valleys, with one possible candidate, RIV-2798/H, located on the shore of Lake Elsinore. Excavations at Locus B at RIV-2798/H produced a toolkit consisting predominantly of flaked stone tools, including crescents, points, and bifaces, and lesser amounts of ground stone tools, among other items (Grenda 1997). A calibrated and reservoir-corrected radiocarbon date from a shell produced a date of 6630 BC. Grenda (1997) suggested this site represents seasonal exploitation of lacustrine resources and small game, and resembles coastal San Dieguito assemblages and spatial patterning.

If San Dieguito truly represents a distinct socioeconomic strategy from the non-San Dieguito Archaic processing regime, its rarity implies that it was not only short-lived, but that it was also not as economically successful as the Archaic strategy. Such a conclusion would fit with other trends in Southern California deserts, where hunting-related tools were replaced by processing tools during the early Holocene (Basgall and Hall 1990).

Archaic Period (8000 BC–AD 500)

The more than 2,500-year overlap between the presumed age of Paleoindian occupations and the Archaic period highlights the difficulty in defining a cultural chronology in Southern California. If San Dieguito is the only recognized Paleoindian component in the coastal Southern California, then the dominance of hunting tools implies that it derives from Great Basin adaptive strategies and is not necessarily a local adaptation. Warren et al. (2004) admitted as much, citing strong desert connections with San Dieguito. Thus, the Archaic pattern is the earliest local socioeconomic adaptation in the region (Hale 2001, 2009).

The Archaic pattern, which has also been termed the Millingstone Horizon (among others), is relatively easy to define with assemblages that consist primarily of processing tools, such as milling stones, handstones, battered cobbles, heavy crude scrapers, incipient flake-based tools, and cobble-core reduction. These assemblages occur in all environments across the region with little variability in tool composition. Low assemblage variability over time and space among Archaic sites has been equated with cultural conservatism (Basgall and Hall 1990; Byrd and Reddy 2002; Warren 1968; Warren et al. 2004). Despite enormous amounts of archaeological work at Archaic sites, little change in assemblage composition occurred until the bow and arrow was adopted around AD 500, as well as ceramics at approximately the same time (Griset 1996; Hale 2009). Even then, assemblage formality remained low. After the bow was adopted, small arrow points appear in large quantities and already low amounts of formal flake tools are replaced by increasing amounts of expedient flake tools. Similarly, shaped milling stones and handstones decreased in proportion relative to expedient, unshaped ground stone tools (Hale 2009). Thus, the terminus of the Archaic period is equally as hard to define at its beginning because basic assemblage constituents and patterns of manufacturing investment remain stable, complemented only by the addition of the bow and ceramics.

Late Prehistoric Period (AD 500–1769)

The period of time following the Archaic period and before Ethnohistoric times (AD 1769) is commonly referred to as the Late Prehistoric period (Rogers 1945; Wallace 1955; Warren et al. 2004); however, several other subdivisions continue to be used to describe various shifts in assemblage composition. In general, this period is defined by the addition of arrow points and ceramics, as well as the widespread use of bedrock mortars. The fundamental Late Prehistoric assemblage is very similar to the Archaic pattern, but includes arrow points and large quantities of fine debitage from producing arrow points, ceramics, and cremations. The appearance of mortars and pestles is difficult to place in time because most mortars are on bedrock surfaces. Some argue that the Ethnohistoric intensive acorn economy extends as far back as AD 500 (Bean and Shipek 1978). However, there is no substantial evidence that reliance on acorns, and the accompanying use of mortars and pestles, occurred before AD 1400. Milling stones and handstones persisted in higher frequencies than mortars and pestles until the last 500 years (Basgall and Hall 1990); even then, weighing the economic significance of milling stone–handstone versus mortar–pestle technology is tenuous due to incomplete information on archaeological assemblages.

3.3 Ethnographic Overview

The proposed Project site falls within the ethnographic boundary of the Tataviam (Johnson and Earle 1990; King and Blackburn 1978; Kroeber 1925). Tataviam territories included the upper reaches of the Santa Clara River drainage east of Piru Creek, but also encompassed the Sawmill Mountains to the north and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley (King and Blackburn 1978). Tataviam territory is bounded by various branches of Chumash to the north and west (including the Ventureño to the west, and Castac and Emigdiano to the northwest), Kitanemuk to the northeast, Serrano to the east, and Gabrielino to the south (King and Blackburn 1978).

Note that there is almost no ethnographic data (i.e., data acquired by means of observation or taken from persons who practiced native lifeways) in existence concerning the Tataviam and their native lifeways. Most of what is known today about the Tataviam comes in the form of ethnohistory (i.e., historical accounts developed through examination of historical records and oral histories) as presented in the works of anthropologists Alfred L. Kroeber (1925) and John P. Harrington (1935). Their data is largely based on interviews conducted in the early 1900s with a Native American consultant named Juan José Fustero, a man who spoke Kitanemuk and claimed that his grandparents were born near the town of Newhall and spoke a language that is no longer extant (Bright 1975). Most of the subsequent works published on the Tatatviam (Bright 1975; Hudson 1982; King and Blackburn 1978), including discussions of their cultural and geographic affiliations, were based on the Kroeber and Harrington interviews with Fustero and several other Kitanemuk consultants. Other studies have analyzed Spanish mission baptismal, marriage, and burial registers in an attempt to better understand the distribution of historic village settlements and kinship ties between settlements (Johnson 1978, 1997; NEA and King 2004).

Early ethnologies referred to the Tataviam as Ataplili'ish (Kroeber 1915), but Kroeber found this name to be too general since it had already been used to describe other indigenous groups (namely the Gabrielino). Kroeber (1925) changed the term to Alliklik, which was noted to be a Ventureño Chumash name for the group (although it is believed to be a derogatory term for the sound of the language), but offered almost no information concerning their native lifeways, saying, "In fact, there is nothing known about them except that they held the river up from a point between Sespe and Piru, most of Piru Creek, Castac Creek, and probably Pastoria Creek across the mountains in the San Joaquin Valley drainage and adjacent to the Yokuts" (Kroeber 1925:613–614).

The Tataviam are linguistically classified as an Uto-Aztecan Serran sub-branch of Takic speaking groups consisting of Kitanemuk, Serrano (including Vanyume), and Tataviam (Golla 2011; Sutton 1980). William Bright has suggested that Tataviam was actually a separate language with Takic affinities, or perhaps a "remnant, influenced by Takic, of a language family otherwise unknown in southern California" (Bright 1975:230). However, the current and most widely accepted view is that Tataviam is in fact a Takic language (King and Blackburn 1978; Johnson and Earle 1990; Sutton 1980).

King and Blackburn (1978:536) noted several Tataviam settlements based on information provided by Harrington and other sources, including mission registers. Among these is the putative village of tsawayung (also referred to as Chaguayabit, Chaguayanga, takuyama'm), which some believe was located near Castaic Junction at the site of Rancho San Francisco. However, there is a lack of consensus—indeed, significant confusion—as to its exact location. Harrington's own notes reflect this confusion: "Jose Juan Olivas thinks it is over by San Francisquito [Rancho San Francisco] but does not know and never did know just where" (NEA and King 2004:119). Based on diary entries from the Portolá Expedition (Perkins 1957), some have hypothesized that Estancia San Francisco de Xavier (often incorrectly referred to as an asistencia) was placed at the location of the village of tsawayang, but this is based on descriptive diary entries and has never been confirmed by archaeological or other historic evidence. In fact, no physical evidence of the village has ever been found. Other Tataviam villages mapped outside of the proposed Project site include tikatsing located on upper Castaic Creek, and pi'ing located where Castaic Creek meets Elizabeth Lake Canyon. The village of Tochonaga was recorded on an 1843 land grant map. This site appears to be located to the southeast of Newhall, but its precise location has also never been confirmed: "Tochononga was located in the mountains northwest of San Fernando…over by Los Alamos somewhere here in the Tejon Ranch" (NEA and King 2004:117). Other villages and seasonal campsites identified by Harrington include akure'eng, which was located at the original Newhall townsite; apatsitsing, located on upper Castaic Creek; and naqava'atang, located east of Townsend Peak. Piru Creek also contained several village and rancheria sites, located on the northern edge of Tataviam territory (Johnson and Earle 1990).

Pedro Fage's account of the 1769 Portola expedition indicates that the first Chumash settlement encountered upon leaving Tataviam territory was located west of the mouth of Piru Creek. The village of kamulus (Camulos), located east of Piru Canyon, bears a Chumash name (Johnson and Earle 1990), leading to

speculation that this village consisted of a mixed Chumash-Tataviam population. There has been much discussion regarding Chumash ties to areas generally accepted as Tataviam territory (Beeler and Klar 1977).

More recent studies have examined additional Tataviam investigations conducted by Harrington with neighboring groups (Johnson and Earle 1990). These studies support the original Kroeber and Harrington findings that the Tataviam were a distinct group:

The correspondence between (1) ancestral villages traced using genealogical evidence and (2) independently elicited information regarding Tataviam territoriality builds confidence in the reliability of the ethnographic record compiled by Kroeber and Harrington. The distinctiveness of the Tataviam as an ethnic entity, separate from the Kitanemuk and Fernandeño, is supported by our research (Johnson and Earle 1990:209).

The preponderance of evidence indicates that the Tataviam inhabited the Santa Clarita Valley at the time of Spanish Contact in the 1700s and for some time thereafter, and that there is no demonstrable link indicating direct and prolonged occupation by neighboring Chumash, Kitanemuk, Gabrielino, Serrano, or other ethnohistorically known native groups. The archaeological record contains artifacts that are commonly found in both coastal and desert regions, which is not surprising since Santa Clarita Valley is in the midst of natural corridors connecting the Ventura Coast, southern San Joaquin Valley, and Mojave Desert. The commonality of coastal artifacts in the desert and desert artifacts at the coast testifies to extensive movement of these items. Artifact translocation primarily occurred through trade and exchange. The widespread manifestation of earlier Milling Stone assemblages throughout all parts of Southern California indicates that human populations were strongly established during the early Holocene, likely resulting in the development of ethnic borders and some degree of territoriality. The ethnographic and ethnohistoric record in California indicates that such sociocultural conditions are more conducive to trade and exchange than to open travel through multiethnic territories by unaffiliated individuals or groups.

Considering the ethnohistorically mapped aboriginal villages, any efforts to rectify mapped locations with archaeological deposits would be wrought with tenuous assumptions. Ethnohistoric village location maps for the Santa Clarita Valley were developed through interviews with persons far removed from any aboriginal occupation of those settlements and are estimates only. Discovering an archaeological deposit near a mapped village location does not itself prove that the ethnohistoric village has been located.

With respect to the putative Tataviam village of *tsawayung,* it was mapped using ethnohistorical data only; no archaeological evidence exists that could confirm its location. Even if archaeological deposits dating to the last few hundred years are identified in the general area, those deposits must be studied to first address basic anthropological questions of settlement, subsistence, and general socioeconomic adaptations, followed by a test of expectations regarding what the ethnohistoric settlement may have looked like. The devastating effect of introduced disease, along with Missionization of California Indians, would have certainly modified the nature of aboriginal occupation of any village, creating an archaeological signature distinct from the traditional Late Prehistoric record. Moreover, the ethnohistoric period archaeological record from neighboring regions

can only be used as a proxy for the kinds of archaeological patterns that may appear in the Santa Clarita Valley. Socioeconomic adaptations in Chumash and Kitanemuk territories were regionally specific and can be expected to have responded differently to the effects of introduced disease, Missionization, and integration into Mexican and American economies—all of which preceded development of the ethnographic and ethnohistoric records of Southern California aboriginal groups during the early 1900s.

3.4 Historic Overview

Post-contact history for the State of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish period (1769–1822), Mexican period (1822–1848), and American period (1848–present). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican–American War, signals the beginning of the American period, when California became a territory of the United States.

Spanish Period (1769–1822)

Spanish explorers made sailing expeditions along the coast of Southern California between the mid-1500s and mid-1700s. In search of the legendary Northwest Passage, Juan Rodríquez Cabrílllo stopped in 1542 at present-day San Diego Bay. With his crew, Cabrílllo explored the shorelines of present Catalina Island as well as San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays. Much of the present California and Oregon coastline was mapped and recorded in the next half-century by Spanish naval officer Sebastián Vizcaíno. Vizcaíno's crew also landed on Santa Catalina Island and at San Pedro and Santa Monica Bays, giving each location its long-standing name. The Spanish crown laid claim to California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrílllo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885; Cleland 2005; Gumprecht 2001).

More than 200 years passed before Spain began the colonization and inland exploration of Alta California. The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the beginning of California's Historic period, occurring just after the King of Spain installed the Franciscan Order to direct religious and colonization matters in assigned territories of the Americas. With a band of 64 soldiers, missionaries, Baja (lower) California Native Americans, and Mexican civilians, Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego, a fortified military outpost, as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California. In July 1769, while Portolá was exploring Southern California, Franciscan Fr. Junípero Serra founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá at Presidio Hill, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823, including Mission San Fernando Rey de España (Cleland 2005; Gumprecht 2001; Jorgensen 1982; Kyle 2002; Roderick 2001).

The Portolá expedition first reached the present-day boundaries of Los Angeles in August 1769, thereby becoming the first Europeans to visit the area. Father Crespi named "the campsite by the river Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles de la Porciúncula" or "Our Lady the Queen of the Angeles of the Porciúncula." Friar Junípero Serra returned to the valley 2 years later to establish a Catholic mission, the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, on September 8, 1771 (Gumprecht 2001; Jorgensen 1982; Kyle 2002).

The expedition camped at a watering place at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains in 1769, and the location was noted in Crespi's diary. The mission was founded in September 1797 by Father Fermín Lasuén and Father Francisco Dumetz. The mission consisted of a church, fountains, cloisters and extensive agricultural grounds outside the area. The Spanish missionaries impressed the native Tongva, Tatavium, and Chumash tribes into Christianity through baptism and service as neophytes. The land taken by the Spanish was not repatriated to these tribes (Cleland 2005; Roderick 2001).

Mexican Period (1822–1848)

A major emphasis during the Spanish period in California was the construction of missions and associated presidios, to convert the Native American population to Christianity, and integrated communal enterprise. Incentives were also provided to bring settlers to pueblos or towns, but just three pueblos were established during the Spanish period, only two of which were successful and grew into California cities (San José and Los Angeles). Several factors kept growth within Alta California to a minimum, including the threat of foreign invasion, political dissatisfaction, and unrest among the indigenous population. After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain (Mexico and the California territory) won independence from Spain in 1821. In 1822, the Mexican legislative body in California ended isolationist policies designed to protect the Spanish monopoly on trade, and decreed California ports open to foreign merchants (Dallas 1955).

Extensive land grants were established in the interior during the Mexican Period, in part to increase the population inland from the more settled coastal areas where the Spanish had first concentrated their colonization efforts. The secularization of the missions following Mexico's independence from Spain resulted in the subdivision of former mission lands and establishment of many additional ranchos. During the supremacy of the ranchos (1834–1848), landowners largely focused on the cattle industry and devoted large tracts to grazing. Cattle hides became a primary Southern California export, providing a commodity to trade for goods from the east and other areas in the United States and Mexico. The number of non-native inhabitants increased during this period because of the influx of explorers, trappers, and ranchers associated with the land grants. The rising California population contributed to the introduction and spread of diseases foreign to the Native American population, who had no associated immunities.

American Period (1848–Present)

War in 1846 between Mexico and the United States brought U.S. Colonel Stephen Watts Kearny and part of his Army of the West from Kansas to California through present-day Imperial Valley. Lt. Colonel Philip St.

George Cooke and the Mormon Battalion, following Kearny west to map a strategic wagon road through the territory, likewise moved through Imperial Valley. The Mexican–American War ended with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo signed in 1848, ushering California into its American Period.

Horticulture and livestock, based primarily on cattle as the currency and staple of the rancho system, continued to dominate the Southern California economy through the first decade of the Gold Rush, which began in 1848. With the influx of people seeking gold, cattle were no longer desired mainly for their hides, but also as a source of meat and other goods. During the 1850s cattle boom, rancho vaqueros drove large herds from Southern to Northern California to feed that region's burgeoning mining and commercial boom. The cattle boom ended for Southern California as neighbor states and territories drove herds to Northern California at reduced prices, as operation of the huge ranchos became increasingly difficult, and as droughts severely reduced their productivity. The disruption of the Civil War and severe drought during the winters of 1862–1863 and 1863–1864 ruined many surviving ranchero families and resulted in the refocusing of grazing activities in Southern California upon sheep (Brown 1985; Ingersoll 1904).

Historical Overview of Santa Clarita

In 1795, Fr. Fermin Lasuen ordered a new report on possible mission sites, and the Francisco Reyes Rancho was ultimately chosen as the new mission site, with Mission San Fernando Rey de España being formally founded in 1797 (Perkins 1957). Shortly thereafter, many of the local Tataviam people were removed from their homeland, relocated to the mission, and their native lifeways taken away.

Despite the fact that the new mission was to be built elsewhere, Mission San Fernando acquired the headwaters of the Santa Clara River east from Piru and named the land Rancho San Francisco. When Mission padres learned that Francisco Avila had claimed a large portion of this land as his own, they protested to Governor José Arrillaga at Monterey, insisting that these lands belonged to the church and not Avila. After acknowledging the church's title to the land, Avila's land grant was rescinded and the padres quickly made plans to build in the area in order to more clearly establish their presence (Perkins 1957).

Using Native American labor in 1804, the church built what many have termed as an "asistencia" at the location that Fr. Crespi has first noted in his diary entry (Perkins 1957). However, it is important to note that mission records suggest that this was actually an outpost known as Estancia San Francisco de Xavier, and that it was likely never elevated to the status of asistencia or sub-mission.

By 1813, Rancho San Francisco had increased its production and herds of cattle had grown larger. It became necessary to construct a fence to keep mission cattle separate from neighboring cattle. The fence was erected at Piru Creek across the river, establishing a formal boundary between San Francsico and Triunfo ranches. An irrigation canal was dug, and a small dam was built at the eastern boundary of the rancho to provide the western side of the rancho with much needed water (Perkins 1957).

Following secularization of the missions in 1833, the Mexican government confiscated all mission land holdings and commissioned Lieutenant Antonio Del Valle to take over Mission San Fernando by inventory from the incumbent Padre, Fr. Ybarra in 1834. After meeting his wife Doña Jacoba Felix and having two children, Del Valle decided to settle his family on a piece of land. In 1838, he resigned his army commission and petitioned the Mexican government for Rancho San Francisco (despite the fact that the land was supposed to revert back to Native Americans). On January 22, 1839, the request was granted, and Del Valle became the owner of 48,829 acres of Rancho San Francisco. Just 2 years later, Antonio Del Valle died, leaving behind thousands of heads of livestock, over 75 square miles of land, and no legal will. Legal battles ensued between his widow Jacoba Felix Del Valle and his oldest son Ygnacio Del Valle, with a judge eventually dividing up the land amongst the parties and their children (Reynolds 1998).

Ygnacio would go on to build his own corral on the western edge of the property (in present-day Ventura County in Piru) surrounding the former village of *kamulus* (Rasmussen 2001). The Camulos Rancho was formerly established by Ygnacio in 1853.

Rancho San Francisco was owned and operated by Ygnacio Del Valle until 1865, by which time it was deep in debt as a result of 2 years of drought, which killed most of the cattle. Del Valle eventually lost the rancho to his financiers who then sold it to oil speculators. This resulted in the first major discovery of oil on the Rancho, and just seven weeks later, the first oil well was installed on the south side of the Santa Clara River near the Del Valle residence. The region eventually be surrounded by oil fields including the Hasley Canyon and Castaic Junction Oil Fields to the north and the historic Pico Oil Field to the south.

The land changed hands a few more times until Henry Mayo Newhall acquired it in 1875. Shortly thereafter in 1876, a new town-site known as "Newhall" was founded and a Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way was granted across the rancho (Perkins 1957). In 1875, work had already begun on the San Fernando Railroad Tunnel, which was constructed by over 1,000 Chinese and 500 white laborers, and overseen Frank Frates. The completion of the tunnel in 1876 resulted in the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Lang Station. A Golden Spike ceremony was held the day the final pieces of track were laid (Pollack 2010). That same year the Newhall station was built, although adverse conditions from sand storms would result in the building (and the rest of the town-site) being moved 3 miles to the south. In 1882, Henry Mayo Newhall was killed in a riding accident on his ranch (Perkins 2010).

In 1928, the Santa Clarita Valley experienced a disaster of monumental proportions when the concrete walls of the St. Francis Dam in San Francisquito Canyon broke. Noted to be one of the worst American civil engineering disasters of the twentieth century and second greatest loss of life in California after the San Francisco earthquake, the torrent of water that swept through the valley resulted in the death of hundreds of people and thousands of animals. Newhall Land and Farming Company released a report on the St. Francis Dam Flood just weeks after the disaster occurred and noted that a total of 1,720 acres of farmland were destroyed as a result.

The Newhall area originally founded by Mayo Newhall was eventually split up into separate communities, including Newhall, Valencia, Saugus, and Canyon Country. The contemporary City of Santa Clarita would not officially incorporated all these areas until 1987. Today the City is home to over 200,000 residents, ranking it the third-largest city in the County.

Project Site Historic Context

The Sand Canyon Country Club, formerly known as the Robinson Ranch Golf Course, was designed by renowned golf course architect, Ted Robinson Sr. and his son Ted Robinson Jr. (Robinson Golf 2018). The duo began designing the course in 1995, and it was to be the first golf course the pair collaborated on (Robinson Golf 2018).

Robinson was born on May 17, 1923, in Long Beach California. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Berkeley, before moving back south to attend the University of Southern California where he earned a master's degree in landscape architecture and land planning.

Ted Robinson Sr. began designing golf courses in 1954, and over the next 50 years, he became known for his player-friendly designs that were both challenging and fun to play. Robinson designed over 160 courses, mainly in the western United States but also as far away as Japan. Many of the courses are still in use today. The most notable course that Robinson designed was the Sahlee Country Club in Redmond, Washington, which was the site of the 1998 Professional Golfers' Association of America Championship (Bonk 2008).

In the 1990s, Robinson's son, Ted Robinson Jr., made a career shift from the real estate construction financing industry into golf course design. The first course that the pair designed together was the Robinson Ranch Golf Course, which was named in honor of Robinson Sr. The golf course opened in 2000 (Robinson Golf 2018). The golf course remained owned by the Robinson Golf Corporation until 2016 when Tech Entrepreneur Steve Kim bought the course. By this time, years of intense drought had dramatically hurt the course, forcing it to close in 2014. To make matters exponentially worse, the Sand Canyon Fire of 2016 all but destroyed the course. After the fire, Kim began work on remodeling with the aim to make the course both more water efficient and slightly less challenging for the common golfer (Mullen 2017).

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4 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

4.1 CHRIS Records Search

On August 2, 2018, Dudek completed a search of the CHRIS at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) for the project site and surrounding 0.5 miles. Dudek completed an additional records search on April 3, 2019 to include the addition of the detention basin located in the southwest section of the proposed Project site. This search included mapped prehistoric, historical, and built-environment resources; Department of Parks and Recreation site records; technical reports; archival resources; and ethnographic references. Additional consulted sources included historical maps of the project site, the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Historic Property Data File, the lists of California State Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, and the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility. The confidential records search results are also provide in Appendix A.

Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies

The SCCIC records indicate that 11 previous cultural resources technical investigations have been conducted within 0.5-miles of the proposed Project site between 1979 and 2005. Of these, one intersects the proposed Project site (Table 2).

Table 2. Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies Within 0.5 Miles of the Proposed Project Site

Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
LA-00467	McIntrye, Michael J. and Greenwood, Roberta S.	1979	Cultural Resource Survey of a Near Sand Canyon, Upper Santa Clara River Valley, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-00593	Romani, Gwendolyn R.	1979	Assessment of the Impact Upon Cultural Resources by the Proposed Development of 88.05 +/- Acres of Tentative Tract No. 37038, Combined With 12.27 Adjacent Acres to Be Known As Tentative Parcel Map No. 7389, Canyon Country, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-01166	Wlodarski, Robert J.	1982	An Evaluation of the Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources Located on Portions of Tentative Tract 42254 Sand Canyon Road, Canyon Country, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-01254	Robinson, R.W.	1981	Cultural Resource Investigation; Re: Tentative Parcel Map No. 14532 Submitted to Edward E. Klenner & Assoc. limited	Outside
LA-03659	Romani, Gwendolyn R.	1980	Parcel Map 12878	Outside
LA-03837	White, Robert S.	1997	An Archaeological Assessment of the Live Oak Springs Canyon Drain and Debris Basin Project, City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County	Intersecting

Table 2. Previously Conducted Cultural Resource Studies Within 0.5 Miles of the Proposed Project Site

Report Number	Author	Year	Report Title	Proximity to Project Site
LA-04608	Tartaglia, Louis J.	1989	Cultural Resources Archaeological Survey Oak Spring Canyon, California Tentative Tract Map No. 47803	Outside
LA-05136	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2000	A Phase I Archaeological Study for the Robinson Ranch Trail, City of Santa Clarita/USDA Forest Service, Angeles National Forest County of Los Angeles, California	Outside
LA-06061	Lanz, Madeline	2001	Architectural Survey and Evaluation of the Historic Union Oil Terminal (berths 148-151) of the Port of Los Angeles	Outside
LA-10560	Hunt, Kevin and Richard D. Schultz	2005	Final Confidential: Cultural Resources Study for the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed Arundo and Tamarisk Removal Program Long-term implementation Plan, program Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment, Los Angeles County, California	Outside
LA-10642	Tang, Bai "Tom"	2010	Preliminary Historical/Archaeological Resources Study, Antelope Valley line Positive Train Control (PTC) Project Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Lancaster to Glendale, Los Angeles County, California	Outside

Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

No cultural resources have been previously recorded within the proposed Project site. However, the SCCIC records indicate that two resources have been previously recorded within 0.5-miles of the proposed Project site. One of the resources consists of the remains of a historic residence, and the second resource is the Angeles National Forest (Table 3).

Table 3. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 0.5-Miles of the Proposed Project Site

Primary Number P-19-	Trinomial CA-LAN-	Period	Description	Recorder/Year	NRHP/CRHR Status
004605	004605H	Historic	Structural Remains	R.J. Lichtenstein, M. Armstrong, Applied Earthworks (2011)	Not evaluated
186535	—	Historic	Angeles National Forest	J. Arbuckle (1979)	Listed on CRHR

Notes: NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; CRHR = California Register of Historical Resources.

4.2 Historic Topographic Maps and Aerial Images Review

To understand development of the proposed Project site and surrounding properties, Dudek consulted historic maps and aerial photographs accessible online from Nationwide Environmental Title Research's

historic aerial viewer, as well as the University of California, Santa Barbara, Map and Imagery Library. Topographic maps are available for the following years: 1900, 1905, 1910, 1914, 1924, 1930, 1932, 1945, 1946, 1955, 1961, 1964, 1975, 1988, 1994, 1999, 2012, and 2015 (NETR 2018a). Aerial images are available for the following years: 1928, 1940, 1947, 1952, 1954, 1959, 1974, 1978, 1980, 1992, 1994, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, and 2014 (Aeroflex Corporation 1959; FAS 1928; FAS 1940; NETR 2018b; Tubis 1947; Pacific Air Industries 1952; WAC Corp 1980; USGS 1994, 2003).

The first U.S. Geological Survey topographic map showing the proposed Project site dates to 1900 and indicates that during this time the proposed Project site was largely undeveloped except for two small structures of unknown use. There were several roads laid out in the general area and the Pacific Railroad is depicted north of the proposed Project site. In 1932, several new streets, including Oak Springs Canyon Road, are represented in the general area, and there were small developments taking place to the south and to the west of the proposed Project site. At this time, there was still no development within the proposed Project site. Topographic maps from the remainder of the twentieth century indicate a general increase in development, particularly along Sand Canyon Road to the west and directly south of the proposed Project site. Robinson Ranch Road is illustrated for the first time on the topographic map in 2012.

The earliest available historic aerial of the proposed Project site dates to 1927 and shows the proposed Project site in its natural state characterized by a series of hills. Oak Springs Canyon Road and San Canyon Road are also visible on this aerial. Though there is no development within the proposed Project site, it appears that certain areas at the base of the hills had been graded. In general, the nearby areas of the proposed Project site are devoid of development at this time. The aerial from 1940 does not show any significant changes to the proposed Project site or vicinity. The historic aerials from 1947 and 1952 appear to show more grading activity to the southwest of the proposed Project site along Live Oak Springs Road; however, there does not appear to be any significant developments. Moreover, there are sparse residential structures throughout the area. Aerials from 1954 and 1959 do not show significant changes within the proposed Project site or general vicinity. The historic aerial from 1974 indicated that at some point during the 1960s, large-scale residential development began to the south and north of the proposed Project site. Furthermore, the aerial shows several dirt roads throughout the proposed Project site as well, however no developments are visible. The historic aerial from 1978 and 1980 does not show any significant changes within the proposed Project site. Historic aerials from 1992 and 1994 indicate that residential development in the area was expanding steadily particularly north of Interstate 14 and along Sand Canyon Road; though there was still a large amount of undeveloped open space. The proposed Project site itself appeared to be undeveloped during these times. Historic aerials indicate that the existing golf course, formally known as Robinson Ranch Golf Course, was built between 1994 and 2002. Throughout the remainder of the early 2000s up until present day, there has not been any significant changes to the proposed Project site.

4.3 Native American Coordination

Sacred Lands File Search and Tribal Outreach

On August 2, 2018, Dudek requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the California NAHC. The NAHC responded via email on August 6, 2018, with an attached letter stating that the results of the SLF search failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources for the proposed Project site. The NAHC also provided a list of 16 Native American groups and individuals who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the proposed Project site. Letters were sent to 15 of these representatives on August 29, 2018, one individual, Linda Candelaria, did not have a current address on file and was therefore not notified.

As a result of the tribal outreach letters mailed out on August 29, 2018, four responses were received. One response was from a representative of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, stating that the proposed Project is located outside of Serrano ancestral territory and, as such, will not be requesting consulting party status. The second response was from a representative of the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation, requesting consulting party status if the proposed Project resulted in any ground-disturbing activities. The third response was from a representative of the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians, requesting to be notified when the proposed Project commenced and in the event anything is found. The fourth response with an attached Tataviam tribal historical territory map was received from a representative of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, stating that the proposed Project site is located within traditional Tataviam ancestral territory and that their records indicate the presence of Tataviam TCRs within 2 miles of the proposed Project site. Moreover, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians stated that they have locational information for isolated cultural materials that were recovered by local residents and developers through the years. As such, the tribe considers the Project vicinity to be sensitive for Native American cultural resources and requested participation in consultation before any ground-disturbing activities are approved and recommends that Dudek reach out to the Santa Clarita Historical Society to inquire for more information for the proposed Project.

Dudek requested an additional search of the SLF to include the added detention basin on April 2, 2019. On April 24, 2019, the NAHC responded via email with an attached letter stating that the results of the SLF search failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources for the proposed Project site. The NAHC also provided a list of six Native American groups and individuals for the April 2019 request. The six individuals listed by the NAHC included five people who were originally contacted, including Rudy Ortega Jr, Andrew Salas, Anthony Morales, Sandonne Goad, Linda Candelaria, and Charles Alvarez, as well as one individual who was not originally contacted, Robert Dorame of the Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council. On May 13, 2019, Dudek sent letters to all 15 individuals that were originally contacted as well as Robert Dorame, who was listed on the NAHC consultation list for the April 24, 2019 SLF results, and Linda Candelaria, who did have an address listed on the second consultation list sent to Dudek by the NAHC.

As a result of the second round of tribal outreach, four responses were received. One response was from a representative of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (SMBMI), who stated that the proposed Project site was located outside of Serrano Ancestral and that the SMBMI would not be requested consulting party status with the lead agency. The second response was from a representative of the Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians who stated that they would defer to local tribes. The third response was from a presentative of the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians who requesting to be notified in the event anything is found during construction associated with the proposed Project. The fourth response from a representative of the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation who requested to consult under AB 52 with the lead agency.

Table 4, below, summarizes the results of the tribal outreach efforts conducted for the proposed Project. Documentation of coordination with Native American groups and individuals is also provided in confidential Appendix B. This outreach was conducted for informational purposes only and does not constitute formal government-to-government consultation as specified by AB 52 or SB 18.

Table 4. Tribal Outreach Results for Native American Heritage Commission-Listed Contacts

Native American Tribal Representatives	First Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received	Second Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
Charles Alvarez, Councilman Gabrieleno Tongva Tribe	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	Letter was unclaimed and unable to be forwarded; returned to Dudek on September 20, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Eleanor Arrellanes Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Raudel Jo Banuelos Jr., Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Linda Candelaria, Chairperson Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	No current address on file with NAHC; not notified.	N/A	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Lee Clauss, Director of Cultural Resources San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	Email response received September 5, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	Email response received on May 15, 2019.
Delia Dominguez, Chairperson Kitanemuk and Yowlumne Tejon Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None: Letter was unclaimed and unable to be forwarded; returned to Dudek on September 21, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date

Table 4. Tribal Outreach Results for Native American Heritage Commission-Listed Contacts

Native American Tribal Representatives	First Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received	Second Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson Gabrielino-Tongva Nation	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Kenneth Kahn, Chairperson Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	Phone conversation on May 21, 2019
Anthony Morales, Chairperson Gabrieleño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Department Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Rudy Ortega Jr., President Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	Email response with attached Tataviam area map received September 21, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Robert Robinson, Chairperson Kern Valley Indian Council	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Andrew Salas, Chairperson Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	Email response received September 10, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	Email response with attached letter dated May 29, 2019 requesting consulting party status under AB 52. Response was forwarded to the City.
Patrick Tumamait, Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	Left a voicemail on September 5, 2018	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	Phone conversation on May 21, 2019
Julie Lynn Tumamait-Stennslie, Chair Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date
Lynn Valbuena, Chairwoman San Manual Band of Mission Indians	Certified Mail; August 29, 2018	None to date	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date

Table 4. Tribal Outreach Results for Native American Heritage Commission-Listed Contacts

Native American Tribal Representatives	First Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received	Second Round: Method of Notification/Date	Response Received
Robert Dorame, Chairman Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians	Not Notified	N/A	Certified Mail; May 13, 2019	None to date

Assembly Bill 52 Consultation

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with AB 52 (PRC 21074), which requires consideration of impacts to TCRs as part of the CEQA process, and that the lead agency notify California Native American Tribal representatives (that have requested notification) who are traditionally or culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed Project. All NAHC-listed California Native American Tribal representatives that have requested project notification pursuant to AB 52 were sent letters by the City on September 12, 2018. The letters contained a project description, outline of AB 52 timing, request for consultation, and contact information for the appropriate lead agency representative. Documents related to AB 52 consultation are on file with the City and is also provided in confidential Appendix B.

Senate Bill 18 Consultation

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with SB 18 (Government Code Section 65352.3), which requires local governments to invite California Native American Tribal representatives to participate in consultation about proposed General Plan and Specific Plan adoptions or amendments. The City is considering an amendment to the General Plan for the proposed Project site and as such, initiated SB 18 consultation. All NAHC-listed California Native American Tribal representatives were sent notification letters via email by the City on September 12, 2018. The letters contained a project description, request for consultation, and contact information for the appropriate lead agency representative. Documents related to SB 18 consultation are on file with the City and is also provided in confidential Appendix B.

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5 CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY

5.1 Survey Methods

Dudek archaeologists, Ms. Kry and Ms. Nicolay, conducted an initial reconnaissance-level survey of the proposed Project site on September 20, 2018. An additional survey of the added detention basin was conducted on May 2, 2019. The survey was conducted in 10-meter interval transects, and all accessible areas were inspected. Inaccessible areas include areas comprised of extremely dense vegetation and steep terrain. The goal of survey was to identify and record any cultural resources within the proposed Project site. Surveyors examined the ground surface for the presence of prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools), historical artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics), sediment discolorations that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, depressions, and other features that might indicate the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., post holes, foundations).

Standard methods require, should cultural materials be encountered, that all data necessary to complete the appropriate State of California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms be gathered. Additionally, per California Office of Historic Preservation guidelines, any cultural material more than 45 years old is to be recorded as an archaeological site, built environment resource, or isolate, as appropriate. As no cultural resources were identified, no such documentation was required. All fieldwork was documented using field notes and iPad technology with close-scale field maps, and aerial photographs. Location-specific photographs were taken using an Apple Generation 7 iPhone equipped with 12-megapixel camera and iPad. All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at Dudek's Pasadena, California office. All field practices met the Secretary of Interior's standards and guidelines for a cultural resources inventory.

5.2 2018 Survey Results

The proposed Project site consists of an abandoned nine-hole golf course, concrete-paved golf cart/walking paths, a small restroom structure at the southwest corner that is no longer in use, and areas of undeveloped hilly terrain, primarily along the northern boundary of the proposed Project site. Ground visibility throughout the proposed Project site is low (approximately 0%–25%) due to the presence of dense vegetation comprised of grasses, brush, cholla, and ornamental trees. Aspects of the abandoned golf course, such as sand traps, irrigation lines, and concrete pathways are present throughout the proposed Project site. In addition, the abandoned golf course possesses a lake feature, located on the east side of the proposed Project site (Figure 4). The easternmost portion of the proposed Project site appears to be recently graded (Figure 5). There is a large amount of refuse material within the proposed Project site apparently from previous demolition activities. In the center of the proposed Project site, there are several push-piles of spoils dirt, concrete, and plant debris (Figure 6). Aspects of the proposed Project site that were inaccessible and therefore not surveyed included the steep hills and valleys along the northern edge of the proposed Project site (Figure 7). These

areas were visually inspected, and it was determined that because of the low ground visibility and the steep terrain, intensive pedestrian survey would not be conducted. Soils in the proposed Project site were variable and ranged from a medium grayish brown clayey loam to reddish-yellow brown loamy sand. There were gravel inclusions throughout the soils present in the site (Figure 8). No archaeological resources were identified within the proposed Project site as a result of the pedestrian survey.

Figure 4. Lake Feature Located On the East Side of the Proposed Project Site. View Facing Northeast.

Figure 5. Overview of Easternmost Section of Proposed Project Site with Visible Grading Activities. View Facing East.

Figure 6. Overview of Central Section of Proposed Project Site; Push Piles in Background. View Facing North.

Figure 7. Steep Hills and Dense Terrain in Center of Proposed Project Site along Northern Boundary. View Facing Northwest

Figure 8. Overview of Central Section of Proposed Project Site with Exposed Soils. View Facing East.

Built Environment

The survey identified only one building located at the southwest corner of the proposed Project site. This building was constructed as part of the Robinson Ranch Golf Course between 1994 and 2002 and is a vernacular, one-story public restroom. The building features a gabled roof with composition shingles and is rectangular in plan. The main (north) elevation contains a concrete projecting porch covered by an extended gabled roof that is supported by three wooden beams horizontally placed atop of two vertical wooden reinforced posts that are encased with cut stone. One support post is situated at the northeast corner, and the second post is at the southeast corner of the north (main) elevation. Fenestration consists of two metal entry doors on the main elevation, three windows on the east elevation, three windows on the west elevation, and four windows on the south elevation (Figure 9). This building is not historical in age under CEQA guidelines and therefore not evaluated for the NRHP or CRHR.

Figure 9. Abandoned Restroom Located at Southwest Corner of Proposed Project Site. View Facing Southwest.

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5.3 2019 Survey Results

The proposed location of the detention basin, in the southwest corner of the proposed Project site is currently dominated by various grasses and weeds and ground visibility is moderate to poor (>60%) (Figure 10). A southwest trending drainage leading to the area where the proposed detention basin location is heavily vegetated with tall grasses and trees on both banks (Figure 11). Large boulders have been placed within the drainage. There are several areas of standing water within the detention basin area and irrigation lines have been placed throughout the area, indicating past landscaping activities (Figure 12). The proposed detention basin location is bordered on the south by grasses, on the west by a pathway, a bridge, and landscaping, on the north by an existing golf tee, and Robinson Ranch Road, and on the east by landscaping and grass. No cultural resources were observed during the survey of the proposed detention basin location.

Figure 10. Overview of proposed detention basin location from eastern boundary; View facing north.

Figure 11. Overview of drainage area looking from pedestrian bridge in central of propose detention basin location; View facing north.

Figure 12. Overview of proposed detention basin location, note standing water and irrigation lines. View facing north.

6 FINDINGS AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The current study included a CHRIS records search, background research, Native American coordination, and a pedestrian survey.

6.1 Summary of Findings

No archaeological resources were identified within the proposed Project site as a result of the CHRIS records search, Native American outreach, or intensive pedestrian survey.

Ground visibility within the proposed Project site was generally low, as much of the area has been extensively landscaped or overgrown. Historic research into the proposed Project site indicated that the proposed Project site consisted of undeveloped mountainous terrain with dense vegetation from before 1928 (EFI Global Inc. 2018). Archival research suggests that there has been limited development within the proposed Project site, though a small single-family residence once stood at the southwestern corner of the proposed Project site where the now abandoned restroom currently stands (EFI Global Inc. 2018). The Mountain Course was constructed between 1994 and 2002. The course suffered fire damage in 2016 and is currently abandoned. Based on the results of this study, the likelihood of encountering archaeological resources is variable and is considered low in areas of previous ground disturbance and low to moderate in areas of minimal to no previous ground disturbance. It is always possible that unanticipated discoveries could be encountered during ground-disturbing activities associated with the proposed Project. Management recommendations to reduce potential impacts to unanticipated archaeological resources and human remains during construction activities are provided below. With inclusion of these recommendations, the proposed Project will have a less-than-significant impact on archaeological resources. No additional mitigation is required beyond these standard protection measures.

6.2 Management Recommendations

Unanticipated Discovery of Archaeological Resources

If archaeological resources (i.e., sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the proposed Project, all construction work occurring within 100 feet of the find shall immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for archaeology can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find under CEQA (14 CCR 15064.5(f); PRC Section 21082), the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work, such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan and data recovery, may be warranted.

Unanticipated Discovery of Human Remains

In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the county coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the county coroner has determined, within 2 working days of notification of the discovery, the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If the county coroner determines that the remains are, or are believed to be, Native American, he or she shall notify the NAHC in Sacramento within 24 hours. In accordance with the PRC, Section 5097.98, the NAHC must immediately notify those persons it believes to be the most likely descendant from the deceased Native American. The most likely descendant shall complete their inspection within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The designated Native American representative would then determine, in consultation with the property owner, the disposition of the human remains.

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APPENDIX A

CONFIDENTIAL SCCIC Records Search Results

APPENDIX B

CONFIDENTIAL Native American Group Coordination