A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCS INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED VICTORVILLE 1 MG RESERVOIR AND PIPELINE PROJECT, CITY OF VICTORVILLE, SAN BERNARDINO CO., CALIFORNIA

(USGS Victorville Quadrangle, rev. 1993)

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A PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCS INVESTIGATION FOR THE PROPOSED VICTORVILLE 1 MG RESERVOIR AND PIPELINE PROJECT, CITY OF VICTORVILLE, SAN BERNARDINO CO., CALIFORNIA

(USGS Victorville Quadrangle, rev. 1993)

by,

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INTRODUCTION

McKenna et al. (Appendix A) initiated this Phase I cultural resources investigation of the proposed 1 MG Reservoir and pipeline project in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California, at the request of Lilburn Corporation, San Bernardino, California, and the City of Victorville, Lead Agency for the project. The proposed project involves the development of a one million gallon pre-stressed, circular, concrete reservoir within the Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA) industrial park (aka George Air Force Base), and an associated pipeline extending to Air Expressway and a connection to the existing system north of Air Expressway. These studies were completed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as amended, and local City of Victorville policies and guidelines.

LOCATION AND SETTING

The proposed project area is located in the western portion of the City of Victorville, adjacent to the City of Adelanto, west of the Mojave River, and within the SCLA boundaries (Figures 1 and 2). The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is illustrated in Figure 3. This location is equated to Township 6 North, Range 5 West, Section 25 (see Figure 2). More specifically, the location is within the abandoned residential community of George Air Force Base; northeast of Westwind Road and Southwest of Montana Street (Figure 4). The existing tower within the project area is located at NAD 83 UTMs 467132E/3826352N (NAD 27 UTMs = 467243E/3826151N).

Figure 1. General Location of the Project Area.

The average elevation within the project area is 2,880 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). In general, the topography of the SCLA slopes to the east, towards the Mojave River channel, which is less than one mile east of the project area and at an elevation of approximately 2,640 feet AMSL.

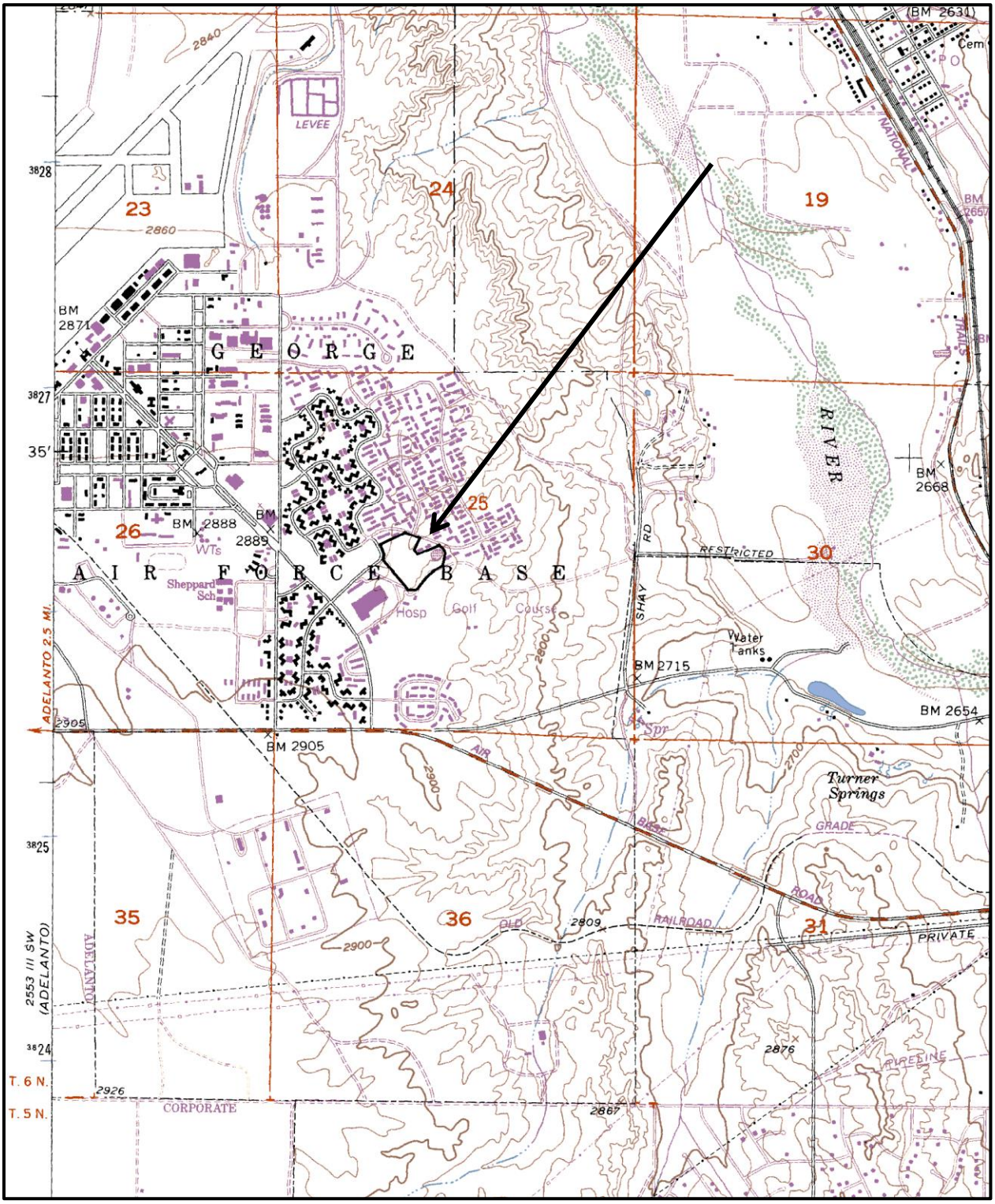

Figure 2. Specific Location of the Project Area (USGS Victorville Quadrangle, rev. 1993).

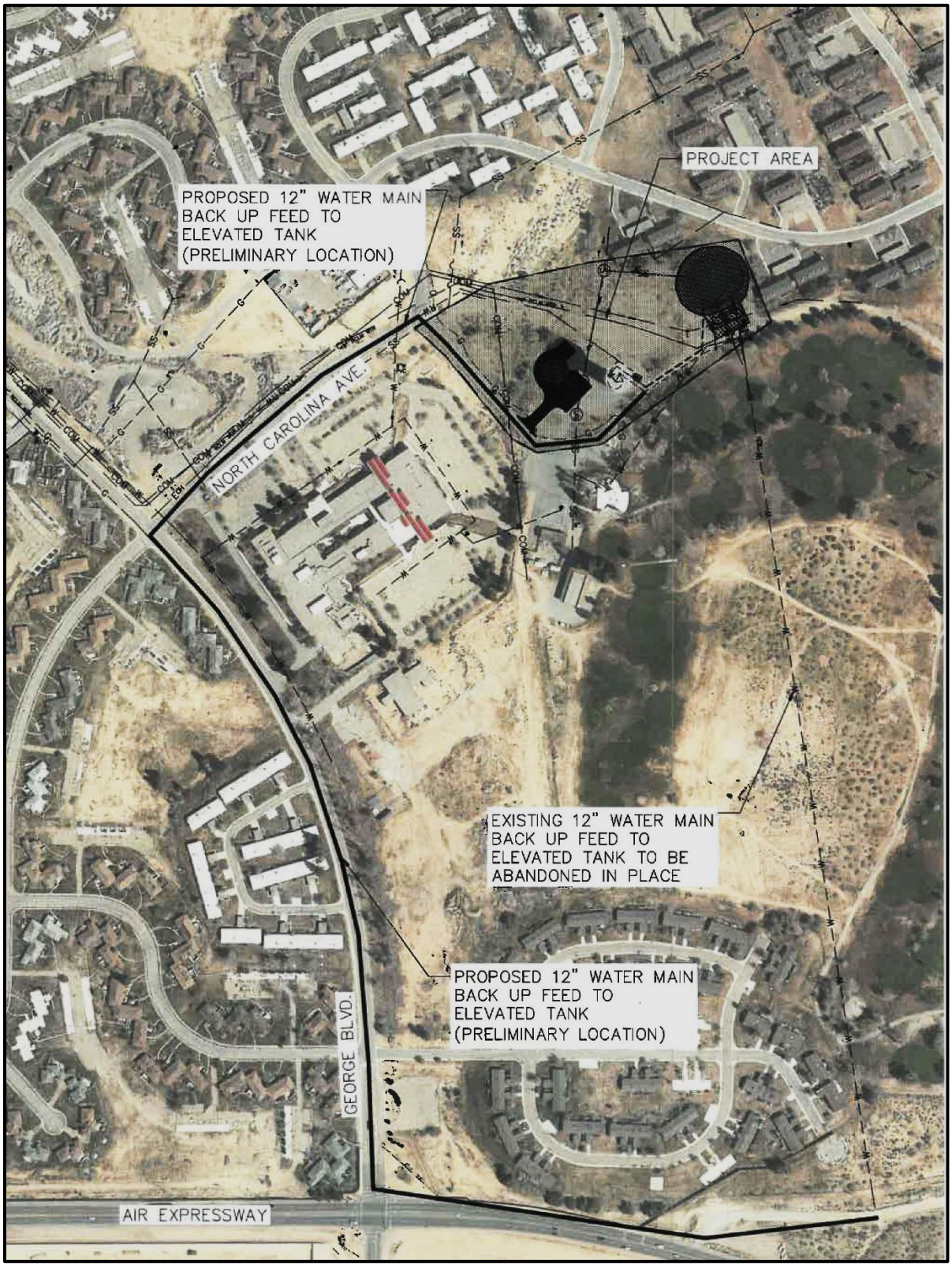

Figure 3. Area of Potential Effects.

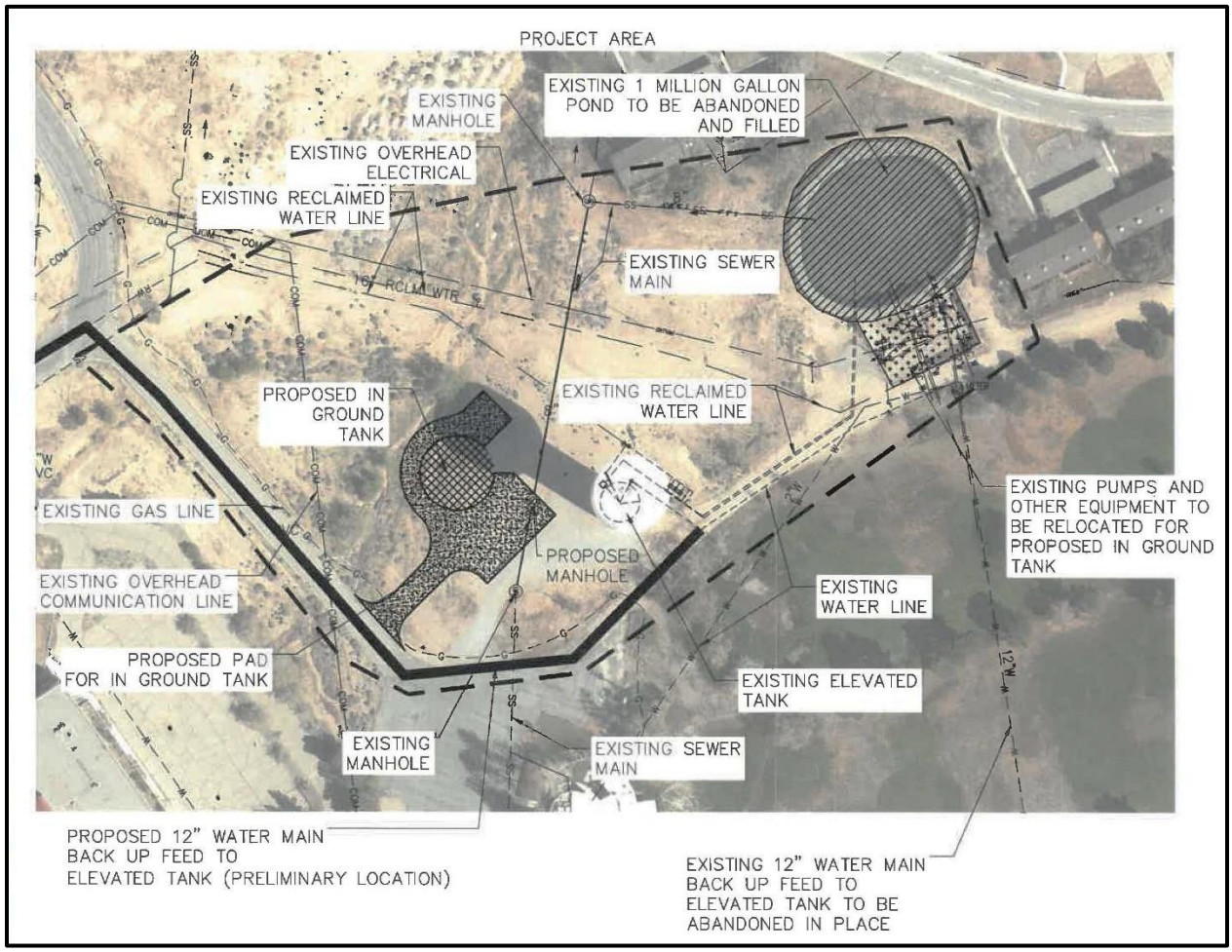

Figure 4. Proposed Development Plan.

The project area is due west of the Mojave River and within the Mojave Desert, north of the San Bernardino Mountains. The Mojave River is fed by run-off from the San Bernardino Mountains and numerous creeks and drainages (e.g. Oro Grande Wash) both north and south of the river course. Norris and Webb (1990:240-241) state:

> The Mojave River, the only major stream crossing the Mojave block, is intermittent through most of its course from its head in the San Bernardino Mountains to its pre-sent terminus in Soda Lake ... In earlier postglacial time, the river continued north and joined the Amargosa River flowing into Death Valley. The unusual variation in the river's channel patterns are at least partially due to the complex local history of segments of the Mojave block.

> The Mojave River has three widely separated areas of construction where surface flow usually occurs. The Victorville water gap, on which the river is superimposed, is a mass of bedrock formerly buried by alluvium ... The bedrock is now being exhumed because of local shift in base level ...
>
> Like most desert streams, the Mojave River is characterized by wide swings in water volume, Its average runoff is 101 million cubic meters (82,300 acre feet), but it varied from as few as 5.3 million cubic meters (4,340 acre feet) in 1951 to as many as 425 cubic meters (345,000 acre feet) in 1922, a volume greater than observed in any other southern California stream apart from the San Gabriel River.

Soils along the Mojave River tend to consists of loose, sandy soils of decomposing granitics from the nearby mountains. Organic material carried by the river allows for the development of loams and grasslands intermixed with the desert sage scrub and juniper pines of the lower elevations. There may be some cacti in the area, but its presence would be considered intermittent.

The Mojave Desert region is geologically a great wedge-shaped fault block bounded by the San Andreas and Garlock fault zones on the southwest and north, respectively, but has no definite natural eastern limits. Mountain ranges separate the Mojave Desert from the coastal areas to the southwest and from the Basin and Range province to the north. Duke and Shattuck note this area as being associated with deposits of "… well sorted metamorphic and granitic gravels and cobbles that are eroding from the San Bernardino Mountains to the south. The Lucerne Valley is rich in minerals … mining efforts are primarily concentrated on mining of non-metal minerals such as gravel, calcium carbonate and high quality limestone for the construction industry …" (2003:4-5).

The desert itself is characterized by north-south trending mountain ranges which enclose expanses of arid valleys and low-lying basins or sinks (Harry 1992). Lithic resources are restricted to the buttes and ridges which rise above the unconsolidated alluvium. Because few systematic archaeological surveys have been conducted in the area, it is unknown how widespread are lithic materials suitable for prehistoric tool production (Harry 1992). McLeod (2012) identifies the specific project area as consisting of some artificial fill in the northwestern portion of the project area and older terrestrial Quaternary Alluvium deposits derived from the "ancestral Mojave River" and referred to as Shoemaker Gravel. Fossil specimens have been known to be associated with these older alluvial deposits, including specimens from the western portion of George Air Force Base [SCLA} and from the western banks of the Mojave River.

The climate of the area is described as sub-arid, transitional between the relatively colder climate of the nearby Great Basin and the subtropical climate of the Sonoran Desert (McCorkle-Apple and Lilburn 1992:2; Axelrod 1979). Seasonal temperatures vary, as do levels of rain, general humidity, and wind. Temperatures can range from below 60^{o} Fahrenheit to over 100^{o} Fahrenheit. Sparse precipitation and high temperatures create a situation where evaporation exceeds precipitation, particularly in those areas lying below 5,000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in elevation (Warren and Crabtree 1986:183). Reliable water sources are currently available only along major rivers, intermittent streams and springs, and seasonal clay pans.

During the early Holocene (10,500 to 8,000 B.P.) climatic fluctuations have been recorded, along with a trend towards warming and drying characterized by the disappearance of lakes and a reduction in the number of springs. The area became wetter in the middle Holocene (ca. 5,100 B.P.) and warmer and drier again post-2,000 B.P. Citing Weide (1982), the last 2,000 years have been characterized by considerable "climatic oscillations" ranging from extreme droughts and massive flooding.

The effects of changing paleoclimatic conditions on the hydrological, floral and faunal patterns of the western Mojave Desert and adjacent mountain areas are only partially understood. The flora and fauna of this area adjusted to the changing conditions. Flora is dominated by the presence of creosote bush scrub *(Larrea divaricata*) and salt bush (*Atriplex confertifolia*). Citing Barbour and Major (1977), creosote is drought-tolerant and salt bush is often found near dry playas. Blackbrush (*Coleogyne ramosissima*) and various species of cacti are also common.

Local fauna includes a variety of reptiles, rodents, small carnivores, and birds. Species of reptiles include the desert tortoise (*Gopherus Agassizi*), chuckawalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), rattlesnakes (*Crotalus*), shovelnose snake (*Chionactis occupitalis*) and several species of lizards. Carnivores include coyotes (*Canis latrans*), badger (*Taxidea taxus*), desert kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), and bobcat (*Felis rufus*). The small mammals include black-tailed jackrabbits (*Lepus californicus*), woodrat (*Neotoms* sp.), ground squirrels (*Spermophjilus* sp.), and cottontail jackrabbits (*Sylvilagus audobonii*).

Large herbivores associated with high elevations include the desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*). Avifauna includes the LeConte thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*), sage thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), cactus wren (*Heleodytes brunneicapillus*), raven (*Corvus corax*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensi*) turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), various ducks (*Anas*), and the American coot (*Fulica americana*).

CULTURAL/HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The project area is located within ethnographic boundaries of the prehistoric, proto-historic, and historic Serrano Indians of Southern California (Bean and Smith 1978:570). Through their association with the San Bernardino Mountains, the Serrano were named from the Spanish word for "mountaineers" or "highlanders" Kroeber (1976:611; McKenna 1991:3). Their territory, however, also extended well onto the Mojave Desert floor, and the Serrano utilized numerous resources found in both mountain and desert environments (Bean and Brake-Vane 1981). Serrano life ways have been documented by Benedict (1924, 1926), Kroeber (1925), Strong (1929), and Drucker (1937).

The Serrano are culturally associated with their surrounding neighbors (the Gabrielino, Luiseno, Cahuilla, and Cupeno), but distinguished by their linguistic associations with Takic speakers of the eastern desert regions - of Shoshonean stock (e.g. the Kitanemuk and Vanyume; see Bright 1975; Kroeber 1907 and 1925). Known as hunters and gatherers, there are no definitive boundaries for Serrano territory. Kroeber (1976:615) states:

> Their territory was, first the long San Bernardino Range culmination in the Peak of that name, and in Mount San Gorgonio, more than 11,000 feet high. Next, they held a track of unknown extent northward. In the east this was pure desert, with an occasional water hole and two or three flowing springs. In the west it was a region of timbered valleys between rugged mountains. Such was the district of Bear Lake and Creek. In the third place they occupied the San Gabriel Mountains or Sierra Madre west to Mount San Antonio. This range is almost a continuation of the San Bernardino Range ...

Although their exact territorial boundaries were undefined, the Serrano are known to have identified definitive or favored territories for the exploitation of Native resources (Strong 1929). Bean and Smith suggest that the Serrano territory was somewhat restricted to the San Bernardino Mountains, east of the Cajon Pass and between Yucaipa and Victorville (1978:570).

Serrano material culture included bedrock mortars, portable mortars, pestles, metates, manos, and numerous forms of chipped stone tools. The Serrano also produced many items from wood, plant fibers, and animal products, including decorated baskets, feathered costumes, and rabbit skin blankets. Shells were traded from coastal groups. Pottery was made late in prehistory. Ceremonial rock art – *pictographs* (rock paintings) and *petroglyphs* (rock carvings) – are also found in Serrano territory.

Serrano family dwellings consisted of circular, domed structures with thatched exteriors. Cooking and other routine household activities were usually conducted outside, under an open-air shelter or *ramada*. Hearths situated within structures were generally used for heating. Larger ceremonial structures were reserved for lineage leaders, group ritual events, and storage of religious materials. Because most items associated with ceremonial life were of perishable materials, few religious artifacts have been identified in Serrano archaeological sites. Substantial structures such as earth-covered, semi-subterranean sweat houses were generally features of larger settlements.

The Serrano practiced cremation prior to European contact. The deceased was cremated immediately following death, along with most of the personal possessions. Some personal items were burned by the deceased's family during a special ceremony one month later. Annual seven-day mourning ceremonies involving one or more villages commemorated all those who had died the previous year. These larger events also served as opportunities to trade, socialize, and share food and gifts.

McCorkle-Apple and Lilburn (1992:6) provided a relatively detailed discussion on the prehistory of the greater western Mojave Desert:

> While much is known about the prehistory of the Mojave Desert, relatively few formal archaeological investigations have been conducted in the southern portion of the central Mojave. As a result, little specific regional information on prehistory is known. General summaries can be found in Stickel and Weinman-Roberts (1980), Warren (1980, 1984), and Warren and Crabtee (1986).
>
> Chronological Framework
>
> The earliest generally accepted evidence for human occupation of the Mojave [d]esert dates from around 12,000 B.P. [although more recent studies have cited the presence of Paleo-Indian resources, including Clovis Points]. Claims have been made for much earlier dates (e.g. Simpson 1958), but as Warren and Crabtree (1986:184) note, these are controversial and bear little relationship to later cultural developments in the region.
>
> Sites dating to the Lake Mojave period (12,000 to 7,000 B.P.) serve as the basis for our understanding of the earliest undisputed occupation of the Mojave Desert. Sometimes considered a Paleo-Indian assemblage, the Lake Mojave complex is thought by some researchers to be directly ancestral to

the subsequent early Archaic cultures (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Lake Mojave period sites are usually open air sites and are limited to the surface, although sites with substantial subsurface deposits have been recently identified in the central Mojave (Jenkins 1985).

Since sites of the Lake Mojave period are often found in association with Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene lake stands and outwash drainages, some researchers have suggested that lacustrine resources were a subsistence focus. Others argue that grasslands suitable for the grazing of Late Pleistocene mega-fauna would have surrounded the terminal Pleistocene lakes, and that this was the main subsistence focus of the Lake Mojave cultural groups (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Regrettably, few sites dating to the early part of the Lake Mojave period have been excavated and little direct evidence of subsistence practices has been reported. Recent excavations of sites dated to the latter part of the period have revealed an unexpectedly high incidence of small mammal bone relative to large mammal bone. This suggests that we may need to refine our ideas about the subsistence focus of Lake Mojave cultures, or at least grant that substantial subsistence change occurred during the period.

Artifacts typical of the period include leaf-shaped points and long-stemmed, narrow-shouldered points of the Lake Mojave series and the short-bladed, shouldered points of the Silver Lake series. A variety of large scrapers and flaked stone crescents are also considered diagnostic of the period. Milling equipment is thought to be rare or absent (Amsden 1937). Fluted points are sometimes found in possible association with Lake Mojave sites, but their cultural and chronological relationship to the stemmed point series remains questionable.

Relatively little material from the Lake Mojave period has been documented in the southern Mojave. Some of the earliest widely accepted finds come from the Black Butte site (CA-SBR-1554). This site is located on the south side of Black Butte, a volcanic plug approximately 6km west of the Troy Lake portion of Lake Manix. The site assemblage is dominated by later period Pinto points but also contains a Lake Mojave point, a Silver Lake point and two items tentatively identified as crescents (Lord 1987).

The next identifiable period in the Mojave Desert is that associated with Pinto series points (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Although period markers, some questions remain concerning their placement in time …

Two scenarios exist, both of which are tied to the transition to arid conditions in the middle Holocene. Some archaeologists (Donnan 1964; Kowta 1969; Wallace 1962) have proposed by the desert was essentially abandoned between 7,000 and 5,000 B.P. Other researchers (Susia 1964; Tuohy 1974; Warren 1980) argue that no evidence of an occupational hiatus of any great magnitude exists within the archaeological record. Central to this debate are the definition and dating of Pinto points (Warren and Crabtree 1986). The problem is complicated by the fact that points morphologically similar to Pinto points occur generally later in time in the central and eastern Great Basin than do true Pinto points in the Mojave (Thomas 1981; Vaughan and Warren 1986).

Like sites of the preceding period, Pinto sites are typically found in open settings in relatively well-watered locales. Early Pinto sites have been found in close association with late Lake Mojave sites, lending support to Warren and Crabtree's suggestion that the Pinto cultures developed directly from the preceding Lake Mojave ones. The Pinto period signals the beginning of cultural adaption to the desert, an adaptation to the more arid conditions. Grinding tools were incorporated into the artifact assemblage, suggesting that the processing of hard seeds became more important in the subsistence system. It is, however, generally thought that Pinto peoples maintained a mobile subsistence strategy, focused primarily on hunting large mammals.

A time of greater effective moisture in the Mojave dates to approximately 4,000 B.P. This time period, sometimes referred to as the Little Pluvial (Warren 1980), also corresponds to a new era in Mojave Desert pre-history. It was during this time, the Gypsum Period (4,000 to 1,500 B.P.), that more favorable environmental conditions allowed an increase in the population (Elston 1982). Ritual items such as zoomorphic rock art and split-twig figures are thought to indicate a continued emphasis on hunting, while the increased importance of processing of plant foods is indicated by an increase in the frequency and diversity of groundstone implements (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Open sites are in evidence, along with rock shelters and caves. Such sites have yielded perishable goods including basketry and atlatls from the Gypsum period. Habitation sites with well developed middens are found in association with water and near resource areas. During this period shell beads from coastal California are found in the desert for the first time. Trade activity appears to have been greater in many parts of the Great Basin during the Gypsum period (Bennyhoff and Hughes 1987) …

Eastgate and Rose Spring points began to dominate artifact assemblages in the Mojave sometime after 2,000 B.P. (Lyneis 1982:176). In the chronology presented by Warren and Crabtree (1986) these are assigned to the Saratoga Springs period (1,500 B.P. to 750 B.P.). This time period was marked by an increase in regional differences, except in the northwestern Mojave where sociocultural continuity seems to have occurred (Whitley 1988).

Basketmaker III and Anasazi developments occurred along the tributaries of the Colorado River. Anasazi "influence" in the form of painted ceramics extended well into the eastern Mojave. Although the exact nature of this influence is not completely understood (Lyneis 1982), it seems probable that the increased distribution of these painted ceramics resulted from exchange rather than by Anasazi attempts to greatly expand their territory. Different influences were felt in the southern Mojave. Here Hakatayan (or Yuman) ceramics similar to those originating in the lower Colorado River occur, along with Cottonwood points. This interaction is most evident along the Mojave River, supporting the widely held conclusion that the Mojave River served as a major trade corridor connecting the coastal portion of California with regions to the east (Warren and Crabtree 1986).

The Oro Grande site in the western Mojave [near Victorville] may be a key site in understanding varying cultural influences during the Saratoga Springs period. Situated on the Mojave River near Victorville, this site contains a midden deposit dated to the period between 1,100 and 650 B.P. (Rector 1979). Cottonwood series points dominate the point assemblage. Significantly, no ceramics were recovered. Other materials at the site, however, were similar to those found in other sites along the river. The more gradual development of Lower Colorado River influences may account for the lack of pottery at Oro Grande although Warren (1984) considers the absence of ceramics to be strong evidence for the presence of Rogers' (1945) "nonceramic Yuman" pattern. The Oro Grande complex would then be the "initial phase" of the Hakataya influence in the upper Mojave. Warren (1984:403) proposes that the complex may not have developed in the Mojave Sinks, because the Anasazi influence may have persisted there until it was replaced by fully developed Hakatayan cultures.

The next period, the Protohistoric period (750 B.P. to contact), was marked by the presence of Desert Side-notched projectile points. The Numic influ-

> ence during this period is identified with the presence of brownware, considered typical of the Paiute and Shoshone. Based on the distribution of this brownware, the contact between the Numic and the Lower Colorado (Patayan or Hakatayan) traditions was located north of Soda Lake and Cronise Lake basins (Warren 1984:425). Recent work in the region appears to support this conclusion (Schneider 1988; Jenkins 1986; York 1989). Protohistoric period sites include habitation sites with developed middens, located near reliable water sources. Temporary camps and a variety of resource procurement and processing stations also occur.

The Serrano were patrilocal and small encampments generally consisted of a nuclear family and the married sons' families. They recognized totemic moieties and a series of band or local subdivisions - though not necessarily associated with clan systems. The Serrano acknowledged the power of Shamanism. Citing Bean and Smith (1978: 573):

> The Serrano shaman *h^{w}öm_*, like most southern California shamans, was "psychically" predisposed for his possessions and acquired his various power through dreaming, assisted in the process by the ingestion of datura (Strong 1929; Bean 1962-1972). Shamans were mainly curers, healing their patients through a combination of sucking out the disease-causing agents and administering herbal remedies (Benedict 1924).
>
> Serrano cosmogony and cosmography closely parallel that of the Cahuilla. There are twin creator gods, a creation myth told in "epic poem: style, each local group having its own origin story, water babies whose crying foretells death, supernatural beings of various kinds and on various hierarchically arranged power-access levels, and Orpheus-like myth, mythical deer that no one can kill, and tales relating the adventures (and misadventures) of Coyote, a tragicomic trickster-transformer culture hero (Bean 1962-1972; Benedict 1924).

Fauna exploited by the Serrano include mountain sheep, antelope (suggesting exploitation further north), deer, rabbits, small rodents, birds, and occasionally fish (Bean 1962 and 1972). Meats were generally prepared in earthen ovens and watertight baskets, although hot coals and trays were also used (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Surplus meats were dried for future use.

Serrano women were predominantly responsible for the greater amount of gathering. Flora utilized by the Serrano include: acorns, seeds, pinon nuts, bulbs, tubers, shoots, roots, berries, and mesquite (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925). Other primary resources included yucca roots, cacti fruits, and chia (Strong 1929; Kroeber 1925; Drucker 1937; and Benedict 1924).

European contact with the Serrano dates to 1771, with the founding of the Mission San Gabriel de Arcangel, and 1772 (Pedro Fages' California expedition). Contact was minimal until ca. 1819, when the Redlands *Asistencia* were established. Between 1819 and 1824, the majority of Serrano were physically relocated to the Mission properties (Beattie and Beattie 1939:336), but with Secularization (beginning in 1824), many of the remaining Serrano returned to their traditional territories.

The recognized Serrano of today are associated with the San Manuel and Morongo Reservations in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, respectively. It is estimated that fewer than 3,000 Serrano remain in Southern California (Robinson 1990:16-17).

The contact period with Native American populations was initiated with Spanish explorations of the Mojave Desert and the coastal regions of Southern California. First contact with Europeans probably occurred in 1772, when Spanish explorer Pedro Fages passed through Serrano lands.

More substantial interaction with Europeans came through establishment of an *asistencia* (outlying chapel) of Mission San Gabriel at Redlands in 1819. Many Serrano were forced to live near the Asistencia and other Spanish mission areas (Beattie and Beattie 1939). Inhumations (rather than cremations) are generally associated with the historic period and reflect a level of acculturation attributed to the European influences.

Historically, the San Bernardino Mountains and western Mojave Desert were partially explored by Spanish and Mexican populations prior to the early 1850s exploitation by U.S. citizens looking for lumber, gold, and/or recreational purposes (Lawton 1965 - reprinted from 1883). Little is known about the Serrano's transition into the historic period (see Campbell 1931; Haenszel 1957; Hicks 1959). In fact, prior to 1883, only a few roads were developed in the San Bernardino Mountains - all associated with the lumber industry (Lawton 1965:94) – and even fewer crossed into the Mojave Desert.

The Mojave Trail (later known as the Mormon Trail and/or National Old Trails Highway) was one of the earliest and ran relatively close to the Mojave River, through Oro Grande and Victorville, connecting Salt Lake City with San Bernardino. Citing Duke and Shattuck (2003:6-7):

> Although the Spanish explorer Francisco Garces visited the Mojave Desert and took note of its native inhabitants during the 1700s, the area remained largely unsettled by European descendents [sic] until the American Period of 1848 ...

The current project area is located outside the boundaries of any recorded Spanish or Mexican Land Grant. Likewise, the project area is relatively distant from any Mission settlements. The property is, however, located in a general area traversed during historic times and associated with historic routes, depicted on early maps. The Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records identify the land associated with Township 6 North, Range 5 West, and Section 25 as being granted to the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1918 (along with many other odd-numbered sections).

With respect to the development of George Air Force Base and its associated support systems, the Base was opened in 1941 as a training school for World War II flyers and was officially closed to military activities in 1992 (www.trazzler.com/trips/george-air-force-base-southern-california-logistics-airport-in-victorville-ca-92394. A base summary prepared by the Pacific Southwest, specifically for George Air Force Base reads:

> George Air Force Base occupies 5,347 acres and is located in San Bernardino County, California near the cities of Victorville and Adelanto. The base was established in World War II and closed in December 1992. Its mission was to support tactical fighter operations and provided training for air crews and maintenance personnel. The meet mission requirements, the base engaged in a variety of support operations such as aircraft maintenance and fire fighting training that mandated the use and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous materials.

A more detailed history of the base was derived from the Air Force Historical Research Agency (2012):

> George Air Force base (1941-1992) is the former United States Air Force base located within city limits, 8 miles northwest of central Victorville, California, about 75 miles northeast of Los Angeles, California. The facility was closed by the Base Realignment and Closure (or BRAC) 1992 commission at the end of the Cold War. It is now the site of Southern California Logistics Airport. The base was listed as a Superfund site on February 21, 1990.

George Air Force Base was named in honor of Brigadier General Harold Huston George (1892-1942) on June 2, 1950. A World War I fighter ace, General George directed air operations on Bataan at the beginning of World War II. He died on April 29, 1942 in an aircraft accident bear Darwin NT, Australia … George AFB, originally called the Victorville Army Flying School, was constructed between 1941 and 1943 as a flight training school. It was renamed Victorville Army Air Field on April 23, 1943, and after the creation of the United States Air Force, Victorville Air Force Base on January 13, 1948. Known World War II units based at Victorville AAF were:

- 87th Air Base Squadron (November 1941-April 1944) (Administrative Headquarters Unit)
- 3035th AAF Base Unit (April 944-Navember 1945) (Administrative Headquarters Unit)
- 4196th AAF Base Squadron (November 1945-January 1948 (Administrative Headquarters Unit)
- USAAC/USAAF Advanced Flight School (June 1941-December 1944)
- USAAF Bombardier School (June 1941-December 1944)
- Army Air Force Radar Observer School (September 1944-October 1943)
- 516th, 517th, 518th Basic Flight Training Squadron (November 1941-February 1944)
- 520th, 521th, 522d, 524th Bombardier Training Squadron (January 1942-April 1944)
- 983d, 984th, 985th Bombardier Training Squadron (July 1942-April 1944)

Known sub-bases and auxiliaries of Victorville AAF were:

- Hawes Auxilliary Airfield (No. 1) 34º55’30”N 117º22’27” (Abandoned)
- Helendale Auxilliary Airfield (No. 2) 34º49’40”N 117º18’18” (Abandoned, non-aviation use)
- Mirage Auxilliary Airfield (No. 3) 34º37’29”N 117º35’59”
- Grey Butte Auxilliary Airfield (No. 4) 34º34’00”N 117º40’25”

… Flight training remained the primary mission of George AFB throughout the Cold War and a number of bomber, glider, single engine, twin engine, and jet fighter aircraft were flown by various organizations assigned.

> George Air Force Base was assigned to continental Air Command, October 10, 1950, reassigned to Air Defense Command, January 1, 1951, reassigned to Strategic Air Command on July 23, 1951, then assigned to Tactical Air Command in November 1951 …
>
> George Air Force Base was officially decommissioned in December 1992. In 1993, President Bill Clinton announced a "Five Part Plan" to speed economic recovery in communities where military bases were to be closed. One part of the plan called for improving public participation in the base's environmental cleanup program. George AFB was among a number of installations where environmental cleanup was placed on a "fast track" so base property could be quickly transferred to the community for reuse. Many of the old base housing homes and buildings are currently used by the Army and Marine Corps for urban warfare training.

In 1980, Dorn et al. completed a historical assessment of George Air Force Base. A map provide in this report (1980:3) identifies the base as involving Township 6 North, Range 5 West, all of Sections 22, 23, 25, 26, 35, and 36 and portions of Sections 13, 14, 15, 24, and 27. Dorn et al. completed research to identify land owners subsequent to the previously noted Southern Pacific Railroad and State of California holdings. Their data is presented in Table 1. The gravel pit owned by H-Grade Materials, Inc. was located in the southern portion of Section 25 – in the general vicinity of the existing golf course – adjacent to the current project area.

Following World War II, the Base was inactive for approximately three years (1945-1948. With reactivation, the Base was on "Minimum Operational Status" and maintained it existing development plan. Expansion of the facilities was initiated in the late 1960s and into the 1970s, resulting in the improvements identified at the time of Base closure in 1992. The 1934 USGS Barstow quadrangle illustrates the project area. Here, the early alignment of Air Expressway is evident (previously Adelanto Road), ending at Turner Road (veering to the east/northeast).

A dirt access road is present in the general vicinity of George Blvd. While structures are evident in the area of Turner Springs (east) and Adelanto (west), there are no structures or other improvements identified within Section 25. By 1956, George Air Force Base is present and well developed. The residential housing between Nevada Avenue and George Blvd. is illustrated, in part, but there is no housing to the east of George Blvd. The gravel pit is still identified to the north of Adelanto Road (Air Expressway) and Shay Road (now Phantom East) is present (Figure 5).

Table 1. Pre-1941 Land Owners Associated with the George Air Force Base Property (compiled by Dorn et al. 1980).

Tract	Land Owner	Tract	Land Owner
16	John C. Sutherland	57	W.L. Mitchell
17	Sarah Gerecht	58	Fred and Bertha Honnold
18	N. and Louise Neece	61	County of San Bernardino
19	Nita Belle Lehane et al.	62A	County of San Bernardino
20	Southern Pacific Land Co.	63	City of Los Angeles
21	Eleanora Pauline Vossler	64	California Electric Power Co.
22	Margaret Rogers	C-201	Alfred E. Moore et al.
23	Gladys and Walter Platt	C-202	Clarence E. Riley et ux.
24	Maise and Edwin Cummings	C-203	Nick L. Notterman et ux.
25	Flo and Frank Stanley	C-204	S. Robert Culbertson et ux.
26	Herbert and Eliza Stowe	C-205	Thomas L. Spaulding et ux.
27	Emily M. Courtney	C-209	Samuel S. Farrar et ux.
28	Eylar and Lois Fillmore	C-210	H.R. McKay et ux.
29	Merle and Mollie Rogers	C-211	Marrion B. Betty et ux.
30	Theodore and Verda Lee	C-212	Clifford Edward Van Vleck
31	California Electric Power Co.	C-213	Ball Van Vleck, Jr.
32	Maise and Edwin Cummings	C-214	J.C.B. Cleveland et ux.
33	Emily M. Courtney	C-215	Marie Gubler
35	Charles and Leatrice Rogers	C-216	Walter Q. Orr et ux.
36	Charles Rogers & S.E. Donaldson	C-217	Henry J. Praeger
37	George and Una Winter	C-220	Hugh Seiz
38	George and Una Winter	C-221	Hugh Seiz
39	James and Vera Richardson	C-222	J.C.B. Cleveland et ux.
40	James and Vera Richardson	C-223	H.R. McKay et ux.
41	Jack and Dorothy Loop	C-224	Dewey G. Whitton et ux.
42	Jack and Dorothy Loop	C-225	J.C.B. Cleveland et ux.
45	Hal and Julia Brookes	301	Nelson Gray
46	Estate of Edward Hartner	302	AVA, Inc.
47	Addie C. Schmitt	303	Lyndon D. Sharp et ux.
48	C.O. and Eliza Lee	304	Larry F. Branson
49	Harvey Hare et al.	305	Frank Notterman
50	Mrs. S.O. Houghton	306	Fay R. Branson et ux.
51	Abraham and Helen Mintzer	307	Propagation of the Faith Society
52	William Heffron, Trustee	308	Abigail V. Notterman
53	Arthur and Ruby Easton	309	Everett L. Elliason
54	Louise Pearson	310	Joseph Matisohm
55	H.S. Gadnette	311	Hi-Grade Materials Co.
56	Thomas G. Stacey	312	Vivian E. Berg

The residential development in the southeastern portion of the Base dates to after 1948, when the Base was reactivated after World War II. Shay Road is completed to Turner Road, but does not extend to Adelanto Road/Air Expressway.

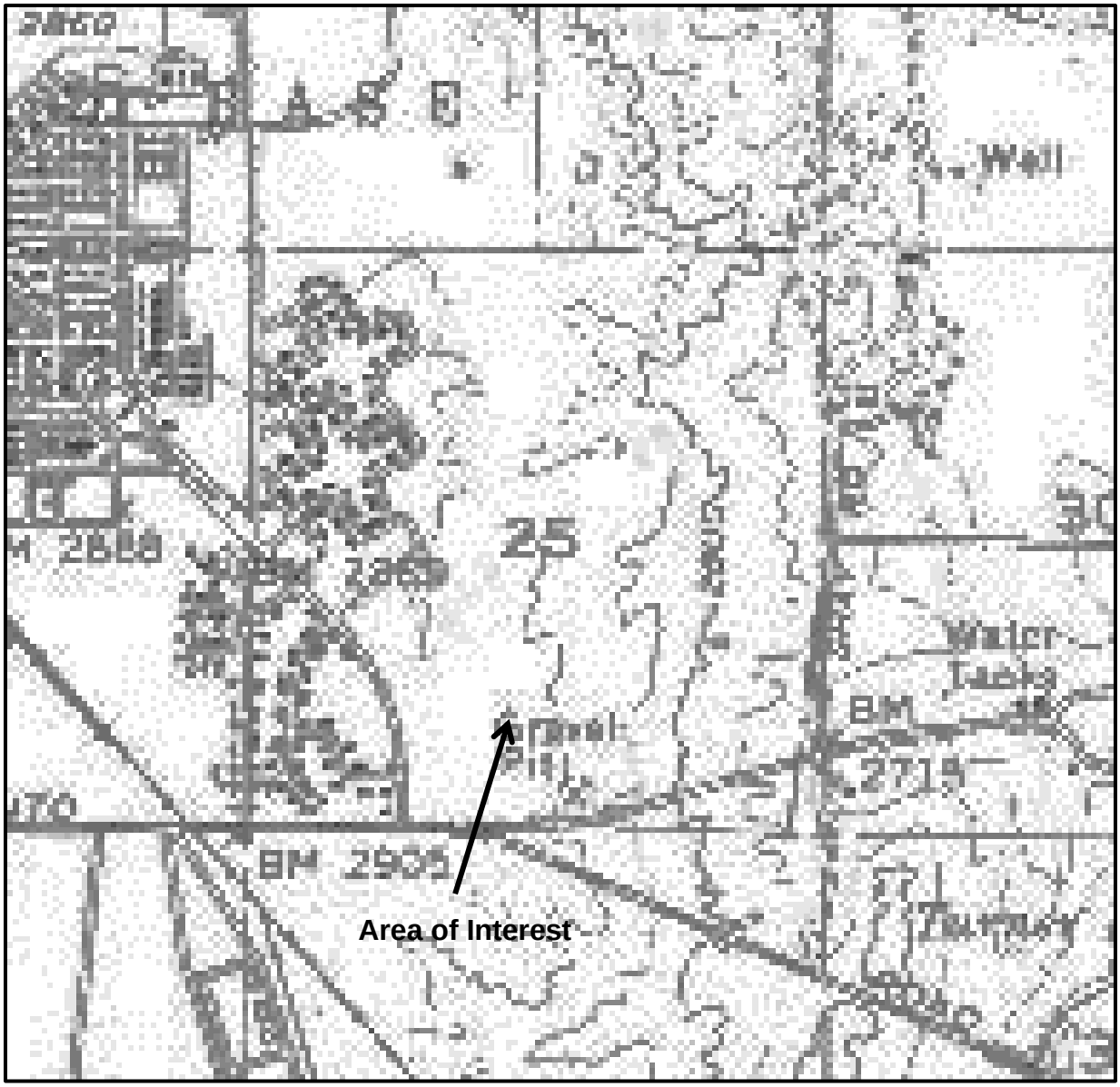

Figure 5. USGS Victorville Quadrangle, rev. 1956.

By 1981, the USGS Victorville Quadrangle illustrates the presence of additional residences to the west of George Blvd. and the construction of residences to the east of George Blvd.

In general, the construction of housing identified to the west of George Blvd. date between 1948 and 1956, with additional housing added to the area after 1981. The housing located east of George Blvd. dates to post-1981 – pre-1993, reflecting the need for additional family housing and support facilities with the area. One of the more recent additions to the area was the Community Center at the intersection of Nevada Avenue and George Blvd. Another relatively large addition was the school complex at Carolina Avenue and George Blvd. (outside, but near the current project area APE). Housing to the north of the school has already been subjected to some demolition activities. All housing and associated facilities were abandoned by 1993. The water tank and pond area currently within the APE was established in 2009 (Lambrano 2009).

METHODOLOGY

To complete these studies in compliance with the data requirements defined by the Office of Historic Preservation, Sacrament, for compliance with CEQA, McKenna et al. completed the following tasks:

1. **Archaeological Records Search**: McKenna et al. completed an archaeological records search through the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center (CSUF-SCCIC). This research was completed in August, 2019, and designed to compile data on previously completed studies within one mile of the project area APE (Appendix B). McKenna et al. obtained copies of all recorded site forms and the historic maps covering the area. In addition, research included a review of the listings of properties in the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest. Locally recognized resources were also investigated. McKenna et al. obtained copies of technical reports specifically involving the project area. The locations of the earlier studies were mapped and compared to the data presented in the technical report(s). The data were used to assess the potential for the project area to yield evidence of prehistoric or historic uses within the APE.

2. **Project Description and Understanding**: McKenna et al. was provided a preliminary project description by Lilburn Corporation, San Bernardino, California. This data included project-related maps, an aerial photograph with the study area boundaries, and a brief written description (provided by the City of Victorville).

3. **Native American Consultation**: McKenna et al. contacted the Native American Heritage Commission, and inquired into the presence or absence of known religious or sacred Native American sites within or near the project

area. In addition, McKenna et al. obtained a listing of local Native American representatives wishing to consult with respect to projects in the general area. Letters and the records search results were mailed to all listed persons/groups (Appendix C). Responses, if received, were incorporated into this document. However, it is noted, the City of Victorville, as Lead Agency, is responsible for AB-52 and SB-18 consultation, as applicable.

4. **Paleontological Overview**: McKenna et al. requested and obtained a paleontological overview for the area through the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (Appendix D). This overview was designed to place the project area in a context for the preliminary assessment of the relative sensitivity for the area to yield evidence of fossil specimens.

5. **Field Studies**: McKenna et al., conducted the field survey of the project area on both Friday, August 9, 2019, and October 26, 2019, following amendments to the APE. The field survey was completed with the assistance of M. Abraham McKenna (B.A./J.D.), under the direct supervision of Jeanette A. McKenna, Principal Investigator. McKenna et al. conducted a pedestrian survey of the project APE by traversing the property systematically and at an average interval of less than 15 meters and walked the proposed pipeline route to the terminus north of Air Expressway (old Turner Road alignment). McKenna et al. also conducted a reconnaissance level of survey for areas peripheral to the APE to insure all required areas were addressed. McKenna et al. maintained field notes (on file, Whittier, CA) and a photographic record (Appendix E). All data required to complete the California Department of Parks and Recreation DPR-523 forms were compiled, should forms be needed.

6. **Historic/Supplemental Background Research**: Supplemental background research and land use history was researched through the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office files; the San Bernardino County Archives, Redlands; the San Bernardino County Recorder's Office, San Bernardino; the San Bernardino County Museum; and the in-house library at McKenna et al. Local histories were perused and articles relating to the area were researched on-line. Historic maps were reviewed. All pertinent data was compiled and assessed for application to the current research and supplemental research data has been included in Appendix F of this report.

7. **Analysis and Report Preparation**: McKenna et al. complete the analysis for this project in compliance with the criteria for significance presented in the CEQA guidelines, as amended. This report was prepared in a format requested by the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), Sacramento (ARMR Guidelines); and the CSUF-SCCIC. McKenna et al. included all required data and formatted this report in a manner conducive to understanding the proposed project and potential impacts to cultural resources. All supplemental and supporting data deemed important to this study has been pre-

sented in the attached appendices. Additional research data is on file at McKenna et al. Appendix G presents any required DPR-523 forms for re-located or recently identified resources.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

A standard archaeological records search was completed through the CSUF-SCCIC on August 15, 2019 (Appendix B). This research confirmed the project area APE was previously surveyed, in part or as a whole, at least five times: 10601051; 10602570; 10604447; 10607054, and 10607168. Overall, a minimum of fifty-two (52) area-specific studies and general overviews have been completed for an area of one mile surrounding the project area (Table 2).

Table 2. Cultural Resources Studies Completed within a One Mile Radius of the Current Project Area.

No.	Report	Citation	Description	Resources
1	10600257	SBCMA 1975	Wastewater Fac.	
2	10600428	Hearn et al. 1976	Mojave River Agency	
3	10600612	SBCMA 1978	Water System	
4	10600719	Coombs et al. 1979	Overview	Yes
5	10600891	Stickel/Weinman-Roberts 1980	Overview	Yes
6	10601051	Geoscientific Systems 1980	George AFB	Yes
7	10601479	Dames & Moore 1985	Transmission Line	
8	10601503	Lerch 1985	Adelanto Well Fields	
9	10601646	Norwood 1987	Boundary Fence	Yes
10	10602570	Sheets and Woodman 1990	George AFB	Yes
11	10602644	Yohe and Parr 1992	Oro Grande Sewer	
12	10602731	Macko et al. 1993	AT&T Lightguide Sys.	Yes
13	10602735	Yohe 1993	Oro Grande Testing	Yes
14	10603164	Alexandrowicz et al. 1996	Airbase Road Imp.	Yes
15	10603785	Spanne 1985	Water Supply Imp.	
16	10603799	Self 1999	High Desert Power	
17	10604427	Dahsul 2003	SCLA Specific Plan	
18	10604436	Chadderdon 2003	Federal Corrections	
19	10604437	Self 2001	Waterline Survey	
20	10604442	McKenna 2002	Shay Road Monitoring	
21	10604447	Woodward and Hatheway 1991	George AFB	Yes
22	10601152	Dice and Tanaguchi 2003	Cell Tower Site	
23	10605158	Ahmet and Lerch 2005	SCE Pole Replacement	
24	10605223	Mirro 2004	Keily Property (39 ac.)	
25	10605337	Jordan and Craft 2006	SCE Pole Replace	
26	10605508	William Self Associates 2003	High Desert Power	

Table 2. Cultural Resources Studies Completed within a One Mile Radius of the Current Project Area (cont'd.).				
No.	Report	Citation	Description	Resources
27	10605832	Bean and Brakke-Vane 1982	Overview	Yes
28	10607054	Lambrano 2009	Elevated Water Tank	
29	10607094	McGlade 2009	Two Water Projects	
30	10607120	Wetherbee 2009	Various Water Projects	
31	10607121	Baker and Maniery 2007	US Army Reserve Proj.	Yes
32	10607168	McKenna 2012	Air Expressway Sewer	
33	10607191	Horne and McDougall 2006	Turner Springs Testing	Yes
34	10607918	Earle 2015	Ethnohistory Overview	Yes
35	10607953	Estes et al. 2007	Hybrid Power Project	Yes
36	10607969	Wetherbee 2009	Various Water Projects	Yes
37	10607982	Dietier et al. 2013	Adelanto North Survey	
38	10607998	Brunzell 2013	Expressway Solar	
39	10608161	Gust 2014	High Desert Corridor	Yes
40	10608162	Sikes et al. 2014	Archaeological Testing	Yes
41	10608162A	Sikes and Gust 2014	Extended Phase I	Yes
42	10608163	Gust et al. 2014	High Desert Corridor	Yes
43	10601863A	Earle 2014	Turner Springs	Yes
44	10601864	Gust et al. 2014	High Desert Testing	Yes
45	10608165	Gust et al. 2015	High Desert Treat. Plan	Yes
46	10608165A	Gust et al. 2015	Shell Bead Analysis	Yes
47	10608165B	Martinez 2015	Lithic Analysis	Yes
78	10608165C	Gust et al. 2015	RTI Analysis	Yes
49	10608165D	Gust et al. 2015	VPSEM Analysis	Yes
50	10608165E	Gust et al. 2015	High Desert Corridor	Yes
51	10608166	Sikes 2014	High Desert Corridor	Yes
52	10608167	Fumis et al. 2014	High Desert Corridor	Yes

Research also identified 36 cultural resources within one mile of the APE (Table 3), including one site reported to be within the current APE: 36-025787 (CA-SBR-016313H; McKenna 2012), the George Airforce Base site, itself. In all, the listing identified 23 prehistoric resources, 12 historic resources, and one resource with both prehistoric and historic components. Two (2) of the resources noted in Table 3 were also identified as California Historical Landmarks: the Old Spanish Trail (CHL-576) and the Mormon Trail (CHL-577). Neither of these resources is within the current project area. Further, in addition to the two pending sites noted by the SBCM-AIC, two additional resources were identified within George AFB, resulting in four military-related resources not included in the overall listing for George Air Force Base (36-025787), including:

36-015465 Bomber Revement (1941)
36-015466 Facility 811 (1954)
36-015467 Hangar 756 (1945)
36-015468 Pursuit Plane Revement (1941)

Table 3. Cultural Resources Identified within a One Mile Radius of the Current Project Area.

Site No.	Cross-Reference	Citation	Description
36-000069	CA-SBR-69	Bierman and Mohr 1949	Prehistoric Site
36-005431	CA-SBR-5431	Childers 1980	Prehistoric Site
36-005432	CA-SBR-5432H; GAB-105A	Sheets et al. 1990	Historic Site
36-006782	CA-SBR-3782	White 1990	Prehistoric Site
36-006784	CA-SBR-6784H; SAIC-1	Sheets et al. 1990	Historic Site
36-008388	CA-SBR-8388H; 95-11-1	Alexandrowicz and Krautkramer 1995	Historic Site
36-008390	CA-SBR-8390H; 95-11-3	Alexandrowicz and Krautkramer 1995	Historic Site
36-008391	CA-SBR-8391; 95-11-4	Alexandrowicz 1996	Prehistoric Site
36-008392	CA-SBR-8392; 95-11-5	Alexandrowicz and Krautkramer 1996	Historic Site
36-008863	CA-SBR-8863	Sharp and Self 1997	Prehistoric Site
36-010959	p/o CA-SBR-7004; CRM-TECH 992-10H	Ballester and Eddy 2003	Prehistoric and Historic Site
36-012609	CA-SBR-12336; AE-TS-1	McDougall et al. 2006	Prehistoric Site
36-012918	NA	Unknown 2006	Prehistoric Site
36-021292	VV 2 Site 32	Arrigoni et al. 2006	Historic Site
36-025783	CA-SBR-016309H	McKenna 2012	Historic Site
36-025784	CA-SBR-016310H	McKenna 2012	Historic Site
36-025785	CA-SBR-016311H	McKenna 2012	Historic Site
36-025786	CA-SBR-016312H	McKenna 2012	Historic Site
36-025787	CA-SBR-016313H	McKenna 2012	George AFB
36-026893	CRM- TECH Isolate 6	Ballester 2003	Prehistoric Site
36-026894	CRM- TECH Isolate 7	Ballester 2003	Prehistoric Site
36-026895	CRM- TECH Isolate 8	Ballester 2003	Prehistoric Site
36-025896	CRM- TECH Isolate 9	Ballester 2003	Prehistoric Site
36-029351	SIL 130-H-1	Brunzell 2013	Historic Site
36-029491	Topipabit District	Lev-Tov 2015	Prehistoric Site
36-061270	GAB-106	Childers 1980	Prehistoric Site
36-061278	IA1584-9	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061279	IA1584-10	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061281	IA1584-12	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061282	IA1584-13	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061283	IA1584-14	Sheets 1990	Flake/Chopper
36-061284	IA1584-15	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061285	IA1584-16	Sheets 1990	Flake
36-061286	IA1584-17	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061287	IA1584-18	Sheets 1990	Tested Cobble
36-061288	IA1584-19	Sheets 1990	Chopper

As a result of the studies noted in Table 2, only 36-025787 (George Air Force Base) has been associated with the current project area. It is noted, however, this association is

based solely on the fact that the APE is within George Air Force Base, and not that any other resource is actually within the APE boundaries. Nonetheless, given the extent of prehistoric and historic archaeological resources, standing structures, and the presence of the Base, the project area is considered moderately sensitive for the presence of additional resources.

Similarly, preliminary results of the Native American Heritage Commission consultation also resulted in a determination that the general area in and surrounding the project area APE is sensitive for the identification of prehistoric and/or historic period Native American resources.

With respect to paleontological resources, McLeod (2019) identified the project area as consisting of artificial fill associated with the development of George Air Force Base, with this fill material overlying older Quaternary alluvial deposits derived from the "ancient Mojave River." Fossil vertebrate specimens have been identified and recovered from such deposits within George Air Force Base, including meadow vole, extinct horse, extinct bison, and mammoth. Excavation in the fill soils are not expected to yield fossil specimens, but deeper excavations impacting the older alluvium do have a potential for specimens. Therefore, the area should be considered highly sensitive for fossil remains.

In summary, the general area surrounding the current project area has been surveyed and studied for many years and, as a result, has yielded physical evidence of prehistoric and historic archaeological resources, standing structures, and, per the Native American Heritage Commission, the potential for religious or sacred resources associated primarily with the Serrano of San Bernardino County. The area is also considered highly sensitive for the presence of paleontological resources.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The state (**CEQA**, Section 15064.5) criteria for evaluation mirror the federal guidelines and read as follows:

a) For purposes of this section, the term "historical resources" shall include the following:

   1) A resource listed in, or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission, for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code §5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4850 et seq.).

2) A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.

3) Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (Pub. Res. Code§5024.1, Title 14 CCR, Section 4852) including the following:

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

   B) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;

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

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

The local Victorville historic preservation policies and guidelines are presented in the General Plan of 2008. The project APE is identified as being within the SCLA Planning Area, which "… [I]ncludes all the land within the former George Air Force Base and an area north to the existing City boundary, and east towards the Mojave River and along the north side of Air Expressway of the former base ..." (10,800 acres). Per the General Plan (R28-29), the local policies and guidelines read:

PROTECT IDENTIFIED ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALEONTOLOGIC RESOURCES AND HISTORIC RESOURCES WITHIN THE PLANNING AREA

Objective 5.1: Preserve known and expected cultural resources.

Policy 5.1.1: Determine presence/absence of and consider impacts to cultural resources in the review of public and private development and infrastructure projects.

Implementation Measure 5.1.1.1: As a City Planning Department function, maintain maps illustrating areas that have a moderate-high probability of yielding important cultural resources as a result of land alteration projects.

Implementation Measure 5.1.1.2: Establish a transmittal system with the ~~Archaeological Information Center (AIC) at the San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands~~ [now the CSUF-SCCIC]. When a project is in its initial phase, the City may send a location map to the AIC for a transmittal-level records search. The transmittal identifies the presence or absence of known cultural resources and/or previously performed studies in and near the project area. The ~~AIC~~ [CSUF-SCCIC] also offers recommendations regarding the need for additional studies, if warranted.

Implementation Measure 5.1.1.3: When warranted based on the findings of reconnaissance level surveys by a qualified professional archaeologist and/or transmittals from the ~~AIC~~ [CSUF-SCCIC], require Phase I cultural resource assessments by qualified archaeologists, historians, and/or architectural historians, especially in areas of high sensitivity for cultural resources, as shown on the maps maintained in the City Planning Department. The scope of such a survey shall include, as appropriate, in-depth records search at the ~~AIC~~ [CSUF-SCCIC], historic background research, intensive-level field survey, consultation with the Mohave Historical Society, and consultation with the appropriate Native American representatives and tribal organizations.

Implementation Measure 5.1.1.4: Complete a Planning Area-wide assessment of the paleontological sensitivity, based on a review of geologic formations and a review of paleontological records that identify those formations that have yielded or are expected to yield fossil materials of importance to the scientific community.

Policy 5.1.2: Prohibit destruction of cultural and paleontological materials that contain information of importance to our knowledge of the evolution of life forms and history of human settlement in the Planning Area, unless sufficient documentation of that information is accomplished and distributed to the appropriate scientific community.

Require mitigation of any significant impacts that may be identified in project or program level cultural and paleontological assessments as a condition of project or program approval.

Implementation Measure 5.1.2.1: Enact a historic preservation ordinance and/or prepare a historic preservation plan to outline the goals and objectives of the City's historic preservation programs and present an official historic context statement for the evaluation of cultural resources within the City's jurisdiction.

Implementation Measure 5.1.2.2: Assist local property owners in finding and taking advantage of incentives and financial assistance for historic preservation that are available through various federal, state, or city programs.

Implementation Measure 5.1.2.3: Require paleontological monitoring of land alteration projects involving excavation into native geologic materials known to have a high sensitivity for the presence of paleontological resources.

RESULTS OF THE INVESTGIATIONS

McKenna et al. initiated the cultural resources investigations for the proposed 1 MG Reservoir and pipeline alignment project within the SCLA (George Air Force Base) property in August, 2019. The study was completed in late October, 2019. These investigations included:

- a general overview of the paleontological sensitivity for the area to yield fossils specimens;
- consultation with local Native American representatives with respect to the sensitivity of the area to yield evidence of significant prehistoric or protohistoric Native American resources;
- research into general land use during the historic period (post-1769);
- an archaeological records search;
- an intensive field survey of the project areal and
- an analysis of any resources identified as a result of the current studies.

Paleontological Findings

A paleontological overview completed by McLeod (2019; Appendix D) identified the project area as consisting of some artificial fill above sedimentary deposits of older terrestrial

Quaternary Alluvium derived from the Mojave River. These older deposits are generally referred to as Shoemaker gravel. Fossil specimens have been known to be associated with these deposits and the nearest specimens have been recovered from the western extents of George AFB - from depths exceeding ten feet below the present surface. Additional specimens have been recovered from the western banks of the Mojave River.

McLeod concluded shallow excavations are unlikely to yield evidence of fossil specimens, but deeper excavations that impact the older alluvium may yield such specimens. Monitoring of these excavations is recommended and sampling of the back dirt may yield additional evidence of small fragments or specimens. Measure 5.1.2.3 of the Victorville General Plan requires paleontological monitoring of land alteration projects involving excavation into native geologic materials known to have a high sensitivity for the presence of paleontological resources.

Native American Consultation

McKenna et al. contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (see Appendix C) to inquire into the presence/absence of sacred sites in the general area. McKenna et al. also contacted – via mail – representatives of the Native American community identified by the Commission. Ten individuals/groups were contracted, but as of this writing, only one response was received.

Jessica Mauck of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Highland, responded with an emphasis that the project area is within the ancestral territory of the Serrano and is highly sensitive for both archaeological resources and sacred sites. Significant sites noted include the Turner Springs site and Oro Grande, both having been associated with the presence of human remains and grave goods. Both sites have been tested and determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Neither site will be impacted by the current project, but associated resources may still be present, given their proximity to the APE and the presence of the Mojave River to the east. The Serrano will be involved in further consultation with the City.

Historic Period Land Use

Historic period land use identified Section 25 as being granted to the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1918. Dorn (1980) listed numerous individuals who acquired land within the boundaries of the later-established Air Base. However, a review of maps indicated no improvements were present within the area of the current project area prior to the establishment of the Base.

Historic maps showed the presence of various dirt or semi-paved roads within Section 25. In 1934, the alignment for Adelanto/Air Base Road/Air Expressway is illustrated, as is Turner Road leading to Turner Springs. A third road is illustrated as extending north from Adelanto Road, through the western extent of Section 25 and in the general vicinity of today's George Blvd. This road continues well to the north and runs along the terrace above the western bank of the Mojave River, almost to Helendale.

By 1956, George Air Force Base is illustrated and the north/south dirt road is no longer evident, having been obliterated by residential construction west of George Blvd. Adelanto Road has been improved and extended to Victorville, and Turner Road is identified as a paved road. All improvements are identified in or north of Air Expressway (Adelanto Road) and within the boundaries of George Air Force Base. Shay Road is illustrated, but the golf course is not. A gravel pit is located east of the housing complex. By 1981, the golf course has been established and the housing complex has been enlarged to include structures east of George Blvd. and around (but not in) the current APE. The existing tower and pond within the APE were established in 2009.

As a result of the historic research, George Air Force Base, Air Expressway/Adelanto Road, Turner Road, and the third unnamed road are considered historic period resources. They were recorded by McKenna et al. in 2012.

George Air Force Base (36-025787; CA-SBR-16313H)

In 1980, an Archaeological/Assessment of George Air Force base was completed by Dorn et al. The purpose of the study was described as a survey to identify archaeological or historical sites within the base that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for future planning purposes. The study also included a relatively detailed history of the Base. Despite the completion of this study, no formal recording of George Air Force Base was completed and the Base still lacked a permanent reference number. Subsequent studies addressed some individual structures within the Base, but again, the Base was not recorded as a whole. This lack of recordation was primarily the result of the base failing to meet the minimum age requirements in 1980. The Base was, however, over 45 years of age in 1986 and all post-1986 studies should have recognized the Base as a resource warranting recording and the assignment of a permanent reference number. McKenna et al. recorded the Base in 2012 and the permanent Primary Number was assigned. All base-related components should be considered components/features of the larger site and potentially significant components of the site. The current project area is not in an area considered historically significant and only associated with post-1993 improvements.

Adelanto Road (now Air Expressway; 36-025786; CA-SBR-16312H)

The alignment of Adelanto Road is illustrated on the 1934 USGS Victorville Quadrangle, based on the 1894 version of the map. It is quite possible this alignment was part of the original Turner Road alignment, although not referenced as such. In any case, the road alignment once ended in Section 25, connecting with Turner Road, suggesting a direct connection. Adelanto was not established as a community until ca. 1915 and the Post Office in 1917, suggesting the name was not officially used until that time. Therefore, before ca. 1917, any reference to Adelanto Road would not be recognized. In contract, Turner Springs was established by 1883, suggesting access to the ranch from the west was needed prior to the founding of Adelanto.

The historic alignment of Adelanto Road, as it relates to this project, extends from the western extent of Turner Road (just east of George Blvd.) to the intersection at Highway 395 (approximately 3 linear miles along the Township line between Township 5 North and Township 6 North, and within Range 5 West. Adelanto Road would have been known historically as part of Turner Road.

The Adelanto Road alignment has been surveyed, in part, at least five times (Geoscientific Systems 1980; Macko et al. 1993; Alexandrowicz et al. 1996, Self 2001; and William Self Associates, Inc. 2003). Despite these surveys, the alignment has never been recorded as a cultural resource. McKenna et al. completed the required forms for recording this road alignment. At the time of recording, McKenna et al. acknowledged the road has been widened, improved, and no evidence of the historic alignment remains. The purpose of the recording is to acknowledge the historic location of the alignment and to document to loss of its integrity as a result of developments following the establishment of George Air Force Base.

Turner Road (36-025785; CA-SBR-16309H)

Turner Road should be considered a part of the larger Turner Springs Archaeological District (36-000066; CA-SBR-66). The exact boundaries of the district have changed as research yielded addition components of the prehistoric and historic use(s) of the area. In this case, Turner Road is identified as a linear road alignment extending from its intersection with Adelanto Road (western extent) to the Turner Springs Ranch complex on the Mojave River. It likely continued to the west (which is now the alignment of Adelanto Road/Air Expressway). Within the current project area, Turner Road was identified at UTM coordinates ^{0}467387 Easting and ^{38}25419 Northing. This road is currently described as an asphalt road with no curbs, but a line of utility poles leading to the Turner Spring

Ranch. Although currently outside the chain link fencing bounding George Air Force Base, this road alignment was actually within the lands acquired for the Base. An updated site form was been prepared by McKenna in 2012 to add this feature to the overall description of the Turner Springs Archaeological District.

Unnamed Dirt Access Road (North/South; 36-025784; CA-SBR-16310H)

No physical evidence of the unnamed north/south road in the western extent of Section 25 was identified in 2012. However, this road should have been in the general vicinity of George Blvd. Development of the housing complex in this area has obliterated any evidence of this early road, at least within respect to Section 25.

Previously Identified Resources

In addition to the resources discussed earlier in this report, above, only one is associated with the APE – that of the general site number for George Air Force Base **(36-025787)**. No specific resources (isolates or features) have been identified in the immediate vicinity of the APE.

Recently Identified Resources

The recent survey of the 1 MG Reservoir and pipeline project area yielded no evidence of prehistoric or historic archaeological resources. No standing historic structures are within the project APE. The only identifiable resources in the reservoir project area are modern, including the Water tower and pond (established in 1993.). The pipeline alignment runs along existing roadways within the George Air Force Base residential community (1981-1993) and a segment that involves portions of Air Expressway and Turner Road. Although both alignments have historic origins, but both have been significantly altered via upgrading, widenings, and repaving. Neither maintains the necessary integrity for recognition as significant resources and, therefore, any potential impacts resulting from the pipeline improvements will not result in any adverse environmental impacts.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The recent investigations by McKenna et al. resulted in the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. The project area is sensitive for paleontological resources;
2. The project area is sensitive for the presence of prehistoric archaeological resources (primarily in a buried context);
3. The project area is moderately sensitive for historic archaeological resources (e.g. historic road alignments);
4. There is no evidence that human remains will be identified within the project area, but the presence cannot be completely ruled out.

Based on these findings, McKenna et al. presents the following recommendations to lessen any potentially adverse or significant impacts to level of insignificance:

1. Project-related earthmoving activities that exceed the depth of younger Quaternary alluvium and impact older Quaternary alluvium must be subjected to a paleontological monitoring program designed to meet the standards, policies, and guidelines of the San Bernardino County Museum Department of Earth Sciences. The extent would be based on the extent of older alluvium and project development scheduling;

2. Project-related earthmoving activities within the project area APE should be monitored by an archaeological monitor with both prehistoric and historic archaeological qualifications. This monitoring program need not be conducted on a full-time basis and should be conducted while earthmoving involves impacts to the younger alluvium deposits. The extent would be based on the extent of younger alluvium and project development scheduling.

3. Should any evidence of prehistoric archaeological resources be identified, a Native American representative, preferably of Serrano descent, be added to the archaeological monitoring program – until it is determined the monitoring is no longer required;

4. If, at any time, evidence of human remains (or potential human remain) is uncovered, the County Coroner must be notified immediately and permitted to examine the find(s). If the remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the Coroner will contact the Native American Heritage Commission and the Commission with name the Most Likely Descendant (MLD). In consultation between the City of Victorville, the MLD, and the consulting archaeologist, the disposition of the remains will be determined.

   If Native American human remains are identified within the project area, a Native American observer should be added to the overall monitoring pro-

gram for the duration of the activities associated with excavation in soils likely to yield additional remains.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CERTIFICATION. I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this archaeological/cultural resources report, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jeanette A. McKenna _____ Oct. 28, 2019

Jeanette A. McKenna, Principal Investigator, McKenna et al. Date

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