

4.4 Cultural Resources

This section evaluates the potential for impacts on cultural resources resulting from implementation of The Cubes at Placentia Industrial Project (Proposed Project) and identifies known and potential cultural resources on the Project Site. Information presented in this section is primarily based on the following document:

- Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment Report for the Placentia Avenue Industrial Project, Riverside County, California prepared by Cogstone (2025) and included in Appendix E of this Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

One comment from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) was received in response to the Notice of Preparation regarding tribal cultural resources. The NAHC summarized the requirements for Native American consultation pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 18 and Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and provided standard guidance on the scope of the analysis of potential impacts to Native American resources and recommendations for mitigation. At the Draft EIR public scoping meeting on December 19, 2023, no comments regarding cultural resources were received from Planning Commissioners, organizations' representatives, or members of the public.

4.4.1 Environmental Setting

4.4.1.1 Regulatory Setting

The treatment of cultural resources is governed by federal and state laws and guidelines. Specific criteria exist to determine if prehistoric and historic sites or objects are significant or protected by law. Federal and state significance criteria generally focus on the resource's integrity and uniqueness, its relationship to similar resources, and its potential to contribute important information to scholarly research. Some resources that do not meet federal significance criteria may be considered significant under state criteria. The laws and regulations seek to mitigate impacts to significant prehistoric or historical resources. The federal and state laws and guidelines for protecting historical resources are summarized below.

Federal

National Historic Preservation Act (U.S. Code, Title 54, Section 300101 et seq.)

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Register of Historic Places as the official federal list of cultural resources that have been nominated by state offices for their historical significance at the local, state, or national level. Listing in the National Register of Historic Places provides recognition that a property is significant to the nation, the state, or the community and assumes that federal agencies consider historical value in the planning for federal and federally assisted projects. Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places or determined eligible for listing must meet certain criteria for historical significance and possess

integrity of form, location, and setting. Structures and features must usually be at least 50 years old to be considered for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, barring exceptional circumstances. Criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, which are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60.4, are as follows: the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and that:

- A. Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic values; represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Eligible properties must meet at least one of the criteria and exhibit integrity, which is measured by the degree to which the resource retains its historic properties and conveys its historic character, the degree to which the original fabric has been retained, and the reversibility of changes to the property. The fourth criterion is typically reserved for archaeological and paleontological resources. These criteria have largely been incorporated into the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines).

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (U.S. Code, Title 25, Section 3001 et seq.)

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 provides a process for museums and federal agencies to return certain Native American cultural items—human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony—to lineal descendants and culturally affiliated Native American Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations. The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act includes provisions for unclaimed and culturally unidentifiable Native American cultural items, intentional and inadvertent discovery of Native American cultural items on federal and Tribal lands, and penalties for noncompliance and illegal trafficking. Implementation of the project would be conducted in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

Federal curation regulations are also provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 79, and apply to collections that are excavated or removed under the authority of the Antiquities Act (16 USC 431–433), the Reservoir Salvage Act (16 USC 469–469c), Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470h-2), or the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 USC 470aa–mm). Such collections generally include those that are the result of a

prehistoric or historical resources survey, excavation, or other study conducted in connection with a federal action, assistance, license, or permit.

State

Assembly Bill 52: Native Americans: California Environmental Quality Act

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) establishes a formal consultation process for California Native American Tribes as part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and equates significant impacts on Tribal Cultural Resources with significant environmental impacts (California Public Resources Code, Section 21084.2). California Public Resources Code, Section 21074, defines Tribal Cultural Resources as follows:

1. Sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that are either of the following:
 - a. Included or determined to be eligible for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.
 - b. Included in a local register of historical resources as defined in subdivision (k) of Section 5020.1.
2. A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1.

Sacred places can include Native American sanctified cemeteries, places of worship, religious or ceremonial sites, and sacred shrines. In addition, both unique and non-unique archaeological resources, as defined in California Public Resources Code, Section 21083.2, can be Tribal Cultural Resources if they meet the criteria detailed above. The lead agency relies on substantial evidence to make the determination that a resource qualifies as a Tribal Cultural Resource when it is not already listed in the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register.

AB 52 defines a “California Native American Tribe” as a Native American Tribe in California that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) (California Public Resources Code, Section 21073). Under AB 52, formal consultation with Tribes is required before determining the level of environmental document if a Tribe has requested to be informed by the lead agency of proposed projects and if the Tribe, upon receiving notice of the project, accepts the opportunity to consult within 30 days of receipt of the notice. AB 52 also requires that consultation, if initiated, address project alternatives and mitigation measures for significant effects if specifically requested by the Tribe. AB 52 states that consultation is considered concluded when the parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect on Tribal Cultural Resources or when either the Tribe or the lead agency concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached after making a reasonable, good-faith effort. Under AB 52, any mitigation measures recommended by the lead agency or agreed on with the Tribe may be included in the final environmental document and

in the adopted Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program if the mitigation measures were determined to avoid or lessen a significant impact on a Tribal Cultural Resource.

If the recommended measures are not included in the final environmental document, then the lead agency must consider the four mitigation methods described in California Public Resources Code, Section 21084.3(e). Any information submitted by a Tribe during the consultation process is considered confidential and is not subject to public review or disclosure. It will be published in a confidential appendix to the environmental document unless the Tribe consents to disclosure of all or some of the information to the public.

Assembly Bill 978: California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, enacted in 2001, required the state agencies and museums that receive state funding and that have possession or control over collections of human remains or cultural items, as defined, to complete an inventory and summary of these remains and items on or before January 1, 2003, with certain exceptions. The California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act also provides a process for the identification and repatriation of these items to the appropriate Tribes.

California Government Code, Sections 6254(r) and 6254.10

Sections 6254(r) and 6254.10 of the California Government Code were enacted to protect archaeological sites from unauthorized excavation, looting, or vandalism. Section 6254(r) explicitly authorizes public agencies to withhold information from the public relating to “Native American graves, cemeteries, and sacred places maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission.” Section 6254.10 specifically exempts from disclosure requests for “records that relate to archaeological site information and reports, maintained by, or in the possession of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Historical Resources Commission, the State Lands Commission, the Native American Heritage Commission, another state agency, or a local agency, including the records that the agency obtains through a consultation process between a Native American tribe and a state or local agency.”

California Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5, and California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.9

California Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5, addresses the protection of human remains discovered in any location other than a dedicated cemetery and makes it a misdemeanor for any person who knowingly mutilates or disinters, wantonly disturbs, or willfully removes any human remains in or from any location other than a dedicated cemetery without authority of law, except as provided in California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.99. It further states that, in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains will occur until the coroner of the county in which the human remains are

discovered has determined that the remains are not subject to the provisions concerning investigation of the circumstances, manner, and cause of any death and that the recommendations concerning the treatment and disposition of the human remains have been made to the person responsible for the excavation, or to their authorized representative, in the manner provided in California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98. If the county coroner determines that the remains are not subject to their authority and if the county coroner recognizes the human remains to be those of a Native American or has reason to believe that they are those of a Native American, they shall contact, by telephone and within 24 hours, the NAHC. Whenever the NAHC receives notification of a discovery of Native American human remains from the county coroner, the agency shall immediately notify the most likely decedent if it believes them to be the most likely descendant of the deceased Native American. The most likely descendant may inspect the site of the discovery and make recommendations on the removal or reburial of the remains.

California Register of Historical Resources

The California Register of Historical Resources is a state government program for use by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify, evaluate, register, and protect California's historical resources. The California Register of Historical Resources is the authoritative guide to the state's significant historical and archaeological resources and encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historic, archaeological, and cultural significance; identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes; determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding; and affords certain protections under CEQA.

The term "historical resource" includes but is not limited to any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that is historically or archaeologically significant or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California (California Public Resources Code, Section 5020.1[j]). Historical resources may be designated as such through three different processes:

- Official designation or recognition by a local government pursuant to local ordinance or resolution (California Public Resources Code, Section 5020.1[k])
- A local survey conducted pursuant to California Public Resources Code, Section 5024.1(g)
- Listing in or eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (California Public Resources Code, Section 5024.1[d][1])

To be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, a building must satisfy at least one of the following four criteria:

- **Criterion 1.** It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

- **Criterion 2.** It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or national history.
- **Criterion 3.** It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
- **Criterion 4.** It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

Native American Historic Cultural Sites (California Public Resources Code, Section 5097 et. seq.)

State law addresses the disposition of Native American burials in archaeological sites and protects such remains from disturbance, vandalism, or inadvertent destruction; establishes procedures to be implemented if Native American skeletal remains are discovered during construction of a project; and establishes the NAHC to resolve disputes regarding the disposition of such remains. In addition, the Native American Historic Resource Protection Act makes it a misdemeanor punishable by up to 1 year in jail to deface or destroy a Native American historic or cultural site that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources.

Senate Bill 18: Traditional Tribal Cultural Places

As of March 1, 2005, Senate Bill (SB) 18 (California Government Code, Sections 65352.3 and 65352.4) requires that, before the adoption or amendment of a General Plan proposed on or after March 1, 2005, a city or county must consult with Native American Tribes with respect to the possible preservation of, or the mitigation of impacts to, specified Native American places, features, and objects within that jurisdiction. The consultation intends to establish a meaningful dialogue regarding potential means to preserve Native American places of importance. It allows for Tribes to hold conservation easements and for Tribal Cultural Places to be included in open space planning.

Local

City of Perris General Plan

The following Goal, Policy, and Implementation Measures from Conservation Element of the City of Perris General Plan (City of Perris 2008) are in place to protect cultural and paleontological resources.

The following Goal, Policy, and Implementation Measures from Conservation Element of the City of Perris General Plan (City of Perris 2008) are in place to protect cultural resources.

- **Goal IV – Cultural Resources:** Protection of historical, archaeological, and paleontological sites.
 - **Policy IV.A:** Comply with state and federal regulations and ensure preservation of the significant historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources.

Implementation Measures

- **IV.A.1:** For all private and public projects involving new construction, substantial grading, or demolition, including infrastructure and other public service facilities, staff shall require appropriate surveys and necessary site investigations in conjunction with the earliest environmental document prepared for a project.
- **IV.A.2:** For all projects subject to CEQA, applicants will be required to submit results of an archaeological records search request through the Eastern Information Center, at the University of California, Riverside.
- **IV.A.3:** Require Phase I Surveys for all projects located in areas that have not previously been surveyed for archaeological or historic resources, or which lie near areas where archaeological and/or historic sites have been recorded.
- **IV.A.5:** Identify and collect previous surveys of cultural resources. Evaluate such resource and consider preparation of a comprehensive citywide inventory of cultural resources including both prehistoric sites and man-made resources.
- **IV.A.6:** Create an archive for the City wherein all surveys, collections, records and reports can be centrally located.
- **IV.A.7:** Strengthen efforts and coordinate the management of cultural resources with other agencies and private organizations.

Perris Valley Commerce Center Specific Plan (PVCCSP)

A 1-mile cultural records search radius is required by the Perris Valley Commerce Center Specific Plan (Albert A Webb Associates 2011). This requirement now applies to all cultural resources assessments within the City.

4.4.1.2 Existing Conditions

The following sections describe the history of the Project Site and discuss known cultural resources, archaeological resources, and build environment resources in or around the project's area of potential effect. The area of potential effect includes area within a one-mile radius from the Project Site.

Cultural resources are the tangible or intangible remains or traces left by prehistoric or historical people who inhabited the Riverside region. They encompass both the built (post-1769) and archaeological environments. Cultural resources are typically in protected areas near water sources and multiple ecoregions and can include Traditional Cultural Places, such as gathering areas, landmarks, and ethnographic locations.

Prehistory

Prehistoric Period Paleo Indian, Archaic Period Milling Stone Horizon, and the Late Prehistoric Takic groups are the three general cultural periods represented in Riverside County. The discussion of the cultural history of Riverside County presented in the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment, prepared by Cogstone in November 2023 (included in Appendix E), references the San Dieguito Complex, Encinitas Tradition, Milling Stone Horizon, La Jolla Complex, Pauma Complex, and San Luis Rey Complex, since these culture sequences have been used to describe archaeological manifestations in the region. The Late Prehistoric component present in the Riverside County area was represented by the Cahuilla, Gabrielino, and Luiseño Indians. Absolute chronological information, where possible, is incorporated in the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment to examine the effectiveness of continuing to interchangeably use these terms. Reference is made to the geological framework that divides the culture chronology of the area into four segments: the late Pleistocene (20,000 to 10,000 YBP [years before the present]), the early Holocene (10,000 to 6,650 YBP), the middle Holocene (6,650 to 3,350 YBP), and the late Holocene (3,350 to 200 YBP). These periods are summarized below and further described in the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment.

Paleo Indian Period (Late Pleistocene: 11,500 to circa 9,000 YBP): The Paleo Indian Period is associated with the terminus of the late Pleistocene. The environment during the late Pleistocene was cool and moist, which allowed for glaciation in the mountains and the formation of deep, pluvial lakes in the deserts and basin lands. However, by the terminus of the late Pleistocene, the climate became warmer, which caused glaciers to melt, sea levels to rise, greater coastal erosion, large lakes to recede and evaporate, extinction of Pleistocene megafauna, and major vegetation changes. Paleo Indians were likely attracted to multiple habitat types, including mountains, marshlands, estuaries, and lakeshores. These people likely subsisted using a more generalized hunting, gathering, and collecting adaptation utilizing a variety of resources including birds, mollusks, and both large and small mammals.

Archaic Period (Early and Middle Holocene: circa 9,000 to 1,300 YBP): Between 9,000 and 8,000 YBP, a widespread complex was established in the Southern California region, primarily along the coast. This complex is locally known as the La Jolla Complex, which is regionally associated with the Encinitas Tradition and shares cultural components with the widespread Milling Stone Horizon. The coastal expression of this complex appeared in the Southern California coastal areas and focused upon coastal resources and the development of deeply stratified shell middens that were primarily located around bays and lagoons. By 5,000 YBP, an inland expression of the La Jolla Complex is evident in the archaeological record, exhibiting influences from the Campbell Tradition from the north. These inland Milling Stone Horizon sites have been termed “Pauma Complex.” By definition, Pauma Complex sites share a predominance of grinding implements (manos and metates), lack mollusk remains, have greater tool variety (including atlatl dart points, quarry-based tools, and

crescentics), and seem to express a more sedentary lifestyle with a subsistence economy based upon the use of a broad variety of terrestrial resources. Although originally viewed as a separate culture from the coastal La Jolla Complex, it appears that these inland sites may be part of a subsistence and settlement system utilized by the coastal peoples. A more localized complex known as the Greven Knoll Complex is a redefined northern inland expression of the Encinitas Tradition and is broken into three phases. The shifts in food processing technologies during each of these phases indicate a change in subsistence strategies; although people were still hunting for large game, plant-based foods eventually became the primary dietary resource.

Late Prehistoric Period (Late Holocene: 1,300 YBP to 1790): Many Luiseño hold the world view that as a population they were created in Southern California; however, archaeological and anthropological data proposes a scientific perspective. Archaeological and anthropological evidence suggests that at approximately 1,350 YBP, Takic-speaking groups from the Great Basin region moved into the area that is now Riverside County, marking the transition to the Late Prehistoric Period. It is believed that Takic expansion occurred starting around 3,500 YBP moving toward Southern California, with the Gabrielino language diffusing south into neighboring Yuman (Hokan) groups around 1,500 to 1,000 YBP, possibly resulting in the Luiseño dialect. The Sutton model suggests that the Luiseño did not simply replace Hokan speakers but were rather a northern San Diego County/southern Riverside County area Yuman population who adopted the Takic language. This period is characterized by higher population densities and elaborations in social, political, and technological systems. Economic systems diversified and intensified during this period with the continued elaboration of trade networks, the use of shell-bead currency, and the appearance of more labor-intensive, yet effective, technological innovations. Technological developments during this period included the introduction of the bow and arrow between A.D. 400 and 600 and the introduction of ceramics. Atlatl darts were replaced by smaller arrow darts, including Cottonwood series points. Other hallmarks of the Late Prehistoric Period include extensive trade networks as far-reaching as the Colorado River Basin and cremation of the dead.

Ethnohistory

Ethnohistoric and ethnographic evidence indicates that three Takic-speaking groups occupied portions of Riverside County: the Cahuilla, the Gabrielino, and the Luiseño. A discussion of the ethnohistoric and ethnographic background of the Project Site and surrounding areas is provided in Section 4.13, Tribal Cultural Resources, of this EIR.

History

Regional Context

The historic background of the area began with the Spanish colonization of Alta California. The first Spanish colonizing expedition reached Southern California in 1769 with the intention of converting and civilizing the indigenous populations, as well as expanding the knowledge of and

access to new resources in the region. In the late 18th century, the San Gabriel (Los Angeles County), San Juan Capistrano (Orange County), and San Luis Rey (San Diego County) missions began colonizing Southern California and gradually expanded their use of the interior valley (into what is now western Riverside County) for raising grain and cattle to support the missions. The San Gabriel Mission claimed lands in what is now Jurupa, Riverside, San Jacinto, and the San Gorgonio Pass, while the San Luis Rey Mission claimed land in what is now Lake Elsinore, Temecula, and Murrieta. The indigenous groups who occupied these lands were recruited by missionaries, converted, and put to work in the missions. Throughout this period, the Native American populations were decimated by introduced diseases, a drastic shift in diet resulting in poor nutrition, and social conflicts due to the introduction of an entirely new social order.

While no missions were ever built in what would become Riverside County, many mission outposts (*asistencias*), were established in the early years of the nineteenth century to extend the missions' influence to the backcountry. Two outposts located in Riverside County include San Jacinto and Temecula. Mexico gained independence in 1822 and desecularized the missions in 1832, signifying the end of the Mission Period. By this time, the missions owned some of the best and most fertile land in Southern California. In order for California to develop, the land would have to be made productive enough to turn a profit. The new government began distributing the vast mission holdings to wealthy and politically connected Mexican citizens. The "grants" were called "ranchos." The treatment of Native Americans grew worse during the Rancho Period. Most of the Native Americans were forced off their land or put to work on the now privately-owned ranchos, most often as slave labor.

In 1846, war erupted between Mexico and the United States. In 1848, with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the region was annexed as a territory of the United States, leading to California becoming a state in 1850. This event generated a steady flow of settlers into the area, including gold miners, entrepreneurs, health-seekers, speculators, politicians, adventurers, seekers of religious freedom, and individuals desiring to create utopian colonies. In early 1852, the Native Americans of southern Riverside County, including the Luiseño and the Cahuilla, thought they had signed a treaty resulting in their ownership of all lands from Temecula to Aguanga east to the desert, including the San Jacinto Valley and the San Gorgonio Pass. The Temecula Treaty also included food and clothing provisions for the Native Americans. However, Congress never ratified the treaties, and the promise of one large reservation was rescinded.

With the advent of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, land speculators, developers, and colonists began to invest in Southern California. The first colony in what was to become Riverside County was Riverside itself. By the late 1880s and early 1890s, there was growing discontent between Riverside and San Bernardino. In May 1893, voters living within portions of San Bernardino County (to the north) and San Diego County (to the south) approved the formation of Riverside County. Early business opportunities were linked to the agriculture industry, but commerce,

construction, manufacturing, transportation, and tourism also provided a healthy local economy. By the time of Riverside County's formation, Riverside had grown to become the wealthiest city per capita in the country due to the successful cultivation of the navel orange.

General History of the City of Perris

The Project Site is located within the former Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Portrero land grant. The rancho was granted to Miguel Pedorena by Mexican Governor Pío Pico in 1846. After Pedorena's death in 1850, the grant passed to his heirs under the guardianship of T.W. Sutherland. In 1881, the California Southern Railroad laid the tracks for the transcontinental route of the Santa Fe Railway through the plains, west of the Project Site. At this time, the area where the railroad was placed was referred to as the San Jacinto Plains. Surveying and construction of the railroad route was led by Patrick Thomas Perris, for whom the City of Perris was named. The railroad was completed in 1882, which allowed hundreds of settlers to enter the area for homesteading, most of them settling in Pinacate to the south. While still part of San Diego County, Rancho San Jacinto Nuevo y Portrero was patented to T.W. Sutherland, guardian of Miguel Pedorena's children, in 1883. In 1885, the citizens of Pinacate gathered together to create a more conveniently located station along the railroad route, and in 1886 the town site of Perris was established. In 1911, Perris became an incorporated city, relying heavily upon dry grain farming and citrus groves.

Although Perris generally remained agricultural throughout the 20th century, in recent years, the City has seen a growth in residential and industrial development. Today, many of the large agricultural fields have been developed into large logistics centers and warehouses servicing the greater Southern California region.

Project Site

Results of Records Search

A records search was conducted as part of the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment. The California Historical Resources Information System from the Eastern Information Center located at the University of California, Riverside, which is the State of California's official cultural resource records repository for the County of Riverside was searched. The results of the records searches are provided in the Confidential Appendix to the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment Report (Appendix E). According to the California Historical Resources Information System records, no cultural resources were previously recorded within the Project Site. Within the area of potential effect, a total of 35 cultural resource studies were conducted. As a result of these studies, 5 cultural resource properties were located within the area of potential effect. As described in Table 4.4-1, Cultural Resources Within 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site, these consist of one historic resource adjacent to the Project Site, one historic archaeological site within a quarter mile of the Project Site, two historic archaeological sites within a quarter to half mile of the Project Site and one historic built environment resource within a half to 1 mile of the Project Site.

Table 4.4-1. Cultural Resources Within 1-Mile Radius of the Project Site

Primary No. (P-33-)	Trinomial No. (CARIV-)	Resource Type/ Description	Year Recorded	Distance from Project Site (mi)	NRHP/CRHR
029118	013010	Historic Archaeological Site / The Perris Valley Storm Drain Channel, man-made trapezoidal earthen drainage channel and banks with paved pedestrian/bike path and dirt and gravel access road constructed in 1955 by the Riverside Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The drain is approximately 10 to 12 feet deep, 30 feet wide at the top, and 75 feet wide at the bottom.	2020	Adjacent	NRHP/CRHR – Not Eligible
007659		Historic Archaeological Site/ 2 metal “quonset hut” style structures and sunken cement walled ammunition bunker	1981	0.25–0.5	Unevaluated
011265	006726H	Historic Built Environment / Colorado River Aqueduct segment	2000; 2001; 2003; 2005; 2008; 2009; 2011; 2016; 2020	0.5–1	NR – 3S
028896		Historic Archaeological Site / Mid-twentieth century irrigation control system standpipe	2019	0.25–0.5	Unevaluated
029117		Historic Archaeological Site / Concrete pad and 4 metal footings	2020	0–0.25	CRHR – Not Eligible

Additionally, the records of the National Register of Historic Places Index, California Register of Historical Resources, Built Environment Resource Directory, California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest were also reviewed. None of these additional sources identified any potential resources within the Project Site boundaries.

Based on historical research and interviews (see Appendix E), the Project Site was undeveloped land in 1901. By 1938, it appears that the Project Site and adjacent properties were agriculturally developed. From 1938 to 2021, the Project Site was agriculturally developed or vacant land. From 1953 to at least 1979, a small structure was located adjacent to the southwest boundary, along Placentia Avenue (a well is depicted in the same location on the topographic maps).

According to the Commitment for Title Insurance, the title to the Project Site is currently vested:

- APN 300-170-003 and -004 – Hsiao Hsiang-Fen Wang, as surviving joint tenant
- APN 300-170-005 and -006 – Tung Hsun Wang and Ying Lang Wang as trustees of The 2006 Wang Family Trust, established on 06/21/06

- APN 300-170-011 – owned by The Lenox Family Trust, dated March 7, 2005, Robert C. Lenox and Sandra M. Lenox, Trustee
- APN 300-170-012, -013, and -014 – Peterson Development, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company
- APN 300-170-015 – owned by Emmanuel Leventakis, A Married Man Asas His Sole And Separate Property
- APN 300-170-016 – Victor Anthony Cuen and Denise Cuen, husband and wife and Victor Santos Cuen, an unmarried man as joint tenants
- APN 300-170-017 – Eric J. Kroencke, a married man as sole and separate property

Site Survey

Field surveys of the Project Site were conducted in April of 2022 and November of 2023. All undeveloped ground surface areas within the ground disturbance portion of the Project Site were examined for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools or fire-affected rock), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., postholes, foundations), or historic-era debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Existing ground disturbances (e.g., cutbanks, ditches, animal burrows, etc.) were visually inspected. Photographs of the Project Site, including ground surface visibility and items of interest, were taken with a digital camera. According to the field survey, the Project Site has been previously disturbed. Previous disturbances include disking and clearing. No cultural resources, either historic or prehistoric, were discovered during the survey.

Additional historic research was conducted utilizing Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records associated with the Project Site. The Bureau of Land Management General Land Office records indicated that the Project Site was transferred to the State of California on January 9, 1883.

Aerial photographs show that the Project Site was not developed in the 1901 Elsinore (1:125,000) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) historical topographic quadrangle map, the earliest known USGS map of the Project Site and remained undeveloped in the earliest U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) historical aerial photograph from 1938 (FrameFinder 1938). The 1942 Perris (1:62500) USGS topographic quadrangle map shows Wilson Avenue and Murrieta Road adjacent to the western and eastern boundaries of the Project Site. Additionally, USDA aerial photographs from 1953 and 1967 show that a portion of the Project Site has been disced or plowed (FrameFinder 1953, 1967). The 1959 Santa Ana (1:250,000) and 1967 Perris (1:24,000) USGS topographic quadrangle maps depict the Perris Valley Storm Drain (P- 3029118) in its current location running along the eastern boundary of the Project Site,

with the addition of a well in APN 300-170-003. This well is the only built environment feature within the Project Site on the most recent USGS topographic quadrangle map, the 1983 Santa Ana (1:100,000) map. USDA aerial photographs show no notable development from 1967 to 2018 within the Project Site (FrameFinder 1967; NETR 2018). Historic aerial photographs and maps show that between 1901 and 1983, the Project Site only contained one structure.

Archaeological Resources

No previously discovered archaeological resources were identified within the one-mile search radius by the Eastern Information Center records search. An archaeological field survey was conducted on April 6, 2022 and November 8, 2023 (to survey the then newly added parcel APN 300-170-010) to determine if cultural resources exist within the Project Site. No cultural or paleontological resources were observed.

Tribal Cultural Resources

Results of the NAHC Sacred Lands Files records search was positive. In accordance with the recommendations from the NAHC, Cogstone contacted all Native American consultants listed in the NAHC response letter. A detailed discussion of the Tribal Cultural Resources is provided in Section 4.13 of this EIR.

4.4.2 Thresholds of Significance

According to Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, the Proposed Project would have a significant impact on cultural resources if it would:

- **Threshold CUL-1:** Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5.
- **Threshold CUL-2:** Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5.
- **Threshold CUL-3:** Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries.

The Initial Study (Appendix A) determined that Threshold CUL-3 would have a less than significant impact and is not addressed further in this Draft EIR section.

4.4.3 Regulatory Requirements

The regulatory requirements for the discovery of human remains are reflected in Project-level mitigation measure MM CUL-2 as implemented by the City of Perris.

4.4.4 Environmental Impacts

Applicable PVCCSP Standards and Guidelines and Mitigation Measures

There are no Standards and Guidelines included in the PVCCSP related to cultural resources. The PVCCSP EIR includes mitigation measures MM Cultural 1 through MM Cultural 4 and MM Cultural 6 relevant to the analysis of cultural resources impacts. PVCCSP EIR mitigation measure MM Cultural 1 below outlines the requirements for preparation of a Phase I Cultural Resources Study, which has been prepared for the Proposed Project and is included in Appendix E of this Draft EIR. Project-level mitigation measure MM CUL-1 presented under Section 4.4.7, Mitigation Measures, implements PVCCSP EIR mitigation measures MM Cultural 2 through MM Cultural 4, as it relates to archaeological and Tribal Cultural Resources and modified for the Proposed Project. PVCCSP EIR mitigation measure MM Cultural 6 related to human remains would be implemented through Project-level mitigation measure MM CUL-2.

MM Cultural 1 Prior to the consideration by the City of Perris of implementing development or infrastructure projects for properties that are vacant, undeveloped, or considered to be sensitive for cultural resources by the City of Perris Planning Division, a Phase I Cultural Resources Study of the subject property prepared in accordance with the protocol of the City of Perris by a professional archeologist shall be submitted to the City of Perris Planning Division for review and approval. The Phase I Cultural Resources Study shall determine whether the subject implementing development would potentially cause a substantial adverse change to any significant paleontological, archaeological, or historic resources. The Phase I Cultural Resources Study shall be prepared to meet the standards established by Riverside County and shall, at a minimum, include the results of the following:

1. Records searches at the Eastern Information Center (EIC), the National or State Registry of Historic Places and any appropriate public, private, and tribal archives.
2. Sacred Lands File record search with the NAHC followed by project scoping with tribes recommended by the NAHC.
3. Field survey of the implementing development or infrastructure project site.

The proponents of the subject implementing development projects and the professional archaeologists shall also contact the local Native American tribes (as identified by the California Native Heritage Commission and the City of Perris) to obtain input regarding the potential for Native American resources to occur at the project site.

Measures shall be identified to mitigate the known and potential significant effects of the implementing development or infrastructure project, if any. Mitigation for historic resources shall be considered in the following order of preference:

1. Avoidance.
2. Changes to the structure provided pursuant to the Secretary of Interior's Standards.
3. Relocation of the structure.
4. Recordation of the structure to Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)/Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) standard if demolition is allowed.

Avoidance is the preferred treatment for known and discovered significant prehistoric and historical archaeological sites, and sites containing Native American human remains. Where feasible, plans for implementing projects shall be developed to avoid known significant archaeological resources and sites containing human remains. Where avoidance of construction impacts is possible, the implementing projects shall be designed and landscaped in a manner, which would ensure that indirect impacts from increased public availability to these sites are avoided. Where avoidance is selected, archaeological resource sites and sites containing Native American human remains shall be placed within permanent conservation easements or dedicated open space areas.

The Phase I Cultural Resources Study submitted for each implementing development or infrastructure Project shall have been completed no more than three (3) years prior to the submittal of the application for the subject implementing development project or the start of construction of an implementing infrastructure project.

MM Cultural 2 If the Phase I Cultural Resources Study required under MM Cultural 1 determines that monitoring during construction by a professional archaeologist is needed for the implementing development project; the project proponent shall retain a professional archaeologist prior to the issuance of grading permits. The task of the archaeologist shall be to verify implementation of the mitigation measures identified in the approved Phase I Cultural Resources Study and to monitor the initial ground-altering activities¹ at the subject site for the unearthing of previously unknown archaeological and/or cultural resources. Selection of the archaeologist shall be subject to the approval of the City of Perris Planning

¹ For the purpose of this measure, ground-altering activities include, but are not limited to, debris removal, vegetation removal, tree removal, grading, trenching, or other site preparation activities. Initial ground-altering activities refer to the first time that the existing materials are altered by construction-related activities. Materials that have already been disturbed by construction-related activities do not require subsequent monitoring.

Manager and no grading activities shall occur at the site until the archaeologist has been approved by the City.

The archaeological monitor shall be responsible for maintaining daily field notes, a photographic record, and reporting all finds in a timely manner. The archaeologist shall also be equipped to record and salvage cultural resources that may be unearthed during initial ground-altering activities. The archaeologist shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert construction equipment to allow recording and removal of the unearthed resources.

In the event that cultural resources are discovered at the development site, the handling of the discovered resources will differ. However, it is understood that all artifacts with the exception of human remains and related grave goods or sacred objects belong to the property owner. All artifacts discovered at the development site shall be inventoried and analyzed by the professional archaeologist. If any artifacts of Native American origin are discovered, all activities in the immediate vicinity of the find shall stop, the project developer and project archaeologist shall notify the City of Perris Planning Division, the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians and the Soboba Band of Mission Indians, and a Native American observer of Luiseño descent shall be asked retained to help analyze the Native American artifacts for identification as everyday life and/or religious or sacred items, cultural affiliation, temporal placement, and function, as deemed possible. The significance of Native American resources shall be evaluated in accordance with the provisions of CEQA and shall consider the religious beliefs, customs, and practices of the Luiseño tribes. All items found in association with Native American human remains will be considered grave goods or sacred in origin and subject to special handling (see MM Cultural 6, below). Native American artifacts that cannot be avoided or relocated at the project site will be prepared in a manner for curation and the archaeological consultant will deliver the materials to an accredited curation facility approved by the City of Perris within a reasonable amount of time.

Non-Native American artifacts will be inventoried, assessed, and analyzed for cultural affiliation, personal affiliation (prior ownership), function, and temporal placement. Subsequent to analysis and reporting, these artifacts will be subjected to curation or returned to the property owner, as deemed appropriate.

Once ground-altering activities have ceased or the professional archaeologist determines that monitoring activities are no longer necessary, monitoring

activities may be discontinued following notification to the City of Perris Planning Division.

A report of findings, including an itemized inventory of recovered artifacts, shall be prepared upon completion of the steps outlined above. The report shall include a discussion of the significance of all recovered artifacts. The report and inventory, when submitted to the City of Perris Planning Division, will signify completion of the program to mitigate impacts to archaeological and/or cultural resources. A copy of the report shall also be filed with the Eastern Information Center (EIC).

MM Cultural 3 If the Phase I Cultural Resources Study required under MM Cultural 1 determines that monitoring during construction by both a professional archaeologist and a Native American representative is needed for the implementing development project, the project proponent shall retain a professional archaeologist and a Native American representative of Luiseño descent prior to the issuance of grading permits. The professional archaeologist and Native American observer shall be required on site during all initial ground-altering activities. The Native American observer shall have the authority to temporarily divert, redirect, or halt the ground disturbance activities to allow the evaluation of cultural resources with the project archaeologist. The evaluation and treatment provisions of mitigation measure MM Cultural 2 shall apply to this measure.

MM Cultural 4 In the event that cultural resources are discovered at a development site that is not monitored by a professional archaeologist, all activities in the immediate vicinity of the find shall stop, the project developer shall notify the City of Perris Planning Division, and the project developer shall retain a professional archaeologist to analyze the find for identification as prehistoric and historical archaeological resources. The evaluation and treatment provisions of mitigation measure MM Cultural 2 shall apply to this measure.

MM Cultural 6 In the event that human remains (or remains that may be human) are discovered at the implementing development project site during grading or earthmoving, the construction contractors shall immediately stop all activities in the immediate area of the find. The project proponent shall then inform the Riverside County Coroner and the City of Perris Planning Division and the coroner will be permitted to examine the remains.

If the coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin, the coroner will notify the NAHC and the Commission will identify the “Most Likely

Descendent” (MLD).² Despite the affiliation of any Native American representatives at the site, the Commission’s identification of the MLD will stand. The MLD shall be granted access to inspect the site of the discovery of the Native American human remains and may recommend to the project proponent means for treatment or disposition, with appropriate dignity of the human remains and any associated grave goods. The MLD shall complete their inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The disposition of the remains will be determined in consultation with the City of Perris, the project proponent, and the MLD. The City of Perris will be responsible for the final decision, based upon input from the various stakeholders.

If the human remains are determined to be other than Native American in origin, but still of archaeological value, the remains will be recovered for analysis and subject to curation or reburial at the expense of the project proponent. If deemed appropriate, the remains will be recovered by the coroner and handled through the Coroner’s Office.

Coordination with the Coroner’s Office will be through the City of Perris and in consultation with the various stakeholders.

The specific locations of Native American burials and reburials will be proprietary and not disclosed to the general public. The locations will be documented by the consulting archaeologist in conjunction with the various stakeholders and a report of findings shall be filed with the Eastern Information Center (EIC).

The following sections address various potential impacts relating to cultural resources that could result from implementation of the Proposed Project.

² The “Most Likely Descendent” (“MLD”) is a reference used by the California Native American Heritage Commission to identify the individual or population most likely associated with any human remains that may be identified within a given project area. Under California Public Resources Code section 5097.98, the Native American Heritage Commission has the authority to name the MLD for any specific project and this identification is based on a report of Native American remains through the County Coroner’s office. In the case of the City of Perris, the Native American Heritage Commission may identify any Luiseño descendent, but generally names the Soboba or Pechanga bands of Mission Indians (both Luiseño populations) and alternates between the two groups. The City of Perris will recognize any MLD identified by the Native American Heritage Commission without giving preference to any particular population. In cases where the Native American Heritage Commission is not tasked with the identification of a Native American representative, the City of Perris reserves the right to make an independent decision based upon the nature of the proposed project.

4.4.4.1 Threshold CUL-1: Historical Resources

Impact Analysis

The PVCCSP EIR concludes that with implementation of identified mitigation measures, development of allowed uses and infrastructure projects identified in the PVCCSP would not conflict with or cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines (City of Perris 2011).

Under existing conditions, the Project Site is undeveloped and vacant. The California Historical Resources Information System records search indicated that no historic resources are contained within the boundaries of the Project Site. In addition, based on research of the multiple property owners since 1901, none of the property owners are identified as significant for their association with the property or for any contributions to California or local history. Furthermore, additionally, according to the field survey, the Project Site has been heavily disturbed and does not contain any historic or prehistoric resources.

As discussed in Section 4.4.1.2, Existing Conditions, of the five cultural resources previously documented within a 1-mile radius of the Project Site, only one resource, the Perris Valley Storm Drain Channel (P-33-029118) is adjacent to the Project Site has the potential to be impacted by the Proposed Project. Due to the distance to the Project Site, the other four resources do not require further consideration. However, the Perris Valley Storm Drain Channel adjacent to the Project Site was previously recorded and evaluated by Andrew Garrison of Brian F. Smith and Associates in June 2020, and it was determined that the segment adjacent to the Project Site is ineligible for National Register of Historic Places and California Register of Historical Resources listing under any criteria. Thus, the potential impacts to the Perris Valley Storm Drain Channel by the Proposed Project would not be considered significant. Implementation of the Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource and impacts would be less than significant.

Significance of Impact

Less Than Significant Impact.

4.4.4.2 Threshold CUL-2: Archaeological Resources

Impact Analysis

The PVCCSP EIR concludes that with implementation of identified mitigation measures, development of allowed uses and infrastructure projects identified in the PVCCSP would not conflict with or cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource, as defined in Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines (City of Perris 2011).

An archaeological field survey was conducted on April 6, 2022, and November 8, 2023 (to survey the then newly added parcel APN 300-170-010) to determine if cultural resources exist within the Project Site. The survey was completed in accordance with the City of Perris' environmental policies, including the PVCCSP, and CEQA significance evaluation criteria. According to the Cultural and Paleontological Resources Assessment, no resources were recorded within the Project Site and several portions of the site have been disturbed. While the Project Site has not historically been developed, it is likely there are various amounts of artificial fill on the site from previous developments nearby. As such, there is little potential for archaeological resources to the present or disturbed by the proposed development. Based on the records search and the results of the field survey, archaeological resources are not expected to occur on the Project Site. However, there could be a potential for archaeological resources to be uncovered in native soils during ground-disturbing activities, which could result in a significant impact.

Project-level mitigation measure MM CUL-1 in Section 4.4.7, which implements PVCCSP EIR mitigation measures MM Cultural 2 through MM Cultural 4 as revised by the City for the Proposed Project, requires that an archaeological monitor and a Tribal representative be present during ground-disturbing activities, and identifies steps to be taken to protect any resources encountered. With implementation of Project-level mitigation measure MM CUL-1, potential impacts to archaeological resources would be reduced to a less than significant level.

Significance of Impact

Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated.

4.4.5 Cumulative Impacts

The following sections address various potential cumulative impacts relating to cultural resources that could result from implementation of the Proposed Project.

4.4.5.1 Cumulative Threshold CUL-1: Historical Resources and Cumulative Threshold CUL-2: Archaeological Resources

As identified in the PVCCSP EIR, there are nine identified prehistoric sites (primarily milling slick sites [rocks used to crush grain]), but there are several sites exhibiting extensive pictographs (rock art), and a few small stone flake scatters. Ten historic archaeological sites occur within the City. However, none are located within the Perris Valley Commerce Center (PVCC) area, which includes the Project Site. These historic archaeological sites consist of the remnants (such as foundations) of historic buildings and/or ranch complexes. Ninety-one historic sites occur in the City limits and seven are located within the PVCC area. No known sites likely to contain human remains have been identified in the City of Perris.

Direct impacts to on-site cultural resources are site-specific. Each development proposal received by the City undergoes environmental review and would be subject to the same resource protection

requirements as the Proposed Project as outlined in the City of Perris General Plan and PVCCSP EIR, as applicable. If there is a potential for significant impacts on cultural resources, an investigation will be required to determine the nature and extent of the resources and to identify appropriate mitigation measures, including requirements such as those identified in this section. Based on the information presented in the required site-specific cultural resource studies, construction activities associated with the Proposed Project would not impact any known prehistoric archaeological resources and the likelihood of uncovering previously unknown archaeological resources during project construction are low due to the nature of the site and the magnitude of disturbance that has occurred on the site. Nonetheless, the potential exists for subsurface archaeological resource that meet the definition of a significant archaeological resource to be discovered within the Project Site – and other development project sites in the City – during construction activities. Therefore, without mitigation, the Proposed Project would result in a potentially cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact to archaeological resources, if such resources are unearthed during Project construction. The Proposed Project includes mitigation from the PVCCSP EIR, as revised by the City, to identify, recover, and/or record any cultural resource that may occur within the Project limits resulting in a less than significant impact (refer to Project-level mitigation measures MM CUL-1 and MM CUL-2 below). The City of Perris requires incorporation of similar measures in each development project. As such, the Proposed Project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact to archaeological resources.

In as much as the City of Perris General Plan EIR and the PVCCSP EIR conclude that buildout under the City of Perris General Plan land use designations and PVCCSP would not have a significant effect upon cultural resources, it can be concluded that there are no projects that would, in combination with the Project, result in any significant cumulative impacts on historical, archaeological resources, or in impacts to human remains. Therefore, the Project would have no significant cumulative impacts associated with cultural resources.

4.4.6 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

4.4.6.1 Threshold CUL-1: Historic Resources

The Proposed Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5.

4.4.6.2 Threshold CUL-2: Archaeological Resources

Without mitigation, the Proposed Project could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5.

4.4.7 Mitigation Measures

MM CUL-1 Archaeological Resource – Monitoring. Prior to the issuance of grading permits, the Project Proponent shall retain a professional archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Standards for Archaeology (U.S. Department of Interior, 2012; Registered Professional Archaeologist preferred). The primary task of the consulting archaeologist shall be to monitor the initial ground-disturbing activities at both the Project Site and any off-site Project-related improvement areas for the identification of any previously unknown archaeological and/or cultural resources. Selection of the Project archaeologist shall be subject to the approval of the City of Perris Director of Development Services and no ground-disturbing activities shall occur at the Project Site or within the off-site Project improvement areas until the Project archaeologist has been approved by the City.

The Project archaeologist shall be responsible for monitoring ground-disturbing activities, maintaining daily field notes and a photographic record, and for reporting all finds to the developer and the City of Perris in a timely manner. The Project archaeologist shall be prepared and equipped to record and salvage cultural resources that may be unearthed during ground-disturbing activities and shall be empowered to temporarily halt or divert ground-disturbing equipment within a 50-foot radius of the find to allow time for the recording and removal of the resources. Work may continue outside of the 50-foot radius.

The Project Proponent shall also enter into an agreement with either the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, the Pechanga Band of Indians, or the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians for a Native American Tribal representative (observer/monitor) to work along with the Project archaeologist. This Tribal representative will assist in the identification of Native American resources and will act as a representative between the City, the Project Proponent, and Native American Tribal Cultural Resources Department. The Native American Tribal representative should be on-site during all ground-disturbing of each portion of the Project Site including clearing, grubbing, tree removals, grading, trenching, etc. The Native American Tribal representative should be on-site any time the Project archaeologist is required to be on-site. Working with the Project archaeologist, the Native American representative shall have the authority to halt, redirect, or divert any activities in areas where the identification, recording, or recovery of Native American resources are on-going.

The agreement between the Project Proponent and the Native American Tribe shall include, but not be limited to:

- An agreement that artifacts will be reburied on-site and in an area of permanent protection;
- Reburial shall not occur until all cataloging and basic recordation have been completed by the consulting archaeologist;
- Native American artifacts that cannot be avoided or relocated at the project site shall be prepared for curation at an accredited curation facility in Riverside County that meets federal standards (per 36 CFR Part 79) and available to archaeologists/researchers for further study; and
- The Project archaeologist shall deliver the Native American artifacts, including title, to the identified curation facility within a reasonable amount of time, along with applicable fees for permanent curation.

The Project Proponent shall submit a fully executed copy of the agreement to the City of Perris Planning Division to ensure compliance with this condition of approval. Upon verification, the City of Perris Planning Division shall clear this condition. This agreement shall not modify any condition of approval or mitigation measure.

In the event that archaeological resources are discovered at the Project Site or within the off-site Project improvement areas, the handling of the discovered resource(s) will differ, depending on the nature of the find. Consistent with California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(b) and Assembly Bill 52 (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), avoidance shall be the preferred method of preservation for Native American/Tribal Cultural/Archaeological Resources. However, it is understood that all artifacts, with the exception of human remains and related grave goods or sacred/ceremonial/religious objects, belong to the Property Owner. The Property Owner shall commit to the relinquishing and reburial and/or curation of all artifacts identified as being of Native American origin. All artifacts, Native American or otherwise, discovered during the monitoring program shall be recorded and inventoried by the consulting archaeologist.

If any Native American artifacts are identified when Native American Tribal representative is not present, all reasonable measures shall be taken to protect the resource(s) in situ and the City Planning Division and Native American Tribal representative(s) shall be notified. The designated Native American Tribal representative will be given sufficient time to examine the find. If the find is determined to be of sacred or religious value, the Native American Tribal representative will work with the City and project archaeologist to protect the resource in accordance with Tribal requirements as may be feasible. All analysis will be undertaken in a manner that avoids destruction or other adverse impacts.

In the event that human remains are discovered at the project site or within the off-site project improvement areas, mitigation measure MM CUL-2 shall immediately apply, and all items found in association with Native American human remains shall be considered grave goods or sacred in origin and subject to special handling.

Non-Native American artifacts shall be inventoried, assessed, and analyzed for cultural affiliation, personal affiliation (prior ownership), function, and temporal placement. Subsequent to analysis and reporting, these artifacts will be subjected to curation, as deemed appropriate, or returned to the Property Owner.

Once grading activities have ceased and/or the Project archaeologist, in consultation with the designated Native American Tribal representative, determines that monitoring is no longer warranted, monitoring activities can be discontinued following notification to the City of Perris Planning Division.

A report of findings, including an itemized inventory of artifacts, shall be prepared upon completion of the tasks outlined above. The report shall include all data outlined by the Office of Historic Preservation guidelines, including a conclusion of the significance of all recovered, relocated, and reburied artifacts. A copy of the report shall also be filed with the City of Perris Planning Division, the South Coastal Information Center, and the Native American Tribe(s) involved with the Project.

MM CUL-2 In the event that human remains (or remains that may be human) are discovered at the Project Site or within the off-site Project improvement areas during ground-disturbing activities, the construction contractors, Project archaeologist, and/or designated Native American Tribal representative shall immediately stop all activities within 100 feet of the find. Work outside of the 100-foot radius may continue. The Project Proponent shall then inform the Riverside County Coroner and the City of Perris Planning Division immediately, and the coroner shall be permitted to examine the remains as required by California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5(b).

If the coroner determines that the remains are of Native American origin, the coroner shall notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will identify the “Most Likely Descendent” (MLD). Despite the affiliation with any Native American Tribal representative(s) at the site, the NAHC’s identification of the MLD will stand. The MLD shall be granted access to inspect the site of the discovery of Native American human remains and may recommend to the Property Owner means for treatment or disposition, with appropriate dignity of the human remains and any associated grave goods. The MLD shall complete his or her inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours

of being granted access to the site. The disposition of the remains will be determined in consultation between the Property Owner and the MLD. In the event that there is disagreement regarding the disposition of the remains, State law will apply and median with the NAHC will make the applicable determination (see Public Resources Code Section 5097.98I and 5097.94(k)).

The specific locations of Native American burials and reburials will be proprietary and not disclosed to the general public. The locations will be documented by the consulting archaeologist in conjunction with the various stakeholders and a report of findings will be filed with the South Coastal Information Center.

4.4.8 Level of Significance After Mitigation

4.4.8.1 Threshold CUL-2: Archaeological Resources

With implementation of Project-level mitigation measures MM CUL-1 and MM CUL-2, potential impacts to archaeological resources would be reduced to less than significant levels.

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