A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

OF

APN 909-060-044
EA 2016-1264

±10.05 ACRES OF LAND IN THE CITY OF MURRIETA
RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
TOWNSHIP 7 SOUTH, RANGE 3 WEST, SECTION 27, SBM
USGS MURRIETA, CALIFORNIA QUADRANGLE, 7.5' SERIES

By

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of APN 909-060-044 / EA 2016-1264 was requested by the project sponsor, Mr. Howard Omdahl of Larchmont Park, LLC. The subject property encompasses ±10.05 acres of land located east of Adams Avenue, south at Fig Street, north of Elm Street, and west of Jefferson Avenue, in the City of Murrieta, southwestern Riverside County. The proposed project is the mass grading of this vacant parcel of land.

The purpose of the cultural resources assessment was two-fold: 1) information was to be obtained pertaining to previous land uses of the subject property through research and a comprehensive field survey, and 2) a determination was to be made if, and to what extent, existing cultural resources would be adversely impacted by the proposed project.

No cultural resources of either prehistoric (i.e. Native American) or historical origin were observed within the boundaries of the subject property during the Phase I field survey. However, due to limited ground surface visibility and archaeological sensitivity of the area in which the subject property is located, it is recommended that a qualified archaeologist actively monitor all ground disturbing activities within the project boundaries, including vegetation removal. The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians has also requested that a Native American Monitor from their Cultural Resource Department be present during any ground disturbing proceedings.

INTRODUCTION

In compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and City of Murrieta Planning Department requirements, the project sponsor contracted with Jean A. Keller, Ph.D., Cultural Resources Consultant, to conduct a Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of the subject property. The purpose of the assessment was to identify, evaluate, and recommend mitigation measures for existing cultural resources that may be adversely impacted by the proposed development.

The Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment commenced with a review of maps, site records, and reports at the California Archaeological Inventory and California Historical Resources Information Center at the University of California, Riverside. A request for a Sacred Lands File search was submitted to the Native American Heritage Commission and project scoping letters sent to twelve tribal representatives listed as being interested in project development in the study area. A literature search of available publications and archival documents pertaining to the subject property followed the records and Sacred Lands File searches. Finally, a comprehensive on-foot field survey of the subject property was conducted for the purpose of locating, documenting, and evaluating all existing cultural resources within its boundaries.

The proposed project, currently entitled APN 909-060-044 / EA 2016-1264, is the mass grading of the subject property (Fig. 1). As shown on the USGS Murrieta, California Topographic Map, 7.5' series, the subject property, which encompasses a total of ±10.05 acres, is located in the Temecula Rancho, projected Section 27, Township 7 south, Range 3 west, SBM (Fig. 2). Current land use is vacant; adjacent land uses are vacant to the northeast and southwest, an industrial park to the southeast, and an RCP materials yard to the northwest. Disturbances to the subject property are substantial and represent cumulative impacts resulting from flooding, grading, off-road vehicle activity, periodic vegetation clearance, and trash dumping.

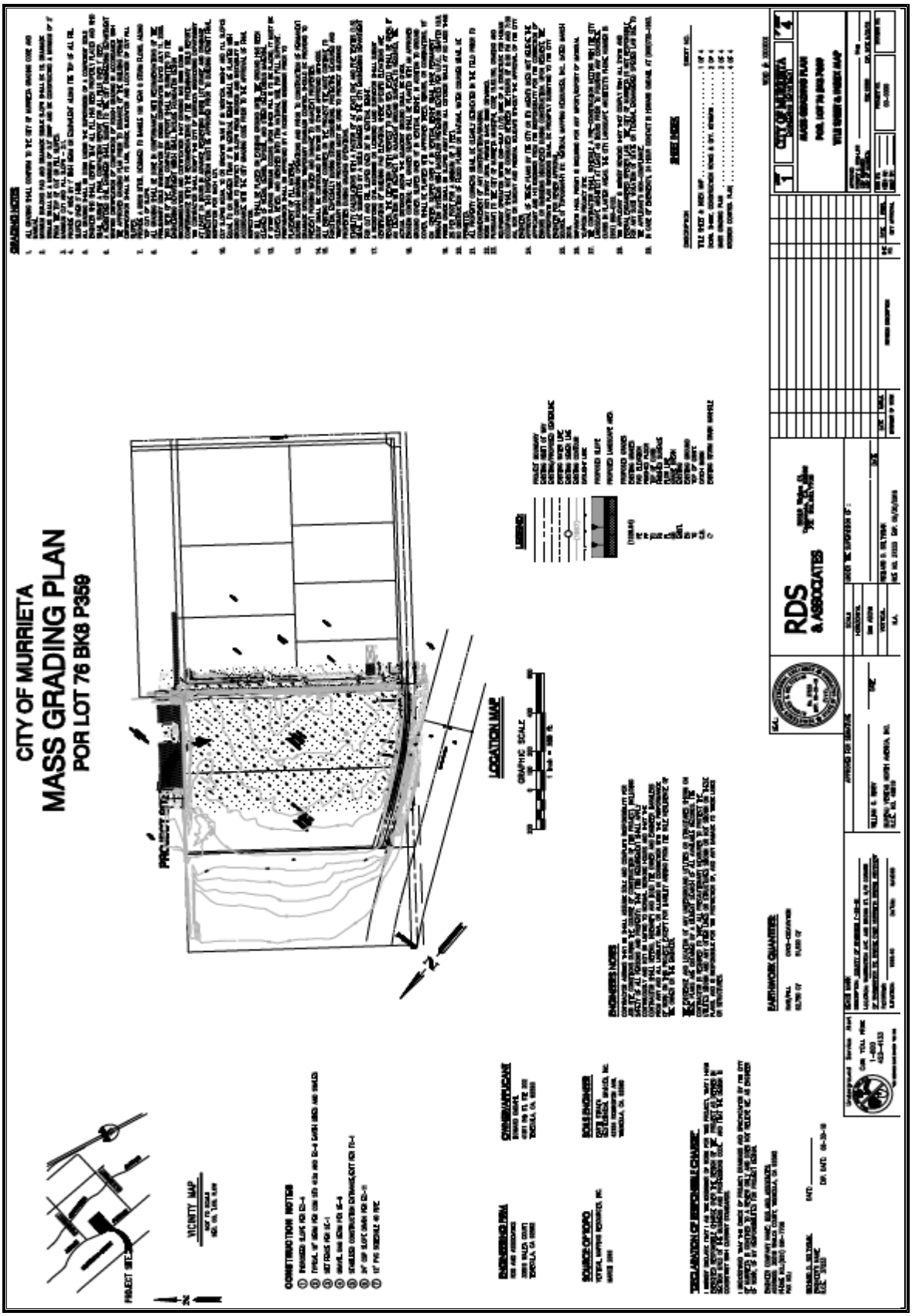


Figure 1: Proposed mass grading plan for APN 909-060-044 / EA 2016-1264.

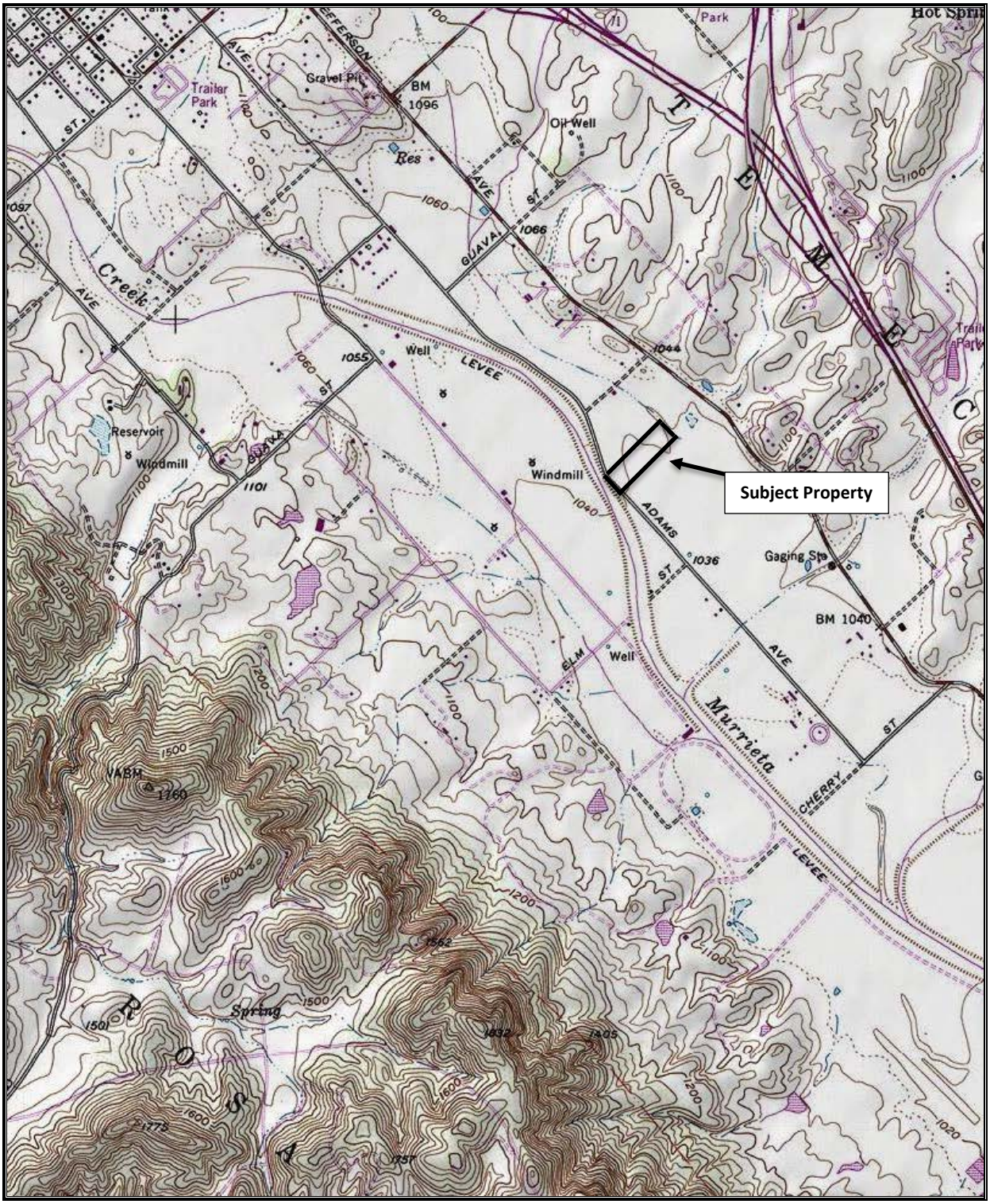


Figure 2: Location of APN 909-060-044 / EA 2016-1264 in the City of Murrieta, southwestern Riverside County. Adapted from USGS Murrieta, California Topographic Map, 7.5' series (1953, photorevised 1979).

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Topography and Geology

The subject property is located in the City of Murrieta, southwestern Riverside County (Fig. 3). It is situated in a topographically diverse region that is defined by Lake Elsinore to the northwest, Squaw Mountain to the southwest, Buck Mesa to the southeast, and Paloma Valley to the northeast. The study area lies within a portion of the Northern Peninsular Ranges of Southern California, with the general province characterized by upland surfaces, prominent ridges and peaks, longitudinal valleys, basins, and steep-walled canyons.

Topographically, APN 909-060-044/EA 2016-1264 consists of an alluvial fan emanating in an easterly direction from the base of the Elsinore Mountains, although much of the subject property has been altered via grading and other earthmoving activities (Fig. 4). Elevations across the subject property are 1044.0 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). A permanent source of water does not appear to be located within the property boundaries, although there is ponding following seasonal precipitation. A portion of Murrieta Creek, a USGS-designated blueline stream, has been channelized into the Murrieta Creek Levee, which is located directly across Adams Avenue from the subject property. This watercourse receives periodic flows during storm events, but because of permeable well-draining soils, most storm water runoff quickly percolates into the soil. As such, this watercourse represents a permanent, albeit subsurface, source of water.

Geological formations within the Northern Peninsular Range are generally comprised of the great mass of basement igneous rocks called the Southern California Batholith, with the primary rocks being granitic tonalite and diorite of Jurassic age. Exposed granitic bedrock outcrops are not present within the property boundaries. Loose lithic material is extremely limited and none observed would have been suitable for use in ground or flaked stone tool production by indigenous peoples of the region.

Biology

The subject property, which is essentially an undeveloped infill lot, has been subjected to a number of disturbances, including flooding, earth moving, off-road vehicle activity, trash dumping, vegetation removal, and construction on adjacent properties. As such, both native and introduced non-native plant species exist within the property boundaries. Ground cover throughout most of the property is exceptionally dense, particularly around the ponding areas. According to a recent biological resources assessment (ESA PCR, 2016: 15-22), existing plant species are primarily representative of the Tarplant Field Plant Community, followed by the

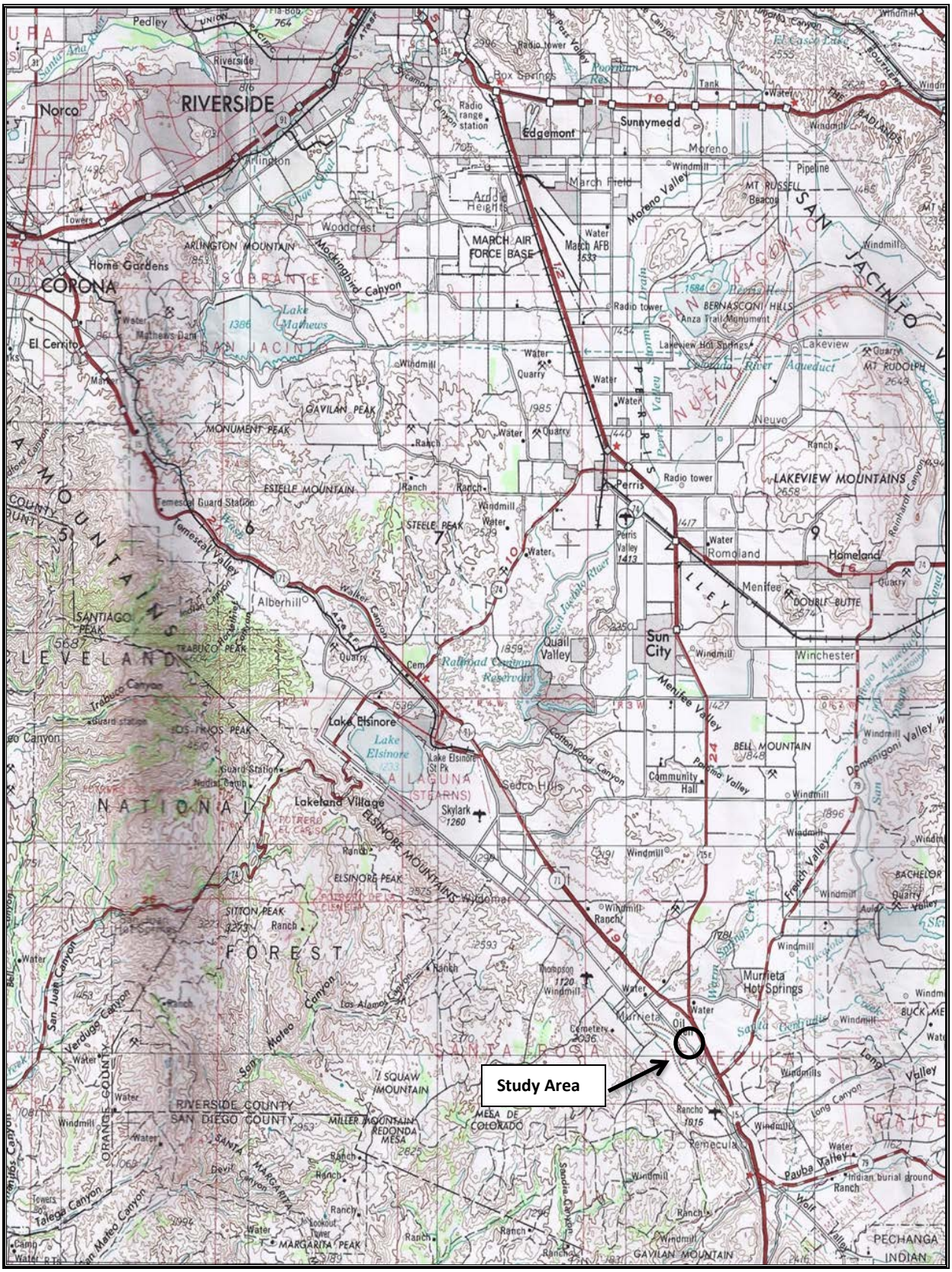


Figure 3: Location of the study area relative to southwestern Riverside County. Adapted from USGS Santa Ana, California Topographic Map (1979). Scale 1:250,000.

View from the northern property corner looking southwest.

View from the southern property corner looking northeast.

Figure 4: Views of the subject property.

Annual Brome Grassland, Black Willow Thicket, Swamp Timothy Sward, and Foxtail Barley Patch plant communities. Plant species observed and identified during the cultural resources field survey included, but were not limited to, miniature lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*), bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*), scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*), common sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), willow-weed (*Persicaria lapathifolia*), black willow (*Salix gooddingii*), curly dock (Rumex crispus), foxtail barley (Hordeum murinum), ripgut grass (Bromus diandrus), redstem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and mulefat (*Baccharis saliicifoilia).*

The Riversidian Sage Scrub Plant Community predominates in this region and it is probable that prior to development of the area, the subject property hosted this native plant community. Within this community is a diverse mixture of plant species that includes the dominant interior California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), as well as chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), coastal sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), thick-leaved lilac (*Ceanothus crassifolius*), California scrub oak (*Quercus erberidifolia*), white sage (*Salvia apiana*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*), Mexican elderberry (*Sambucus Mexicana*), and toyon (*Heteromeles arbtifolia*). Indigenous peoples of the region extensively utilized the native plants of this plant community for food, medicines, construction materials, and implement production.

During both the prehistoric and historical periods an abundance of faunal species undoubtedly inhabited the study area. However, due to regional urbanization, the current faunal community is generally restricted to those species that can exist in proximity to humans, such as valley pocket gopher (*Thomomys bottae*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), Audobon's cottontail (*Sylvilagus audobonii*), California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), western fence lizard (*Scelopous occidentalis*), and occasionally, mule deer (*Odcoileus hemionus*).

Climate

The climate of the study area is that typical of cismontane Southern California, which on the whole is warm, and rather dry. This climate is classified as Mediterranean or "summer-dry subtropical." Temperatures seldom fall below freezing or rise above 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The rather limited precipitation received occurs primarily during the summer months.

Discussion

Based on existing resources found on undeveloped land in the vicinity of the subject property, it is probable that floral and faunal resources would have offered opportunities to Native Americans for procuring food, as well as components for medicines, tools, and construction materials. Bedrock outcrops suitable for use in food processing, rock or art are not present within the project boundaries and loose lithic material suitable for ground or flaked stone tool production is only minimally available. A permanent source of water is not present within the

property boundaries, although Murrieta Creek was originally within approximately 100 feet to the west. Defensive locations preferred for long-term occupation are not present within the property boundaries. It is probable that the subject property would have been viewed in a favorable light for seasonal resource exploitation, but not for long term habitation, particularly since it is situated within the Murrieta Creek floodplain.

Criteria for occupation during the historical era were generally somewhat different than for aboriginal occupation since later populations did not depend solely on natural resources for survival. During the historical era the subject property would probably have been considered very desirable due to tillable soil, relatively flat topography, a nearby permanent source of water, and its proximity to urban centers and major transportation corridors.

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistory

On the basis of currently available archaeological research, occupation of Southern California by human populations is believed to have begun at least 10,000 years ago. Theories proposing much earlier occupation, specifically during the Pleistocene Age, exist but at this time archaeological evidence has not been fully substantiating. Therefore, for the purposes of this report, only human occupation within the past 10,000 years will be addressed.

A time frame of occupation may be determined on the basis of characteristic cultural resources. These comprise what are known as cultural traditions or complexes. It is through the presence or absence of time-sensitive artifacts at a particular site that the apparent time of occupation may be suggested.

In general, the earliest established cultural tradition in Southern California is accepted to be the San Dieguito Tradition, first described by Malcolm Rogers in the 1920's. The San Dieguito people were nomadic large-game hunters whose tool assemblage included large domed scrapers, leaf-shaped knives and projectile points, stemmed projectile points, chipped stone crescentics, and hammerstones (Rogers 1939; Rogers 1966). The San Dieguito Tradition was further divided into three phases: San Dieguito I is found only in the desert regions, while San Dieguito II and III occur on both sides of the Peninsular Ranges. Rogers felt that these phases formed a sequence in which increasing specialization and refinement of tool types were the key elements. Although absolute dates for the various phase changes have not been hypothesized or fully substantiated by a stratigraphic sequence, the San Dieguito Tradition as a whole is believed to have existed from approximately 7000 to 10,000 years ago (8000 to 5000 B.C.).

Throughout southwestern California the La Jolla Complex followed the San Dieguito Tradition. The La Jolla Complex, as first described by Rogers (1939, 1945), then redefined by Harding (1951), is recognized primarily by the presence of millingstone assemblages within shell middens. Characteristic cultural resources of the La Jolla Complex include basined millingstones, unshaped manos, flaked stone tools, shell middens, and a few Pinto-like projectile points. Flexed inhumations under stone cairns, with heads pointing north, are also present (Rogers 1939, 1945; Warren *et al* 1961).

The La Jolla Complex existed from 5500 to 1000 B.C. Although there are several hypotheses to account for the origins of this complex, it would appear that it was a cultural adaptation to climatic warming after c. 6000 B.C. This warming may have stimulated movements to the coast of desert peoples who then shared their millingstone technology with the older coastal groups

(Moratto 1984). The La Jollan economy and tool assemblage seems to indicate such an infusion of coastal and desert traits instead of a total cultural displacement.

The Pauma Tradition, as first identified by D.L. True in 1958, may be an inland variant of the La Jolla Complex, exhibiting a shift to a hunting and gathering economy, rather than one based on shellfish gathering. Implications of this shift are an increase in number and variety of stone tools and a decrease in the amount of shell (Meighan 1954; True 1958; Warren 1968; True 1977). At this time it is not known whether the Pauma Complex represents the seasonal occupation of inland sites by La Jollan groups or whether it represents a shift from a coastal to a non-coastal cultural adaptation by the same people.

The late period is represented by the San Luis Rey Complex, first identified by Meighan (1954) and later redefined by True *et al* (1972). Meighan divided this complex into two periods: San Luis Rey I (A.D. 1400-1750) and the San Luis Rey II (A.D. 1750-1850). The San Luis Rey I type component includes cremations, bedrock mortars, millingstones, small triangular projectile points with concave bases, bone awls, stone pendants, *Olivella* shell beads, and quartz crystals. The San Luis Rey II assemblage is the same as San Luis Rey I, but with the addition of pottery vessels, cremation urns, tubular pipes, stone knives, steatite arrow straighteners, red and black pictographs, and such non-aboriginal items as metal knives and glass beads (Meighan 1954). Inferred San Luis Rey subsistence activities include hunting and gathering with an emphasis on acorn harvesting.

Ethnography

According to available ethnographic research, the study area was included in the known territory of the Shoshonean-speaking Luiseño Indians during both prehistoric and historic times. The name Luiseño is Spanish in origin and was used in reference to those aboriginal inhabitants of Southern California associated with the Mission San Luis Rey. As far as can be determined, the Luiseño, whose language is of the Takic family (part of Uto-Aztecan linguistic stock), had no equivalent word for their nationality.

The territory of the Luiseño was extensive, encompassing over 1500 square miles of coastal and inland Southern California. Known territorial boundaries extended on the coast from Aliso Creek on the north to Agua Hedionda Creek on the south, then inland to Santiago Peak, across to the eastern side of the Elsinore Fault Valley, southward to the east of Palomar Mountain, and finally, around the southern slope of the Valley of San Jose. Their habitat included every ecological zone from sea level to 6000 mean feet above sea level.

Territorial boundaries of the Luiseño were shared with the Gabrieliño and Serrano to the north, the Cahuilla to the east, the Cupeño and Ipai to the south (Fig. 5). With the exception of the Ipai, these tribes shared similar cultural and language traditions. Although the social structure

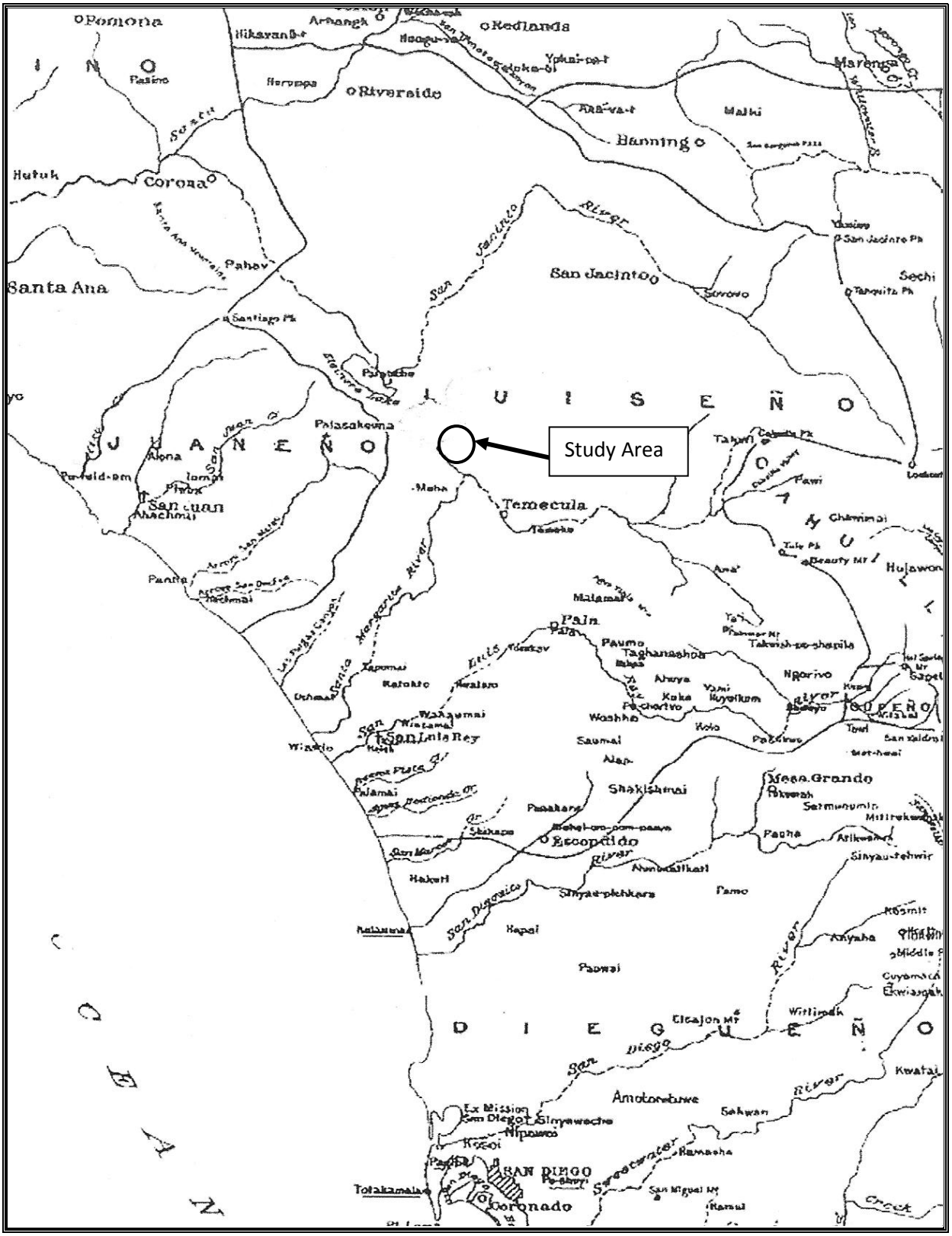


Figure 5: Ethnographic location of the study area. Adapted from Kroeber, (1925).

and philosophy of the Luiseño were similar to that of neighboring tribes, they had a greater population density and correspondingly, a more rigid social structure.

The settlement pattern of the Luiseño was based on the establishment and occupation of sedentary autonomous village groups. Villages were usually situated near adequate sources of food and water, in defensive locations primarily found in sheltered coves and canyons. Typically, a village was comprised of permanent houses, a sweathouse, and a religious edifice. The permanent houses of the Luiseño were earth-covered and built over a two-foot excavation (Kroeber 1925:654). According to informants' accounts, the dwellings were conical roofs resting on a few logs leaning together, with a smoke hole in the middle of the roof and entrance through a door. Cooking was done outside when possible, on a central interior hearth when necessary. The sweathouse was similar to the houses except that it was smaller, elliptical, and had a door in one of the long sides. Heat was produced directly by a wood fire. Finally, the religious edifice was usually just a round fence of brush with a main entrance for viewing by the spectators and several narrow openings for entry buy the ceremonial dancers (Kroeber 1925:655).

Luiseño subsistence was based on seasonal floral and faunal resource procurement. Each village had specific resource procurement territories, most of which were within one day's travel of the village. During the autumn of each year, however, most of the village population would migrate to the mountain oak groves and camp for several weeks to harvest the acorn crop, hunt, and collect local resources not available near the village. Hunters typically employed traps, nets, throwing sticks, snares, or clubs for procuring small animals, while larger animals were usually ambushed, then shot with bow and arrow. The Luiseño normally hunted antelope and jackrabbits in the autumn by means of communal drives, although individual hunters also used bow and arrow to hunt jackrabbits throughout the year. Many other animals were available to the Luiseño during various times of the year, but were generally not eaten. These included dog, coyote, bear, tree squirrel, dove, pigeon, mud hen, eagle, buzzard, raven, lizards, frogs, and turtles (Kroeber 1925:62).

Small game was prepared by broiling it on coals. Venison and rabbit were either broiled on coals or cooked in and earthen oven. Whatever meat was not immediately consumed was crushed on a mortar, then dried and stored for future use (Sparkman 1908:208). Of all the food sources utilized by the Luiseño, acorns were by far the most important. Six species were collected in great quantities during the autumn of every year, although some were favored more than others. In order of preference, they were black oak (*Quercus kelloggii),* coast live oak *(Q. agrifolia), c*anyon live oak *(Q. chrysolepsis),* Engelmann Oak *(Q. engelmannii),* interior live oak *(Q. wislizenii),* and scrub oak *(Q. berberidifoilia).* The latter three were used only when others were not available. Acorns were prepared for consumption by crushing them in a stone

mortar and leaching off the tannic acid, then made into either a mush or dried to a flour-like material for future use.

Herb and grass seeds were used almost as extensively as acorns. Many plants produce edible seeds which were collected between April and November. Important seeds included, but were not limited to, the following: California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), wild tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculus*), white tidy tips (*Layia glandulosa*), sunflower (*Helianthus annus*), calabazilla (*Cucurbita foetidissima*), sage (*Salvia carduacea* and *S. colombariae*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), peppergrass (*Lepidium nitidum*), and chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*). Seeds were parched, ground, cooked as mush, or used as flavoring in other foods.

Fruit, berries, corms, tubers and fresh herbage were collected and often immediately consumed during the spring and summer months. Among those plants commonly used were basketweed (*Rhus trilobata*), manzanita (*Arctostaphylos Adans.*), miner's lettuce (*Montia Claytonia*), thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*), and California blackberry (*Rubus ursinuss*). When an occasional large yield occurred, some berries, particularly juniper and manzanita, were dried and made into a mush at a later time.

Tools for food acquisition, preparation, and storage were made from widely available materials. Hunting was done with a bow and fire-hardened or stone-tipped arrows. Coiled and twined baskets were used in food gathering, preparation, serving, and storage. Seeds were ground with handstones on shallow granitic mutates, while stone mortars and pestles were used to pound acorns, nuts, and berries. Food was cooked in clay vessels over fireplaces or earthen ovens. The Luiseño employed a wide variety of other utensils produced from locally available geological, floral, and faunal resources in all phases of food acquisition and preparation.

The Luiseño subsistence system described above constitutes seasonal resource exploitation within their prescribed village-centered procurement territory. In essence, this cycle of seasonal exploitation was at the core of all Luiseño lifeways. During the spring collection of roots, tubers, and greens was emphasized, while seed collecting and processing during the summer months shifted this emphasis. The collection areas and personnel (primarily small groups of women) involved in these activities remained virtually unchanged. However, as the autumn acorn harvest approached, the settlement pattern of the Luiseño altered completely. Small groups joined to form the larger groups necessary for the harvest and village members left the villages for the mountain oak groves for several weeks. Upon completion of the annual harvest, village activities centered on the preparation of collected foods for use during the winter. Since few plant food resources were available for collection during the winter, this time was generally spent repairing and manufacturing tools and necessary implements in preparation for the coming resource procurement seasons.

Each Luiseño village was a clan tribelet – a group of people patrilineally related who owned an area in common and who were both politically and economically autonomous from neighboring villages (Bean & Shipek 1978:555). The chief of each village inherited his position and was responsible, with the help of an assistant, for the administration of religious, economic, and warfare powers. A council comprised of ritual specialists and shamans, also hereditary positions, advised the chief on matters concerning the environment, rituals, and supernatural powers.

The social structure of the villages is obscure, since the Luiseño apparently did not practice the organizational system of exogamous moieties used by many of the surrounding Native American groups. At birth, a baby was confirmed into the householding group and patrilineage. Girls and boys went through numerous puberty initiation rituals during which they learned about the supernatural beings governing them and punishing any infractions of the rules of behavior and ritual (Sparkman 1908:221-225). The boys' ceremonies including the drinking of toloache (*Datura*), visions, dancing, ordeals, and the teaching of songs and rituals. Girls' ceremonies included advice and instruction in the necessary knowledge for married life, "roasting" in warm sands, and rock painting. Shortly after the completion of the puberty initiation rituals, girls were married, typically to someone arranged for by the girl's parents. Although the Luiseño were concerned that marriages not occur between individuals too closely related, it has been suggested that cross-cousin marriages were the norm prior to Spanish Catholic influences beginning in 1769 (White 1963:169-170). Luiseño marriages created important economic and social alliances between lineages and were celebrated accordingly with elaborate ceremonies and a bride price. Residence was typically patrilineal and polygyny, often sororal, was practiced especially by chiefs and shamans.

One of the most important elements in the Luiseño life cycle was death. At least a dozen successive mourning ceremonies were held following an individual's death, with feasting taking place and gifts being distributed to ceremony guests. Luiseño cosmology was based on a dying-god theme, the focus of which was *Wiyó-t',* a creator-culture hero and teacher who was the son of earth-mother (Bean & Shipek 1978:557). The order of the world was established by this entity and he was one of the first "people" or creations. Upon the death of *Wiyó-t'* the nature of the universe changed and the existing world of plants, animals, and humans was created. The original creations took on the various life forms now existing and worked out solutions for living. These solutions included a spatial organization of species for living space and a chain-of-being concept that placed each species into a mutually beneficial relationship with all others.

Based on Luiseño settlement and subsistence patterns, the type of archaeological sites associated with this culture may be expected to represent the various activities involved in seasonal resource exploitation. Temporary campsites usually evidenced by lithic debris and/or milling features, may be expected to occur relatively frequently. Food processing stations, often

only single milling features, are perhaps the most abundant type of site found. Isolated artifacts occur with approximately the same frequency as food processing stations. The most infrequently occurring archaeological site is the village site. Sites of this type are usually large, in defensive locations amidst abundant natural resources, and usually surrounded by the types of sites previously discussed, which reflect the daily activity of the villagers. Little is known of ceremonial sites, although the ceremonies themselves are discussed frequently in the ethnographic literature. It may be assumed that such sites would be found in association with village sites, but with what frequency is not known.

History

Four principle periods of historical occupation existed in Southern California: the Explorer Period (A.D. 1540-1768), the Colonial Spanish-Mission Period (A.D. 1769-1830), the Mexican Ranch-Pastoral/Landless Indian Period (A.D. 1830-1860), and the American Developmental/Indian Reservation Period (A.D. 1860-present).

In the general study area the Colonial Spanish-Mission Period (A.D. 1769-1830) first represents historical occupation. Although earlier European explorers had traveled throughout South California, it was not until the 1769 "Sacred Expedition" of Captain Gaspar dé Portola and Franciscan Father Junipero Serra that there was actual contact with aboriginal inhabitants of the region. The intent of the expedition, which began in San Blas, Baja California, was to establish missions and presidios along the California coast, thereby serving the dual purpose of converting Indians to Christianity and expanding Spain's military presence in the "New World." In addition, each mission became a commercial enterprise utilizing Indian labor to produce commodities such as wheat, hides, and tallow that could be exported to Spain. Founded on July 16, 1769, the Mission San Diego de Alcalá was the first of the missions, while the Mission San Francisco Solana was the last mission, founded on July 4, 1823.

Although the Portola and Serra expedition apparently bypassed the study area, there is a possibility that Pedro Fages, a lieutenant in Portola's Catalan Volunteers, may have stopped in the area while looking for deserters from San Diego in 1772 (Hicks and Hudson 1970:10; Hudson 1981:14). In addition, historian Phillip Rush credits Captain Juan Pablo Grijalva and his party with the first white discovery of the region in 1795 (1965:29). The first white men of record to enter the region were Father Juan Norberto de Santiago and Captain Pedro Lisalde. In 1797 their expedition party, comprised of seven soldiers and five Indians (probably Juaneños from the Mission San Juan Capistrano) stopped briefly near Temecula on their journey to find another mission site. Upon leaving the valley Fr. Santiago remarked in his journal that the expedition had encountered an Indian village called "Temecula: (Hudson 1981:13-14).

In 1798 on the site Santiago had selected, the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia was founded and all aboriginals living within the mission's realm of influence became known as the "Luiseño." Within a 20-year period, under the guidance of Fr. Antonio Peyri, the mission prospered to a degree that it was often referred to as the "King of the Missions." At its peak, the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, which is located in what is now Oceanside, controlled six ranches and annually produced 27,000 cattle, 26,000 sheep, 1300 goats, 500 pigs, 1900 horses, and 67,000 bushels of grain. During this period, the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia claimed the entire region that is now western Riverside County and northern San Diego County as a cattle ranch, although records of the Mission San Juan Capistrano show this region as part of their holdings.

By 1818 the greater Temecula Valley had become the Mission San Luis Rey's principle producer of grain and was considered one of the mission's most important holdings. It was at approximately this time that a granary, chapel, and majordomo's home were built in Temecula. These were the first structures built by whites within the boundaries of Riverside County (Hudson 1981:19). The buildings were constructed at the original Indian village of Temecula on a high bluff at the southern side of Temecula Creek where it joins Murrieta Creek to form the Santa Margarita River. This entire area continued to be an abundant producer of grain, horses, and cattle, for the thriving Mission San Luis Rey until the region became part of Mexico on April 11, 1822. Following this event the Spanish missions and mission ranches began a slow decline.

During the Mexican Ranch-Pastoral/Landless Indian period (A.D. 1830-1860) the first of the Mexican ranchos were established following the enactment of the Secularization Act of 1833 by the Mexican government. Mexican governors were empowered to grant vacant land to "contractors (*empresarios*), families, or private citizens, whether Mexicans or foreigners, who may ask for them for the purpose of cultivating or inhabiting them" (Robinson 1948:66). Mexican governors granted approximately 500 ranchos during this period. Although legally a land grant could not exceed 11 square leagues (about 50,000 acres or 76 square miles) and absentee ownership was officially forbidden, neither edict was rigorously enforced (*ibid*). The subject property was located in the Temecula Rancho land grant (Fig. 6).

The Temecula Rancho originally encompassed both the Temecula and Murrieta valleys. According to Bancroft, the rancho was originally granted to José Antonio Estudillo, who was also the grantee of the San Jacinto Rancho (Bancroft 1886 II: 493). The *diseño* for the land grant covered an area approximately seven by eleven miles. This large rancho was apparently coveted by Pio Pico, who was the administrator of the Mission San Luis Rey after secularization. However, the Indians who had been forced to build the mission and tend to mission lands by the Spanish missionaries and soldiers, protested and claimed the Temecula Rancho as their own (Bancroft 1886 II: 361). The Indians would not cede their rights because not only did they believe the land grant to legitimately belong to them, but also because they realized that it produced more grain for the Mission San Luis Rey than any of the Mission's other land holdings.

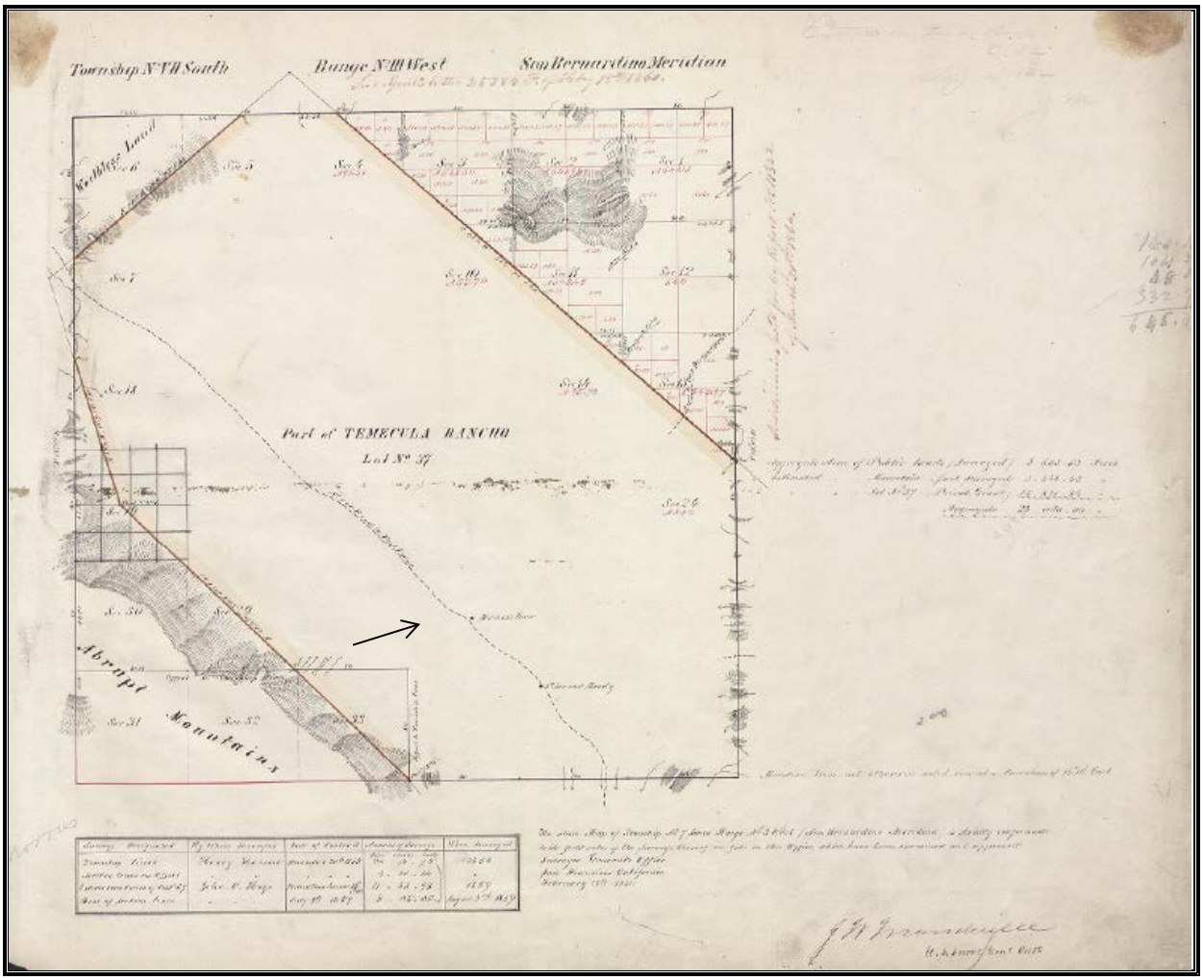


Figure 6: Approximate location of the subject property in the Temecula Rancho (1860).

On August 9, 1840, Pio Pico informed the Indians that the governor had granted him the rancho even though the Indians had strongly opposed this action. However, as American occupation approached, Mexican Governor Manuel Micheltorena granted a large part of the Temecula Rancho, encompassing an area six square leagues (26,608.94 acres) in size, to Felix Valdez on December 14, 1844. Valdez apparently did little with his rancho. Where grain had once been grown for the Mission San Luis Rey, the land was allowed to return to its natural state. The rancho was later patented to Jean Luis Vignes, a French vintner, on January 18, 1860. Patents to both the Temecula Rancho and the Pauba Rancho were recorded to Vignes on April 21, 1869.Vignes is often called the father of the wine industry in California and it is assumed that he purchased the ranchos with grape growing in mind. However, his plans did not come to fruition and soon after he acquired ownership of the ranchos he sold them to Jacob R. Snyder.

From Snyder the ranchos were sold to Francisco Zanjurjo, Domingo Pujol, José Gonzalez, and Juan Murrieta (although Murrieta's name does not appear on County records); the partnership paid $52,000 for 52,000 acres of land (Hudson 1981:72). At this time, sheep raising was reintroduced on the Temecula and Pauba ranchos. After living on the Temecula Rancho for several years Murrieta sold his interest, which was the northern 14,000 acres of the rancho, to the Temecula Land and Water Company in 1884. Murrieta then moved to Los Angeles where he was employed by the Sheriff's Office for 30 years; he died in 1936 (Garrison 1963:11). Except for this sale, the Temecula Rancho and the Pauba Rancho were never under separate ownership until 1964 when Rancho California began subdividing. Titles to the two ranchos were recorded for several owners after Zanjurjo *et al,* including C.S. Stevenson, Cosmos Land and Water Company, H.L. Heffner, and the Pauba Ranch Company (Vail Ranch).

It was also during this historical period that the central event of California history - the Gold Rush - occurred. Although gold had been discovered as early as 1842 in the Sierra Pelona north of Los Angeles, it cost more to extract and process the gold than it was worth. The second discovery of gold in 1848 at Sutter's Mill by James Marshall was serendipitously coincidental with California's change in ownership as the result of the Anglo-American victory in the Mexican War, occurring at a time when many adventurers had come to California in the vanguard of military conquest. If gold had not been discovered, California may have remained an essentially Hispanic territory of the United States. The discovery of gold and the riches it promised caused California to become a magnet that attracted Anglo-American exploration and colonization. It has been estimated that the Anglo-American population of California at the beginning of 1848 was 2000 and that by the end of 1849 it had exploded to over 53,000 (Farquhar 1965). In 1849 alone, more than 40,000 people traveled overland from the Eastern United States to California and by the end of the year, 697 ships had arrived in San Francisco, bringing another 41,000 individuals. In 1850, over 50,000 people came overland and 35,000 came by sea. Hence, despite the fact that thousands of disenchanted prospectors who left California (reportedly 31,000 in 1853 alone), California's population had grown to 380,000 by 1860 and to 560,000 by 1870, not including the Native Americans, whose populations were decimated by the Anglo-American invasion. Conversely, in 1846 the Native American population in California is estimated to have been at least 120,000 and by the 1860s, only 20,000-40,000 had survived. This period of history is often referred to as the "California Indian Holocaust".

During the years of the Gold Rush most mining occurred in the northern and central portions of the state. As a result, these areas were far more populated than most of southern California. Nevertheless, there was an increasing demand for land throughout the state and the federal government was forced to address the issue of how much land in California would be declared public land for sale. The Congressional Act of 1851 created a land commission to receive

petitions from private land claimants and to determine the validity of their claims. The United States Land Survey of California conducted by the General Land Office, began that year.

Throughout the 1840s and 1850s thousands of settlers and prospectors traveled through the study area on the Emigrant Trail in route to various destinations in the West. The southern portion of the trail ran from the Colorado River to Warner's Ranch and then westward to Aguanga, where it split into two roads. The main road continued westward past Aguanga and into the valley north of the Santa Ana Mountains. This road was alternately called the Colorado Road, Old Temescal Road, or Fort Yuma Road. This road, designated as "Stage Road to Fort Yuma," is shown on the 1860 plat of the Temecula Rancho (Fig. 6) approximately one-half mile northeast of the subject property. The second road, known as the San Bernardino Road, split off northward from Aguanga and ran along the base of the San Jacinto Mountains.

On September 16, 1858, the Butterfield Company, following the southern Emigrant Trail, began carrying the Overland Mail from Tipton, Missouri to San Francisco, California. The first stage coach passed through Temecula on October 7, 1858 and exchanged horses at John Magee's store, which was located south of Temecula Creek on the Little Temecula Rancho. It was around this store that the second location of Temecula had been established (Hicks 1970:27). In addition to being a Butterfield Overland Mail stop, it was at John Magee's store that the first post office in what is now Riverside County opened on April 22, 1859 with Louis A. Rouen being appointed the first United States postmaster in inland southern California (Hudson 1968:8). From this time until the outbreak of the Civil War terminated Butterfield's service, mail was delivered to the Temecula Post Office four times per week.

In the final period of historic occupation, the American Developmental/Indian Reservation Era (A.D. 1860-current) the first major changes in the study area took place as a result of the land issues addressed in the previous decade. Following completion of the G.L.O. land survey, large tracts of federal land became available for sale and for preemption purposes, particularly after Congress passed the Homestead Act of 1862. The state was eventually granted 500,000 acres of land by the federal government for distribution, as well as two sections of land in each township for school purposes. Much of this land was in the southern part of the state. Under the Homestead Act of 1862 160-acre homesteads were available to citizens of the United States (or those who had filed an intention to become one) who were either head-of-household or a single person over the age of 21 (including women). Once the homestead claim was filed, the applicant had six months to move onto the land and was required to maintain residency for five years as well as to build a dwelling and raise crops. Upon completion of these requirements, the homesteader was required to publish an intent to close on the property in order to allow others to dispute the claim; if no one did so, the homesteader was issued a patent to the property, thus conveying ownership. Individuals were attracted to the federal lands by their low prices and as a result, the population began to increase in regions where the lands available for

homestead were located. It was at this time, that the region of southern California which came to be known as Riverside County saw an influx of settlers, as well as those seeking other opportunities, including gold mining.

On March 17, 1882 the California Southern Railroad commenced service, extending from National City near the Mexican border in San Diego County, northerly to Temecula and Murrieta, across the Perris Valley, down the Box Springs Grade, and on to the city of San Bernardino. Less than two years later, the Temecula Land and Water Company subdivided the Murrieta portion of the Temecula Rancho, taking advantage of the new railroad, around which the Murrieta townsite was planned. The subdivision had small 50 x 140 foot lots in the Murrieta townsite ranging in price from $20 to $75 per lot, as well as numerous blocks of 5 to 10 acres selling from $10 to $75 per acre. Larger tracts of lands suitable for agricultural pursuits were also available. These included 140 acres of Valley land at $25 per acre, 200 acres of rolling hill land for $12 an acre, several tracts of mesa land considered good for vines at $10 per acre, and one tract of land encompassing 4000 acres offered for sale at $5 an acre, that included 600 acres of valley land, 1000 acres of rolling land, and numerous springs (Garrison 1963:12-13). The subject property is located in Farm Lot 76 of the Murrieta Subdivision (Fig. 7). In an 1884 real estate sales brochure, Murrieta realtor G.W. Fox grandly described Murrieta as having, "…a magnificent location, pure soft water, splendid climate with a coast breeze to fan the cheek through the summer months. These soft, moist zephyrs refresh and invigorate all things with their breath." (Boyce 1995:30). To entice potential buyers who perhaps had not read Fox's rhapsodic description of Murrieta, the Temecula Land and Water offered easy credit terms, generally from one to ten years with interest at 8% annum.

At first, a box car served as the California Southern Railroad station, with trains stopping in Murrieta for mealtimes, but by 1885, Murrieta had a train depot, a two-story school, a blacksmith shop, a livery stable, and Fountain House, an ornate hotel rumored to have cost $10,000 (Gunther 1984:344). The same year, Murrieta's first post office was established on July 28, 1885 at Horace B. Lashlee's drugstore on Clay Avenue at A Street, with Lashlee serving as the first postmaster. The great land boom of the late 19th century saw Murrieta with an estimated population of 800 in 1890, at which time the following description of Murrieta appeared in the *Illustrated History of Southern California*.

> The population of the town and neighborhood is about 800 and it is rapidly increasing. The society is excellent, being intelligent and cultured. Among material evidences of prosperity are; a first class hotel, with a good table and excellent service; railroad station express and telegraph offices; a good schoolhouse, a good church building, a drug store, a jewelry store and barbershop, saddle and harness shop, blacksmith shop and several stores which supply the greater portion of the Temecula country with general merchandise, this being the business center. There are also many fine residences and there is published a weekly newspaper, the Valley Union.

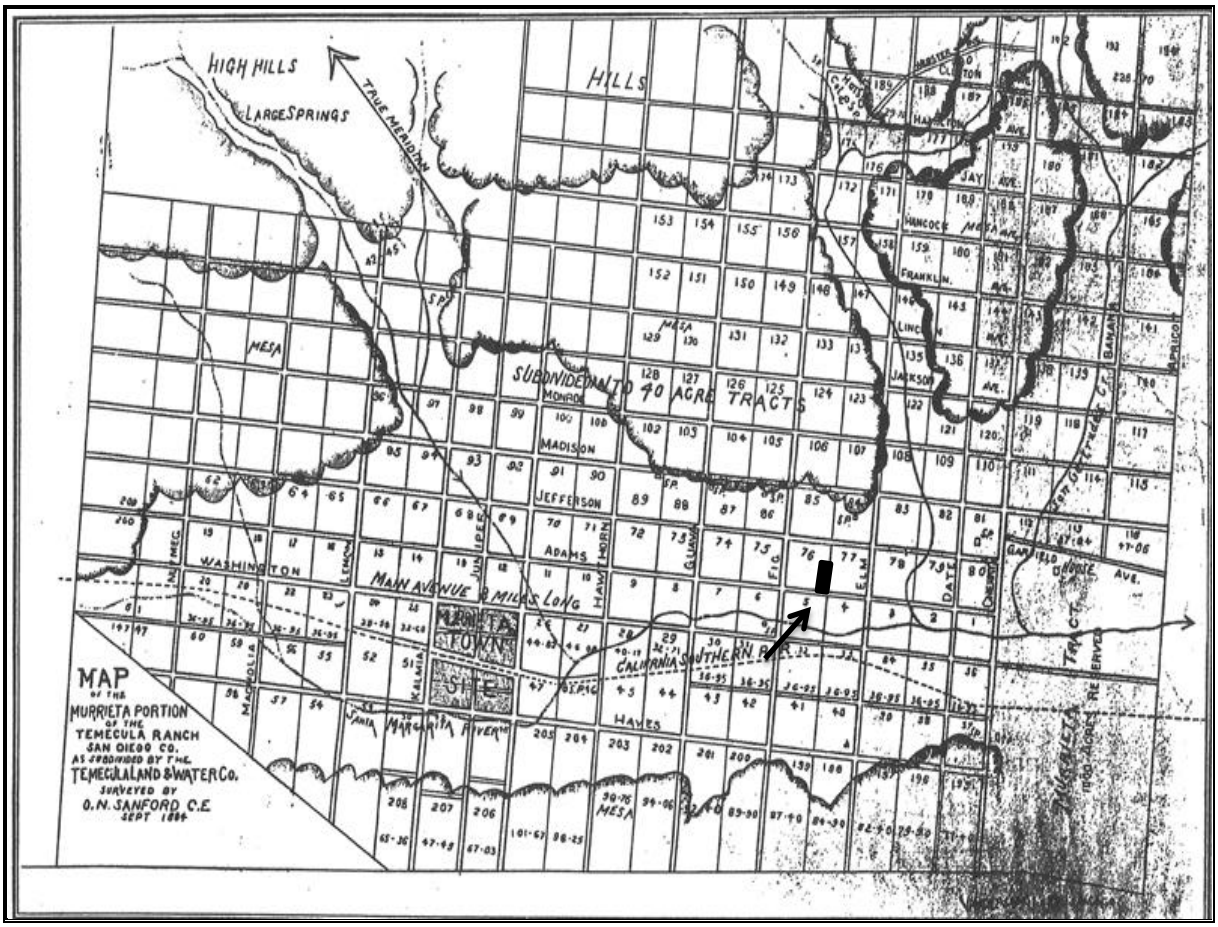


Figure 7: Location of the subject property within the Murrieta Subdivision (1884).

Unfortunately, from the time the first train came through Temecula on its way from National City to San Bernardino, the California Southern Railroad had been plagued by flooding and washouts in Temecula Canyon. Railway service was disrupted for months at a time and a fortune was spent on rebuilding the washed out tracks. Finally, in 1891 the Santa Fe Railway constructed a new line from Los Angeles to San Diego down the coast and when later that year the California Southern Railway's route through Temecula Canyon once again was washed out, that portion of the line was discontinued.

Around the same time the California Southern Railroad opened, L. Menifee Wilson, a 20-year-old from Kentucky, came to this area and located what appears to be the first gold quartz mine in this part of Southern California. The mine was located approximately eight miles south of Perris and was named the Menifee Quartz Lode. As news of his find spread, miners flocked to the region to try their luck. Hundreds of gold mining claims were subsequently filed in the region around Menifee's mine and this area became known as Menifee and the Menifee Valley (Gunther, 1984:319-320). Gold quartz discoveries in the Winchester, Perris, Lakeview, and

Murrieta areas further fueled the belief that the entire region was one of unsurpassed mineral wealth, ripe for the taking. Wilson was one of the major proponents of this belief and in addition to his original mine, he claimed several others in the general area.

From the time of L. Menifee Wilson's first gold discovery in the early 1880's, gold production through hard rock mining in western Riverside County increased considerably, reaching its peak in 1895. At that time, the value of gold produced was reported in the Mining and Scientific Press (Vol. 85) as being $285,106. Although the gold value was still relatively high in 1896 ($262,800), from that point on production decreased substantially every year until in 1917, the value of gold produced was reported as being zero.

Based on numerous reports found in local newspapers such as the Winchester Record, Perris New Era, and Riverside's Press and Horticulturist, the gold boom in western Riverside County appears to have occurred primarily between late 1893 and mid-1895. During this period there were almost daily articles enthusiastically touting the number of new mining claims being recorded, yields from the various operations, and the resultant population boom as news of the region's mineral wealth spread. Several of the new mining claims were in the general region where the subject property is located. By early 1896, the mining related articles were less frequent and those appearing often lamented the closing of mines, which was generally due to the lack of water necessary for processing gold-bearing ore. By this time, a far greater emphasis began to be placed on the agricultural potential of the region. Replacing daily reports on gold yields from the mines were crop yields and bushel counts from the growing number of farms in western Riverside County. Although settlers continued to move into this region and a number of small towns developed, the migration was less dynamic than it had been during the early years of the gold rush and the region retained the essentially rural flavor it maintained until the last decades of the twentieth century.

METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Research

Prior to commencement of the Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment field survey a records search was conducted by staff at the California Archaeological Inventory / California Historical Resources Information System, Eastern Information Center located at the University of California, Riverside. The research included a review of all site maps, site records, survey reports, and mitigation reports relevant to the study area. The following documents were also reviewed: the National Register of Historic Places, the California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, and the California Office of Historic Preservation Historic Property Directory. A request for a Sacred Lands File search was submitted to the Native American Heritage Commission and project scoping letters were sent to twelve tribal representatives listed as being interested in project development in the Murrieta area.

Following the records and Sacred Lands File searches, a literature search of available published references to the study area was undertaken. Reference material included all available photographs, maps, books, journals, historical newspapers, registers, and directories at the Riverside Public Library Local History Collection, the University of California, Riverside libraries, and Ancestry.com. Cartographic research was conducted through the online USGS Historical Map Collection. Archival research relating to the original ownership of the subject property was conducted using the General Land Office records currently maintained by the California Office of the Bureau of Land Management. The following maps were consulted:

1854-1883 General Land Office Plats of Township No. 7 South, Range No. 3 West, San Bernardino Meridian
1901 Elsinore, California 30' USGS Topographic Map
1942 Murrieta, California 15' USGS Topographic Map
1953 Murrieta, California 7.5' USGS Topographic Map
1979 (photorevised) Murrieta, California 7.5' USGS Topographic Map
1959 Santa Ana, California 1:250,000 USGS Topographic Map
1979 Santa Ana, California 1:250,000 USGS Topographic Map

Fieldwork

Subsequent to the literature, archival, and cartographic research, Jean Keller attempted to conduct a comprehensive on-foot field survey of the subject property on December 17, 2016. Unfortunately, heavy rains the previous two weeks had resulted in much of the subject property being under water so the field survey could not be conducted. A subsequent attempt to conduct the field survey on January 31, 2017 found the subject property to still be partially

flooded and in addition, most of the property was covered by extremely dense ground cover, thus precluding any ground surface visibility. Due to pending biological studies, the subject property could not be cleared of vegetation to permit clear surface visibility for the cultural assessment. A third attempt to conduct a field survey was successful on March 10, 2017. At that time, surface visibility had improved markedly. The field survey was accomplished by traversing the subject property, beginning at the southern property corner, in parallel transects at 5-meter intervals to facilitate maximum visibility. The survey proceeded in a generally southwest-northeast, northeast-southwest direction following the existing land contours. Although the entirety of the property was accessible for survey, surface visibility was limited by dense ground cover and ponding. The resultant surface visibility ranged from 95% in some areas that had previously been under water, but had dried and were free of vegetation, to 50% on higher perimeter ground with moderately dense vegetation and areas that could clearly be seen through standing pools of water, to 0% in areas covered by dense vegetation. Considering all areas within the property boundaries and the spacing of transects, the average ground surface visibility was approximately 35%.

RESULTS

Research

Results of the records search conducted by staff at the Eastern Information Center indicated that the subject property has not been included in any previous cultural resources studies and that neither archaeological nor historical sites have been recorded within its boundaries.

The subject property is located within a very well-studied area with 42 cultural resources assessments having been conducted within a one-mile radius, although many of these studies were either linear alignments or very small parcels. During the course of field surveys for these studies, 13 cultural resources properties have been recorded, all but six of which are historic structures comprising Old Town Murrieta. Four of the cultural properties (33-008757, 33-011036, 33-011084, 33-011085,) are located within one-quarter mile of APN 909-060-044/EA 2016-1264; four are within a one-quarter to one-half mile radius (33-001004, 33-007446, 33-013396, 33-016007); one is within one-half to three-quarters of a mile from the subject property; and the remaining sites (33-005786, 33-007431, 33-014907, 33-024903) are within a three-quarters to one-mile radius of the property.

Table 1

Previously Recorded Cultural Resources in the Scope of the Records Search

Primary Number (Trinomial)	Description
33-001004 (CA-RIV-1004)	Recorded in 1976 as 1 hammerstone, 2 mano fragments, 1 biface, 1 core tool, 5 flakes, 6 metate fragments. A 2001 resurvey found only a single mano fragment remaining.
33-005786	Post-1876 historical fenceline delineating property boundaries
33-007431	c. 1885 Brown House (25549 Adams Avenue)
33-007445	c. 1900 Provolt House / Merrill House (25679 Jefferson Avenue)
33-007446	c. 1910-1912 Raleigh Brown Place (25751 Jefferson Avenue)
33-008757 (CA-RIV-6240)	Recorded in 1999 as 2 core/core tools, 2 hammerstones, 1 whole & 1 fragmented mano, 2 metate fragments, 1 miscellaneous groundstone tool. A 2001 resurveyed recorded 3 mano fragments, chipped stone pieces, plus some of the previously recorded artifacts. Testing in 2007 found 8 chipped stones, 3 groundstone fragments, and 2 polished stones but none of the previously recorded artifacts.
33-011036	c. 1911 Highland Place (4500 Highland)
33-011084 (CA-RIV-6672)	3 bifacial manos, 2 manos, 1 bifacial mano fragment, 6 metate fragments, 1 fire-affected rock, and 1 stone ball
33-011085 (CA-RIV-6673)	1 bifacial mano fragment, 1 metate fragment, 1 fire-affected rock, 1 chert core

33-013396	c. 1935-1953 abandoned well
33-014907	11 manos, 3 metates, 1 basalt hammerstone, 1 flake, 3 miscellaneous groundstone tools, 12 pieces fire-affected rock (site destroyed by residential development)
33-016007	c. 1930 Charles Channock Property (25580 Jefferson Avenue)
33-024903	Isolated biface scraper or chopping tool

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission *Sacred Lands File* was completed for the project area of potential effect (APE) with negative results. At this time, responses to project scoping letters sent to twelve tribal representatives interested in development within the Murrieta area have been received only from the Pala Tribal Historic Preservation Office and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians.

The Pala Tribal Historic Preservation Office consulted their maps and determined that the project is not within the boundaries of the recognized Pala Indian Reservation; it is also beyond the boundaries of the territory the tribe considers its Traditional Use Area. Therefore, they have no objection to the continuation of project activities as currently planned and defer to wishes of tribes in closer proximity to the project area.

The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians assessed the subject property through their Cultural Resources Department, where it was concluded that although it is outside the existing reservation boundaries, the project area does fall within the bounds of their Tribal Traditional Use Areas. Their sources indicate that the project location is in proximity to known sites, is a shared use area that was used in ongoing trade between the tribes, and is considered to be culturally sensitive to the people of Soboba. At this time, they have requested the following: consultation with the project proponents and lead agency; that information be transferred to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians regarding the progress of the project as soon as new developments occur; that they continue to act as a consulting tribal entity for the project; Further, the Tribe believes that monitoring will be required in areas where resources are not already identified or identified through further study and evaluation. Multiple areas of potential impact were identified during an in-house database search, the specifics of which will be discussed in consultation with the Lead Agency. Due to a confidentiality statement in the Tribe's letter, a copy of their response could not be included in this report.

The literature search offered no information specific to the subject property. Archival sources indicate that Luis Vignes was the first non-Native owner of the subject property, which as previously discussed, was included in the Temecula Rancho. As shown in Figure 8, on January 18, 1860, a serial patent for 26,291.30 acres of land was issued to Vignes under the authority of the 1851 Spanish/Mexican Land Act. Although General Land Office plats from 1854 to 1883 included the entirety of projected Township 7 south, Range 3 west, since the subject property

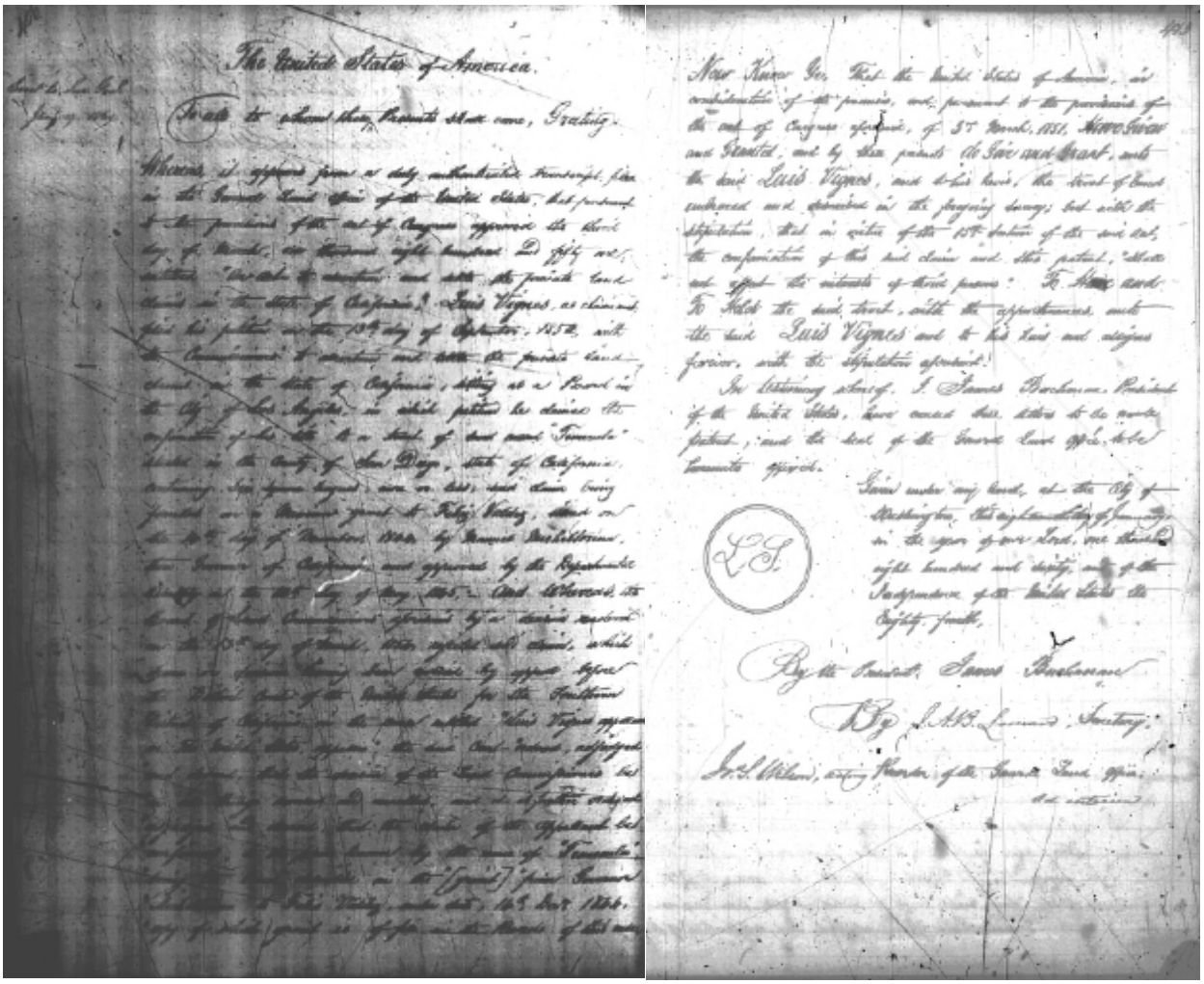


Figure 8: Serial patent issued to Luis Vignes for the Temecula Rancho, January 18, 1860.

was located within the boundaries of privately-held land (Temecula Rancho) it was neither mapped nor described in surveyor's notes, so land use during this period is not known. As previously discussed in the 'History' section of this report, shortly after Vignes obtained ownership of the rancho he sold it to Jacob Snyder, Francisco Zanjurajo, Domingo Pujol, Jose Gonzalez, and Juan Murrieta. In 1884 the Temecula Land & Water Company purchased the northern 14,000 acres of the Temecula Rancho from Juan Murrieta and subsequently designed a subdivision which was surveyed and mapped by Mr. O.N. Sanborn, C.E. The subject property is located in what was referred to as Farm Lot 76, a short distance north of the 'Murrieta Town Site' and originally encompassing 40 acres.

Cartographic evidence from 1897 (date of survey for the 1901 USGS Elsinore topographic map) through 1979 (date of aerial photos from the 1979 USHS Murrieta topographic map) show no improvements within the property boundaries, indicating that throughout this period the subject property was unoccupied. Adams Avenue, Jefferson Avenue, Fig Street, and Elm Street

were all created as part of the 1884 Murrieta Subdivision, although the four streets have changed significantly over time.

Fieldwork

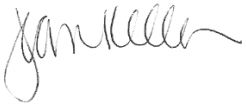
No cultural resources of prehistoric (i.e. Native American) or historical origin were observed within the boundaries of the subject property during the field survey.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cultural resources of prehistoric (i.e. Native American) or historical origin were not observed within the project boundaries during the field survey of APN 909-060-044 / EA 2016-1264, conducted for the current Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment. However, due to limited surface ground visibility during the field survey and archaeological sensitivity of the area in which the subject property is located, it is recommended that a qualified archaeologist actively monitor all ground disturbing activities within the property boundaries, including vegetation removal. The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians has also requested that a Native American Monitor from their Cultural Resource Department be present during any ground disturbing proceedings.

CONSULTANT CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the attached report is a true and accurate description of the results of the Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment described herein.



03-24-2017

Jean. Keller, Ph.D. Date

Riverside County Certificate No. 232

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1901 Map: Elsinore, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1897-1898
1942 Map: Murrieta, Calif. (15', 1:62,500); aerial photos taken in 1939
1953 Map: Murrieta, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photos taken in 1951
1959 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (1:250,000); aerial photos taken in 1955
1979 Map: Murrieta, Calif. (7.5', 1: 24,000); 1953 edition photorevised in 1979
1979 Map: Santa Ana, Calif. (7.5', 1:250,000); aerial photos taken in 1976

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APPENDIX

Records Search Results
Sacred Lands File Search Results
Tribal Response to Project Scoping Letter