

June 17, 2023

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44-600 Village Court, Suite 100
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Re: Cultural Resource Survey for the Lancaster Maverik Project, Lancaster, Antelope Valley,
California

Dear Ms. Choudhuri,

This letter report presents the results of a cultural resources survey conducted by ASM Affiliates (ASM) for the Lancaster Maverik Project (Project), Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. This letter report provides the results of an archaeological inventory of the Project parcel. The results of this analysis will assist the City of Lancaster (City) in determining whether the Project has the potential to result in significant effects in compliance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The study included a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), a search of the Sacred Lands File held by the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), review of other background material related to the Project area, and a pedestrian survey of the Project parcel to determine the presence or absence of historic resources. The SCCIC summary lists are included with this report as Attachment A, and NAHC and related correspondence to date as Attachment B.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The Project site is an approximately 2-acre parcel located in the southern portion of the City of Lancaster, at the southwest corner of Avenue L and 15th Street (APN 3109-019-041), approximately 0.19 mile west of State Route 14 (Figure 1). The Project is located within Section 33, Township 7 North, Range 12 West, San Bernardino Base Meridian, as illustrated on the USGS Lancaster West, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 2). As proposed, the Project would result in construction of a 6,125-square-foot Maverik Fueling Station with a convenience store in the RR-2.5 zone. The Project site is currently vacant and exhibits some scattered modern refuse and limited dumping.

CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Environmental Setting

The project area is located on the western edge of southern California's Antelope Valley and within the southwestern Mojave Desert. Several vegetation types are recognized in the Mojave Zone: creosote bush scrub, saltbush scrub, shadscale scrub, blackbrush scrub, Joshua tree woodland, and annual vegetation (Vasek and Barbour 1990). The predominant vegetative resource found in the Project area was Joshua tree woodland, with a number of Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*) scattered throughout the property.

Wildlife common to this area include kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys* spp.), woodrats (*Neotoma* spp.), and various ground squirrels (*Spermophilus* spp.). Larger mammals include cottontail rabbits (*Sylvilagus audubonii*) and coyote (*Canis latrans*). The mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) is another major resident of the region, although its numbers have declined in modern times (Sutton 1990:67). Large numbers of pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) are presumed to have existed in the region at one time, as well as bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis*) and black bear (*Ursus americanus*). Avian species identified in the area include Northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*), California quail (*Cattipepla californica*), Common raven (*Corvus corax*), horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), Great-tailed grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*), Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*), European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and rock dove (*Columba livis*).

The current setting of the Project parcel is in a developing residential area, with older ranches and residences to the south and west and new housing developments to the north.

Prehistoric Cultural Setting

Earle et al. (1997) and Loechl et al. (2002) have divided the prehistoric cultural chronology for the Antelope Valley into seven cultural/temporal periods: Fluted Point Period, Lake Mojave Period, Pinto Period, Gypsum Period, Saratoga Springs Period, Post-Saratoga Springs/Late Period, and Contact/Ethnographic Period; the last includes the Euroamerican historic record.

Fluted Point Period (12,000-10,000 B.P.)

Sites dating to this period have been identified based on the presence of fluted-base projectile points similar to the well-known Clovis forms associated with ancient cultures of the Great Plains. Termed "Western Clovis" (Tuohy 1974; Willig and Aikens 1988), "Black Rock Concave Base" (Clewlow 1968) or "Great Basin Concave-Base" (Pendleton 1979), many types of Clovis-like points have been found in various locations throughout the western Great Basin and in California. Lithic assemblages that contain fluted points often contain crescents, graters, scrapers, choppers, and "perforators" (Davis 1978). Fluted point sites occur in a variety of environments, indicating that inhabitants were likely generalized foragers rather than big game hunters (Earle et al. 1997; Moratto 1984).

Lake Mohave Period (10,000-7000 B.P.)

In the western Great Basin, various stemmed projectile point forms have been dated to the early Holocene, roughly between 10,000 and 7500 B.P. Generally subsumed under the broader

appellate “Great Basin Stemmed,” these artifacts are elongate, lanceolate forms often with subtle, sloping shoulders, but many different regional styles exist. In the western Mojave, typical stemmed points are Lake Mohave (unshouldered) and Silver Lake forms (slightly shouldered), both of which are parts of lithic assemblages similar to those of the Fluted Point period.

Pinto Period (7000-4000 B.P.)

Pinto points, projectiles that bear “weak” shoulders and indented or split-stem bases, typify archaeological assemblages of this period. Associated flaked stone assemblages include leaf-shaped bifaces, formal unifaces, flake tools, and consistent quantities of core-cobble implements (Basgall 1993, 2000; Campbell and Campbell 1935; Hunt 1960; Rogers 1939). Lithic selection favored fine-grained igneous stones such as basalt and rhyolite for points and bifaces. Millingstones are a major part of Pinto period assemblages, reflecting the importance of seed processing. The timing of the Pinto period coincides with Antevs’ (1953) Altithermal, an extended interval when climate was supposedly very hot and dry. Archaeologists once believed a scarcity of Pinto sites in the Mojave Desert signaled a near-total abandonment of the region because of the oppressive climate, but recent studies imply that the middle Holocene in the Antelope Valley was punctuated by wetter episodes (Grayson 1993; Mehringer 1986) and that the effects of the Altithermal were variable in different parts of the desert.

Gypsum Period (4000-1500 B.P.)

Diagnostic artifacts at Gypsum period sites include Gypsum contracting-stem projectile points, Elko Eared and Corner-notched points, and Humboldt Basal-notched points. Lithic assemblages feature bifaces, scrapers, and a variety of other flake-based tools but also contain mortars and pestles as evidence of processing mesquite, pine nuts, yucca, and agave. Large villages or village complexes appear during Gypsum times, reflecting a transition from seasonal transhumance to year-round sedentary habitation within the Antelope Valley (Sutton 1988). The presence of marine shell artifacts at Gypsum period sites in the Antelope Valley indicates economic ties between the Antelope Valley and the California coast (Warren 1984).

Saratoga Springs Period (1500-800 B.P.)

At around 1500 B.P., the aboriginal people of the Mojave Desert had replaced the atlatl, or spear-thrower, with the bow and arrow. This change brought about a shift toward the use of smaller projectile points, including various corner-notched and side-notched Saratoga Springs types and the corner-notched Rose Spring and Eastgate types. Anasazi ceramics also appear in the southern Mojave around 1200-1100 B.P., coinciding with the westward spread of the Virgin Anasazi into southern Nevada. Influence from the cultures of the Colorado River brought in buff ware ceramics and other goods. The intensification of plant use initiated during the Gypsum period continued in the Saratoga Springs period, and diet was expanded to include a wide range of high cost/low return plant foods that required high cost/high return procurement and processing strategies.

Post-Saratoga Springs or Late Period (800-300 B.P.)

Social and economic adaptations during this final prehistoric interval in the Antelope Valley were largely an extension of patterns that developed during the Saratoga Springs period. Trade along the Mojave River continued to provide the people of the eastern Antelope Valley with a variety of exotic goods and materials, though trade relationships with coastal groups grew

stronger than trade relationships with groups from the arid interior. Cottonwood Triangular and Desert Side-notched points were smaller than those derived from previous periods.

Contact/Ethnographic Period (300 B.P.–Present)

This last interval is the period of contact between native desert people and European-American explorers and settlers. Kroeber (1925) attests that as many as six different native groups were living in the western Mojave at time of Euro American contact, including the Kawaiisu, Chemehuevi, Alliklik (Tataviam), Kitanemuk, Vanyume, and Serrano. Blackburn and Bean (1978) later reinterpreted political geography in the western Mojave, and divided the western Antelope Valley between the Tataviam (to the south) and the Kitanemuk (to the north). Sutton (1980:220) followed Blackburn and Bean and claimed that the late prehistoric population in the majority of Antelope Valley were the ancestors of the ethnographic Kitanemuk. He later hypothesized that the floor of the valley was abandoned a few decades prior to Spanish contact in 1772 (Sutton 1988; Warren 1984). However, Earle et al. (1997:8) cite the 1772 diary of Pedro Fages and the 1776 diary of Father Garcés, which mention Indian villages in the western Antelope Valley to challenge this claim.

The project area lies along the eastern portion of Tataviam territory and the western portion of Vanyume Serrano territory, north of Fernandño territory and south of Kitanemuk territory. It is situated on the “border” of Tataviam and Vanyume Serrano settlement areas and may have been occupied and used by these groups simultaneously or at different times. These groups are Shoshonean, and their languages represent Takic branches of the Uto-Aztecan language group. Inhabitants of the area had access to the resources of the Antelope Valley and to the resources of the ranges to the east and south. The interface of the two types of biotic zones provided plant and animal resources that varied with season and elevation. Larger dependence on plant sources for subsistence is seen in later periods.

A Brief Historic Overview of Antelope Valley

Settlement and agricultural development began with the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) line in the Antelope Valley on September 6, 1876 (Weitze 1993:3). Establishing railroad stations along the line included the first southern SPRR station in the valley, Alpine/Harold, near present-day Barrel Springs Road and Sierra Highway (Serpico 2000:56). While sporadic homesteads and grazing stock dotted the Antelope Valley, settlement is attributed to the mid-1880s land boom in southern California sponsored by various town and colony promoters (Earle 2003). The SPRR promoted colonizing land near its railroad line, which many immigrants responded to by founding towns adjacent to the rail line. Lancaster, Pennsylvanians established Lancaster in 1877 and German Lutherans founded Palmenthal in 1886 (Weitze 1993:3).

According to Antelope Valley ethnographer David Earle (2003),

The settlement of the Antelope Valley region was intimately tied up with the central role of the San Gabriel Mountains watershed as a water-provider to agriculture in southern California. With the experiments of the 1880s aimed at developing agricultural specialties of southern California farmers – raisin grapes,

then almonds, then oranges – the factors of transport facilities and of water availability became crucial. From an early date, agriculture in the regions watered by the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains watershed was designed to serve national and international markets via the rail distribution of specialty products such as raisins, nuts, or fruit, products requiring special processing.

Antelope Valley land remained relatively inexpensive and available in the 1880s as part of the San Gabriel Range watershed. Agricultural colonies developed in proximity to the watercourses of Big Rock and Littlerock Creek that provided stream runoff for irrigation (Earle 2003). The emergence of the “California Doctrine” in 1886 as a result of *Lux v. Haggin* proposed a possible problem for landowners claiming riparian rights. While the legal decision upheld the riparian doctrine, in certain instances the prior appropriation doctrine would supersede the riparian doctrine; landowners in the Antelope Valley that diverted water directly from Little Rock Creek could find their water rights in jeopardy. The passage of the Wright Act in 1887 intended to create more opportunities for local farmers by fostering collective water use through the formation of irrigation districts that could raise revenue and issue bonds, among other authorities (Earle 2003; Hundley 2001:97-100). A period of wet years (1883-1893) allowed promoters to advertise the valley as land with plenty of rainfall and underground water, a place where farmers could practice dry farming and produce grains and tree crops. The unusually rainy period soon ended and a drought followed, which devastated the local economy (Earle 2003).

Originally established as a water stop between San Francisco and Los Angeles for the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1876, the stop eventually became the home of the Western Hotel and within a decade, the community of Lancaster was prospering. Gold and borax were discovered in 1898 and heralded the influx of miners, which led to the creation of the world’s largest open-pit borax mine. Since the 1930s, the aerospace industry has flourished in and around Lancaster. With the introduction of Air Force flight tests at Muroc Air Base, Lancaster has grown relatively steadily, and Edwards Air Force Base has had a major impact on the local economy. In 1977, Lancaster was incorporated as a city. Since then, the city has experienced rapid growth due to the phenomenal expansion of housing development, and increasingly taken on the characteristics of a “bedroom community” in support of the Greater Los Angeles area (CRM TECH 2006).

STUDY METHODS

Methods used to assess the presence of and potential for cultural resources within the property included a search of existing records and a pedestrian field survey. ASM began the study by requesting a records search from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), part of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), that included the Project area and a radius of 1 mile around it. A search of the Sacred Lands File held by the NAHC was also requested. Historical aerial photographs and USGS topographic maps were assessed to discern prior land use on the Project parcel.

ASM Senior Archaeologist Sherri Andrews, M.A., RPA conducted an intensive pedestrian archaeological field survey on June 5, 2023. The survey was undertaken to determine the presence of any previously undocumented cultural resources that may be discernable on the surface of the Project parcel using transects spaced at 15-m intervals.

STUDY RESULTS

Records Search Results

The SCCIC records search was conducted to determine whether the Project area has been previously subject to systematic survey as well as the presence or absence of previously documented cultural resources within the Project area. The search included all records and documents on file with the SCCIC, as well as the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Historic Properties Directory. The search was undertaken on April 17, 2023, with additional information received from SCCIC on June 12, 2023. The SCCIC summary lists are provided with this report as Attachment A.

A total of 34 previous reports were identified within a 1-mile radius of the project area as a result of the records search (Table 1), none of which includes the current Project area.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resource Projects Conducted within the 1-Mile Records Search Radius

Report No. (LA-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
00162	1988	Love, Bruce W. / Pyramid Archaeology	Archaeology Report for Avenue M Right-of Way and Amargosa Culvert Project, City of Lancaster, California
01833	1989	Romani, Gwendolyn R. / Greenwood and Associates	Cultural Resource Investigation: Hasibi Auto Dealership, City of Lancaster
02033	1989	Norwood, Richard H.	Cultural Resource Survey for GPA 88-29, Lancaster, California
02476	1991	Drover, Christopher E.	Environmental Impact Evaluation: An Archaeological Assessment of the Industry Trade Center Specific Plan Palmdale, California
02539	1991	Campbell, Mark M. / Campbell Research	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Villa West Townhomes, Lancaster, California
02593	1992	Norwood, Richard H. / RT Factfinders	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Amargosa Creek Channelization Project, Avenue L to Avenue K-8 and 10th Street East, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
02619	1992	Norwood, Richard H. / RT Factfinders	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8th Street West Drainage Channel, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
02779	1993	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Vesting Tentative Map, Tract 51078 Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
03621	N.D.	McKenna, Jeanette A. / EIP Associates, Inc.	Cultural Resources Investigation for the Proposed Avenue L Overcrossing: Archaeological Records Check and Literature Review
03784	1992	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Amargosa Creek Channelization Project, Avenue L to Avenue K-8 and 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
04392	1998	King, Chester / Topanga Anthropological Consultants	Archaeological Reconnaissance for the 10 th Street West Transmission Main Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
05321	2000	Norwood, Richard H. / RT Factfinders	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for 6.5 Acres 15th Street West and West Avenue K-8, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Report No. (LA-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
06070	2001	Sylvia, Barbara / Caltrans District 7	Negative Archaeological Survey Report for a Double Three Beam Barrier in the Median of State Route 14 from the Avenue L Overcrossing to the Avenue I Undercrossing
06625	2001	Budinger, Fred B., Jr. / Tetra Tech, Inc.	Verizon Wireless, Inc. Proposal for Installation of an Unmanned Cellular Telecommunications Facility at 43011 10th Street West, Lancaster, CA
06632	2003	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Sayani Property, 5 Acres in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
08233	2005	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for APN 3112-043-049, Approximately 1 Acre of Vacant Land Located Near Avenue L and 22nd Street West the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
08323	2005	Richards, Michael D. / ArchaeoPaleo Resource Management, Inc.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment of a 4 Acre Parcel in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
08325	2006	Wlodarski, Robert J.	Record Search and Field Reconnaissance Phase for Bechtel Corporation Wireless Telecommunication Site Lsancad071 (Highway 14 and Avenue N), Located at 41343 12th Street West, City of Palmdale, County of Los Angeles, California 93551
08356	2004	Groak, Kevin P. / Groark Historical Consulting	Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of a Three Acre Lot in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
08427	2007	Cooley, Theodore G./Jones & Stokes	Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company, 66kV Antelope Bus Split Project, Los Angeles County, California (JO# 3197 0468)
08437	2004	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of Assessor Parcel Number 3128-009-065 in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
08439	2004	McKenna, Jeanette A. / McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Pacific Land Company Land (approx. 10 Acres) in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
09393	2008	Parr, Robert E. / Cal Heritage	Archaeological Assessment of 21 Deteriorated Power Poles on the Southern California Edison Godde, Lariat, Zappa, Stealth, Museum, Force, Petan, Yoda, and Hughes Lake 12kV Circuits Los Angeles County, California
09654	2009	Schmidt, James J. / Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.	WO 6036-4800; 9-4805: Lupine Distribution Line Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project. Los Angeles
10144	2008	DeGiovine, Michael M., and Stacie L. Wilson / ICF Jones & Stokes	Second Addendum: Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company, the 66kV Antelope Bus Split Project, Los Angeles County, California
10554	2005	Schmidt, James J. / Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.	Butte 12kV, Huron 12kV, Leona 12kV, Force 12kV, Roosevelt 12kV, and Rayburn 12kV Distribution Lines, Kern and Los Angeles Counties
10596	2010	Orfila, Rebecca S. / RSO Consulting	A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of City of Lancaster – Rule 20A Project Area (I/O 310334) 10 th Street West from Ave K-8 to Ave L-10, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
11034	2009	Magness, Thomas / U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Section Recycled Water 1 (RW1) Pipeline Project, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
11035	2010	Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers	Continued Consultation Regarding the North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Recycled Water 1 Pipeline (RW1) Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Report No. (LA-)	Year	Author(s)/Affiliation	Title
11170	2011	Paniagua, Jaime, and Gwen Romani / Compass Rose	Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for an Approximately 23 Acres Parcel, Located West of 25th Street W., South of W. Avenue L-8, and North of W. Avenue L-12, in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California
11453	2011	Orfila, Rebecca S. / RSO Consulting	Archaeological Survey for the Southern California Edison Company: Nineteen Deteriorated Power Poles on the Petan 12kV, Hangar 12kV, Lupine 12kV, Assembly 12kV, Force 12kV, Moonglow 12 kV, and Hughes Lake 12 kV Circuits in Los Angeles County in California
12238	2013	Bonner, Wayne H. / EAS	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC Candidate NL0500 (Lancaster City Park) 43011 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California, CASPR No. 3551454976
12669	2014	Brunzell, Dave / BCR Consulting LLC	Cultural Resources Assessment for the Twenty K Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California (BCR Consulting Project No TRF1415)
12745	2014	Wills, Carrie D., and Diane F. Bonner / MBA	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Verizon Wireless Candidate Emten (SCE Planning Office) 42060 10 th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California EBI Project No. 61141378

Four resources have been previously documented within the 1-mi. records search radius, but none appear within the Project area (Table 2). All of these resources are historic in age, and include historic structure footings, a can and bottle glass dump, and two isolated historic artifacts.

Table 2. Resources Previously Recorded within the 1-Mile Records Search Radius

Primary # (P-19-)	Trinomial (CA-LAN-)	Date Recorded (Recorded by)	Description	Attribute Codes*
004110	4110H	2010 (R.S. Orfila)	Five concrete and wooden structure footings, pyramidal in form, forming a rough five-point circle	AH2
004789	4789H	2015 (M. Hyland)	Cans and bottle glass scattered over a 85 x 56 meter area.	AH4
100802	-	2010 (R.S. Orfila)	Isolate: Approx. 10" long piece of ½" forged iron strapping similar to that found on historic gating, doors, furniture, or small machinery.	AH16
100803	-	2010 (R.S. Orfila)	Isolate: Single vegetable can, measuring 3-7/8" height and 2-5/6" diameter (Simonis Type 15, ca. 1917-1929)	AH16

*AH2. Foundations/structure pads; AH4. Privies/dumps/trash scatters; AH16. Other.

Other Background Research

Historic aerials from 1948, 1953, 1956, 1959, 1965, 1971, 1974, 1987, 1990, 1994, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 were analyzed on historicaerials.com, as were historic topographic maps dated 1930, 1933, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1975, 2012, 2015, and 2018.

West Avenue L is evident on the first available aerial from 1948. From 1948, the Project parcel and all adjacent parcels south of West Avenue L are undeveloped, but by 1953 a structure is present west of the Project parcel and 15th Street West has been established to the east. The

Project parcel itself appears undeveloped throughout the available record. Topographic maps also show no land use for the parcel throughout the available record, and no significant change appears on the topographic maps to present, aside from the 1959 appearance of the structure to the west of the parcel, and 15th Street West to the east.

According to the cultural resources technical report appended to the Environmental Impact Report supporting the City of Lancaster's General Plan, the Project lies within an area that has been assessed as having low to moderate sensitivity for both prehistoric archaeological resources and historic-period built environment features (CRM TECH 2006:28, 32).

NAHC Sacred Lands File

A request for a search of the NAHC's Sacred Lands File (SLF) was made by ASM on May 10, 2023. This search was undertaken to supplement the SCCIC records search to inquire as to whether resources important to local Native American groups may exist within the proposed Project area that may not appear within the CHRIS system. The NAHC response was received on June 5, 2023, indicating a negative result. The response also included a list of 10 tribal contacts who may have interest in or information about the Project area. Query letters were sent to all of the contacts provided on June 14, 2023. The NAHC response and a sample query letter are included with this report as Attachment B. Any responses that may be received will be compiled and submitted as a supplement to Attachment B.

Pedestrian Archaeological Survey

For the archaeological survey, the entire Project parcel was walked in transects spaced approximately 15 m apart and oriented primarily east/west. The parcel is a largely undisturbed area of desert containing a number of Joshua trees with the balance being covered with low scrub and grasses (Figures 3 and 4). Surface visibility was good, approximately 70-85 percent. The eastern and northern edges are disturbed by road construction on both edges and a utility pole line that runs along the eastern edge. It is bounded on the western edge by a white fence. Beyond this fence to the south are a series of wooden fence posts that currently lack wire. A small amount of refuse is scattered across the parcel with a few larger dumped items, including an older model television set. Other items noted within the parcel include sports items such as a soccer ball and a baseball, scattered milled lumber, and degrading plastic items such as buckets. No previously undocumented cultural resources were encountered during the intensive pedestrian archaeological survey.

REGULATORY CONTEXT

California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)

For purposes of CEQA, a historic resource is any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript listed in or eligible for listing in the CRHR (PRC §5024.1, Title 14 CCR, §4852). The four criteria for listing in the CRHR closely mirror the criteria for listing in the NRHP. A resource is eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.

Prehistoric archaeological sites are typically evaluated only under Criterion 4 for their potential to yield data important to understanding the prehistory of the area or region. Historical archaeological sites and architectural resources may be evaluated under any of the four criteria because their features, plus available historical documentation, may be used to inform our understanding of their association with events, people, workmanship, or other important historical information. Isolates are not eligible for the listing in the CRHR because they lack association and context with other archaeological materials. Recording the physical description and location of an isolate exhausts its research potential.

Local Preservation Goals

The City of Lancaster does not currently have a preservation ordinance. However, ASM consulted the *City of Lancaster General Plan 2030* (City of Lancaster 2009:4-7), which states that “[w]ithin many parts of the study area, especially in the areas adjacent to the foothills and along washes and other areas, it is possible that artifacts from the past might be found. Archaeological investigations prior to development will be important, along with the continued preservation of remaining historic buildings in the City.”

RECOMMENDATIONS

No prehistoric or historical artifacts or sites were identified during the current survey. As such, no historical resources as defined under CEQA that would require further consideration were identified within the Project area. Further, the results of the background research conducted for the study indicate a low archaeological sensitivity for the Project area.

However, in the event that any archaeological materials are encountered during future development activities, all activities must be suspended in the vicinity of the find until the deposits are recorded and evaluated by a qualified archaeologist. If evaluated as eligible for the CRHR and if impacts to the resource cannot be avoided, mitigation would be necessary. In addition, if significant subsurface prehistoric resources are encountered that will be subject to impacts from the project, Tribes with historic and cultural ties to the area shall be contacted.

If human remains of any kind are found during construction, the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e) and AB 2641 shall be followed. According to these requirements, all construction activities must cease immediately, and the San Bernardino County Coroner and a qualified archaeologist must be notified. The Coroner will examine the remains and determine the next appropriate action based on his or her findings. If the coroner determines the remains to be of Native American origin, he or she will notify the NAHC. The NAHC will then identify the most likely descendants (MLD) to be consulted regarding treatment and/or reburial of the remains. If an MLD cannot be identified, or the MLD fails to make a recommendation regarding

June 17, 2023
Anna Choudhari
Page 11 of 17

the treatment of the remains within 48 hours after gaining access to the remains, the property owner shall rebury the Native American human remains and associated grave goods with appropriate dignity on the property in a location not subject to further subsurface disturbance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sherri Andrews".

Sherri Andrews
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Pasadena, California 91103
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Attachment A: SCCIC Summary Lists
Attachment B: NAHC and Tribal Correspondence (to date)

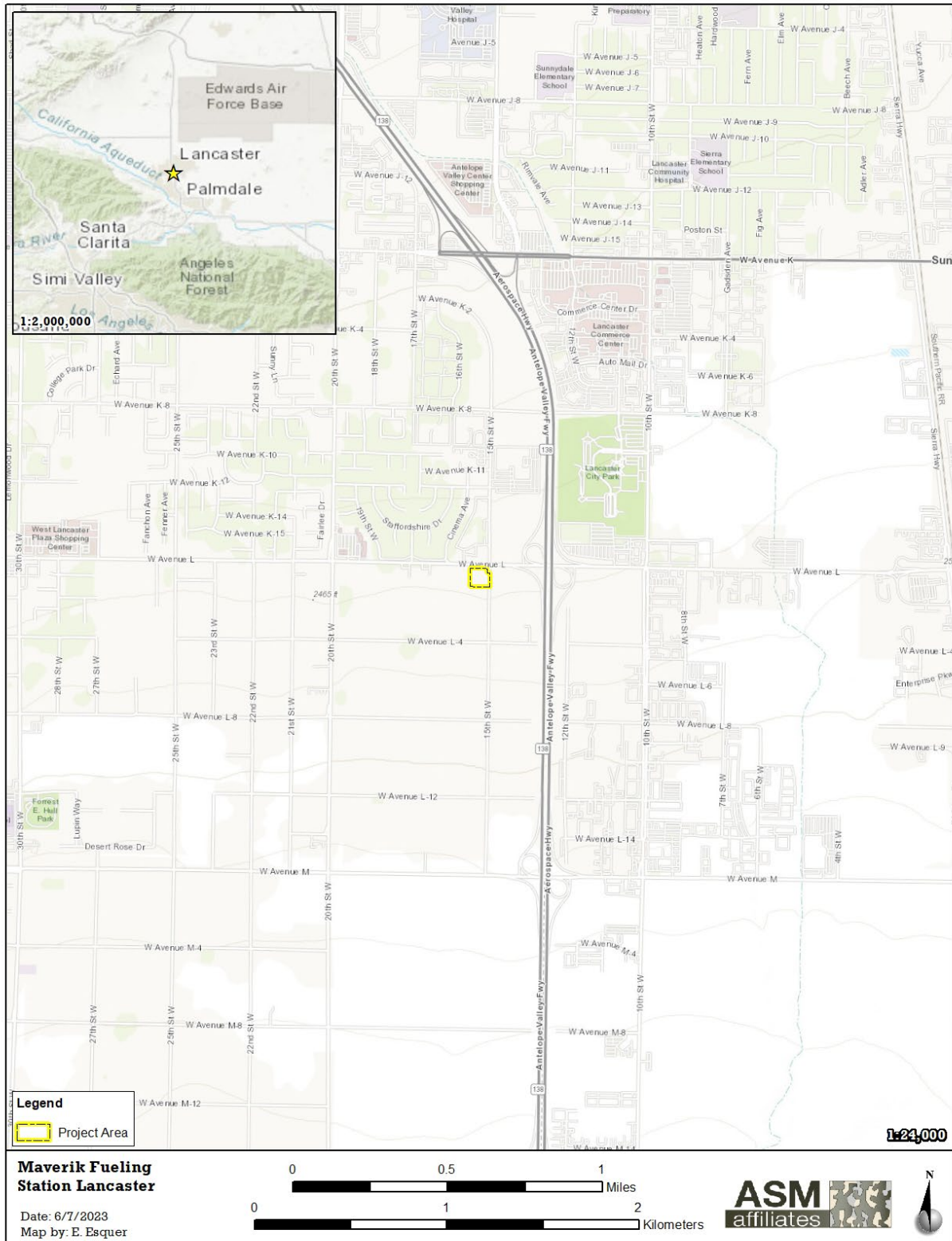


Figure 1. Project vicinity map.

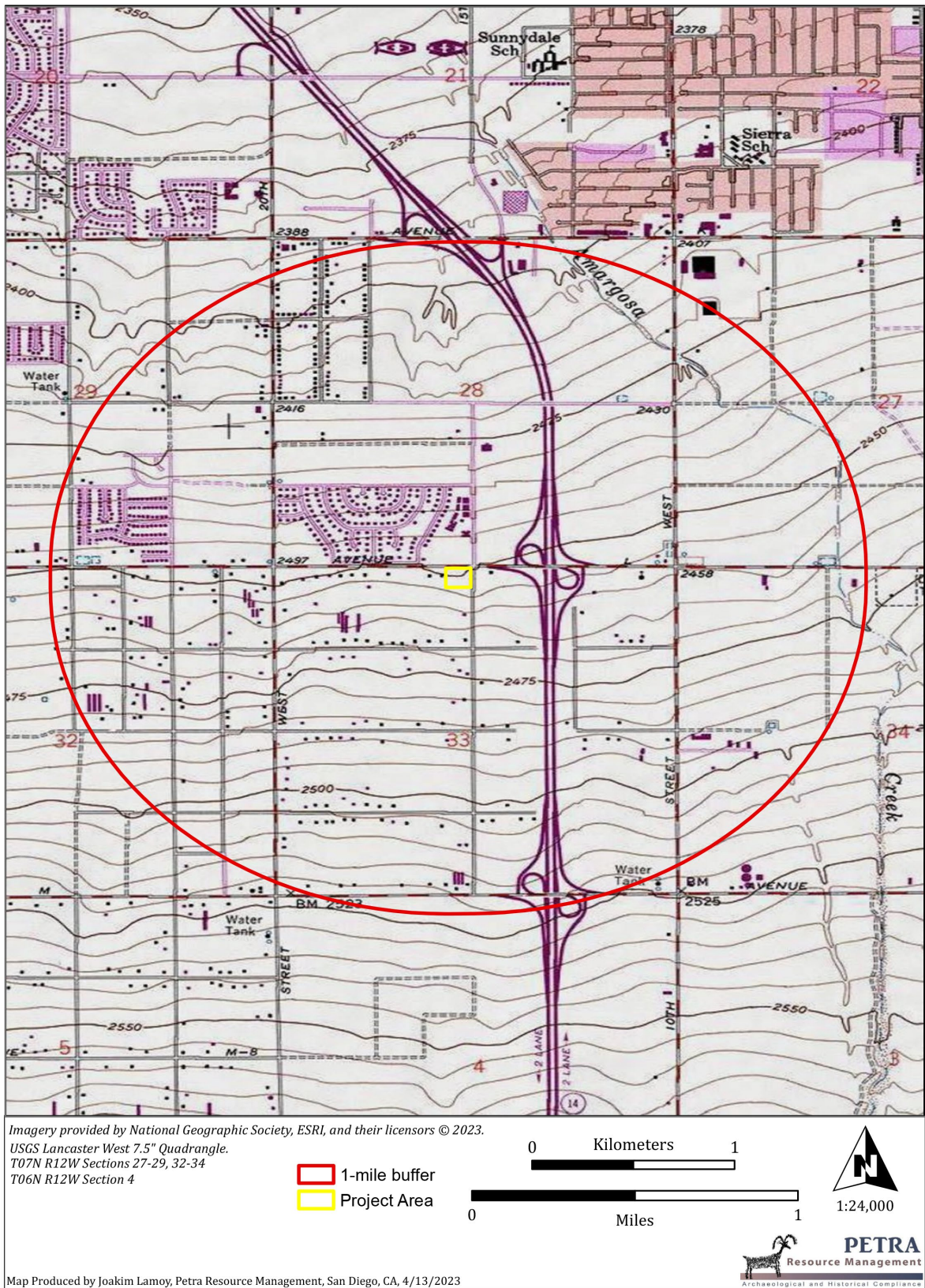


Figure 2. Project location map.



Figure 3. Project area overview from northwest corner, view to east.



Figure 4. Project area overview from northwest corner, view to southeast.

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Topos: 1930, 1933, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1975, 2012, 2015, and 2018

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ATTACHMENT A: RECORDS SEARCH SUMMARY TABLES

Report List

Maverik Lancaster 43230

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-00162		1988	Love, Bruce	Archaeology Report for Avenue M Right-of-way and Amargosa Culvert Project	Pyramid Archaeology	
LA-01833		1989	Romani, Gwendolyn R.	Cultural Resource Investigation: Hasibi Auto Dealership, City of Lancaster	Greenwood and Associates	
LA-02033		1975	Eggers, A.V.	Zone Change Case No. 6102-(5) Draft Environmental Impact Report	University of California, Los Angeles Archaeological Survey	
LA-02476		1991	Drover, Christopher E.	Environmental Impact Evaluation: an Archaeological Assessment of the Industry Trade Center Specific Plan Palmdale, California		19-001601, 19-001999
LA-02539		1991	Campbell, Mark M.	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report for the Villa West Townhomes, Lancaster, California.	Campbell Research	
LA-02593		1992	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Amagosa Creek Channelization Project, Avenue L to Avenue K-8 and 10th Street East, Lancaster, Los Angeles County California	RT Factfinders	
LA-02619		1992	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8th Street West Drainage Channel, Lancaster, Los Angeles County California	RT Factfinders	
LA-02779		1993	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Vesting Tentative Map, Tract 51078 Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	Consulting Archaeologist	19-000419, 19-000486, 19-001422, 19-001990
LA-03621			McKenna, Jeanette A.	Cultural Resources Investigation for the Proposed Avenue L Overcrossing: Archaeological Records Check and Literature Review	EIP Associates, Inc.	19-001422, 19-001990, 19-002039
LA-03784		1992	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Cultural Resource Investigation for Amargosa Creek Channelization Project, Avenue L to Avenue K-8 and 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County California		
LA-04392		1998	King, Chester	Archaeological Reconnaissance for the 10th Street West Transmission Main Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California.	Topanga Anthropological Consultants	
LA-05321		2000	Norwood, Richard H.	Phase I Culutral Resoucre Investigation for 6.5 Acres 15th Street West and West Avenue K-8, Lacaster, Los Angeles County California	RT Factfinders	

Report List

Maverik Lancaster 43230

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-06070		2001	Sylvia, Barbara	Highway Project to Install a Double Thrie Beam Barrier in the Median of State Route 14 From the Avenue L Overcrossing to the Avenue I Undercrossing	Caltrans District 7	
LA-06625		2001	Budinger, Fred E., Jr.	Verizon Wireless, Inc. Proposal for Installation of an Unmanned Cellular Telecommunications Facility at 43011 10th Street West, Lancaster, Ca	Tetra Tech, Inc.	
LA-06632		2003	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Sayani Property, 5 Acres in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	
LA-08233		2007	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for APN 3112-043-049, Approximately 1 Acre of Vacant Land Located Near Avenue L and 22nd Street West the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	
LA-08323		2005	Richards, Michael D.	A Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment of a 4 Acre Parcel in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	ArchaeoPaleo Resource Management, Inc.	
LA-08325		2006	Wlodarski, Robert J.	Record Search and Field Reconnaissance Phase for Bechtel Corporation Wireless Telecommunication Site Lsancad071 (highway 14 and Avenue N), Located at 41343 12th Street West, City of Palmdale, County of Los Angeles, California 93551	Cellular, Archaeological Resource, Evaluations	
LA-08356		2004	Groark, Kevin P.	Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of a Three Acre Lot in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	Groark Historical Consulting	
LA-08437		2004	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of Assessor Parcel Number 3128-009-065 in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	
LA-08439		2004	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Pacific Land Company Land (approx. 10 Acres) in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	

Report List

Maverik Lancaster 43230

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-09393		2008	Parr, Robert E.	Archaeological Assessment of 21 Deteriorated Power Poles on the Southern California Edison Godde, Lariat, Zappa, Stealth, Museum, Force, Petan, Yoda, and Hughes Lake 12kV Circuits Los Angeles County, California	Cal Heritage	
LA-09654		2009	Schmidt, James J.	WO 6036-4800; 9-4805: Lupine Distribution Line Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project. Los Angeles County, California.	Compass Rose Archaeological, Inc.	
LA-10144		2008	DeGiovine, Michael M. and Wilson, Stacy L.	Second Addendum: Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company the 66KV Antelope Bus Split Project, Los Angeles County, CA	ICF Jones & Stokes	19-002715, 19-003381, 19-003680, 19-003817, 19-100316
LA-10554		2005	Schmidt, James J.	Butte 12kV, Huron 12kV, Leona 12kV, Force 12kV, Roosevelt 12kV, and Rayburn 12kV Distribution Lines Kern and Los Angeles Counties	Compass Rose archaeological, Inc.	19-001752, 19-001757, 19-001773, 19-003176
LA-10596		2010	Orfila, Rebecca S.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of City of Lancaster - Rule 20A Project Area (1/O 310334) 10th Street West from Ave. K-8 to Ave L-10, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	RSO Consulting	19-001692, 19-004110, 19-100802, 19-100803
LA-11034		2009	Magness, Thomas	Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Section Recycled Water 1 (RW1) Pipeline Project, City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	19-001739, 19-002013, 19-002014, 19-002015, 19-002016, 19-002185, 19-002739, 19-002740
LA-11035		2010	Unknown	Continued Consultation Regarding the North Valley Regional Water Infrastructure Recycled Water 1 Pipeline (RW1) Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers	19-001990, 19-180627
LA-11170		2011	Paniagua, Jaime and Romani, Gwen	Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for an Approximately 23 Acres Parcel, Located West of 25th Street W., South of W. Avenue L-8, and North of W. Avenue L-12, in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	Compass Rose	

Report List

Maverik Lancaster 43230

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-11453		2011	Orfila, Rebecca	Archaeological Survey for the Southern California Edison Company: Nineteen deteriorated power poles on the Petan 12kv, Forage 12kv, Hangar 12kv, Lupine 12kv Assembly 12kv, Force 12kv, Moonglow 12kv, and Highes Lake 12kv circuits in Los Angeles County, CA	RSO Consulting	19-001995, 19-003692, 19-003693, 19-003694, 19-003833, 19-003834, 19-003835, 19-004110, 19-004157, 19-100802, 19-100803
LA-12238		2013	Bonner, Wayne H.	Cultural Resources Records Search And Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC Candidate NL0500 (Lancaster City Park) 43011 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California, CASPR No. 3551454976	EAS	
LA-12669		2014	Brunzell, Dave	Cultural Resources Assessment for the Twenty K Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California (BCR Consulting Project No TRF1415)	BCR Consulting LLC	
LA-12745		2014	Wills, Carrie D. and Diane F. Bonner	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Verizon Wireless Candidate Emten (SCE Planning Office) 42060 10th Street West, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California EBI Project No. 61141378	MBA	19-001692

Resource List

Maverik Lancaster 43230

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-19-004110	CA-LAN-004110H	Resource Name - Wood and Concrete Structure Footings (200907-28-3)	Structure, Site, Other	Historic	AH02	2010 (Rebecca S. Orfila, RSO Consulting)	LA-10596, LA-11453, LA-12093
P-19-004789	CA-LAN-004789H	Resource Name - SRI-32	Site	Historic	AH04	2015 (Matthew Hyland, SRI)	
P-19-100802		Resource Name - Forged Iron Strapping (200907-28-2)	Other	Historic	AH04	2010 (Rebecca S. Orfila, RSO Consulting)	LA-10596, LA-11453
P-19-100803		Resource Name - Old Vegetable Can Isolate (200907-28-1)	Other	Historic	AH16	2010 (Rebecca S. Orfila, RSO Consulting)	LA-10596, LA-11453, LA-12093

ATTACHMENT B: NAHC AND RELATED CORRESPONDENCE (to date)



ASM
affiliates
archaeology
history
ethnography
architectural history

May 3, 2023

California Native American Heritage Commission
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, California 95691
Via email: nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Re: Sacred Lands File Search Request for the Maverik Fueling Station Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

To whom it may concern,

ASM Affiliates, Inc. (ASM) is conducting a cultural resources study for the Maverik Fueling Station Project, located at the southwest corner of 15th Street West and Avenue L, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. The proposed Project is located on the USGS Lancaster West, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (see attached). This study is being undertaken in compliance with CEQA.

A records search has been ordered from the South Central Coastal Information Center. I am writing to request a search of your Sacred Lands File and to inquire if you have registered any cultural resources, traditional cultural properties, or areas of heritage sensitivity within this proposed project area. Please send the results of this search to me at our Pasadena office, listed below, and feel free to call, write, fax (626) 793-2008, or e-mail (sandrews@asmaffiliates.com) if you have any questions. We appreciate any information you can provide on this project.

Sincerely,

Sherri Andrews, M.A., J.D., RPA
ASM Affiliates, Inc.
Senior Archaeologist

Attachments:

Figure 1. Maverik Fueling Station Lancaster Project area shown on the USGS Lancaster West, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

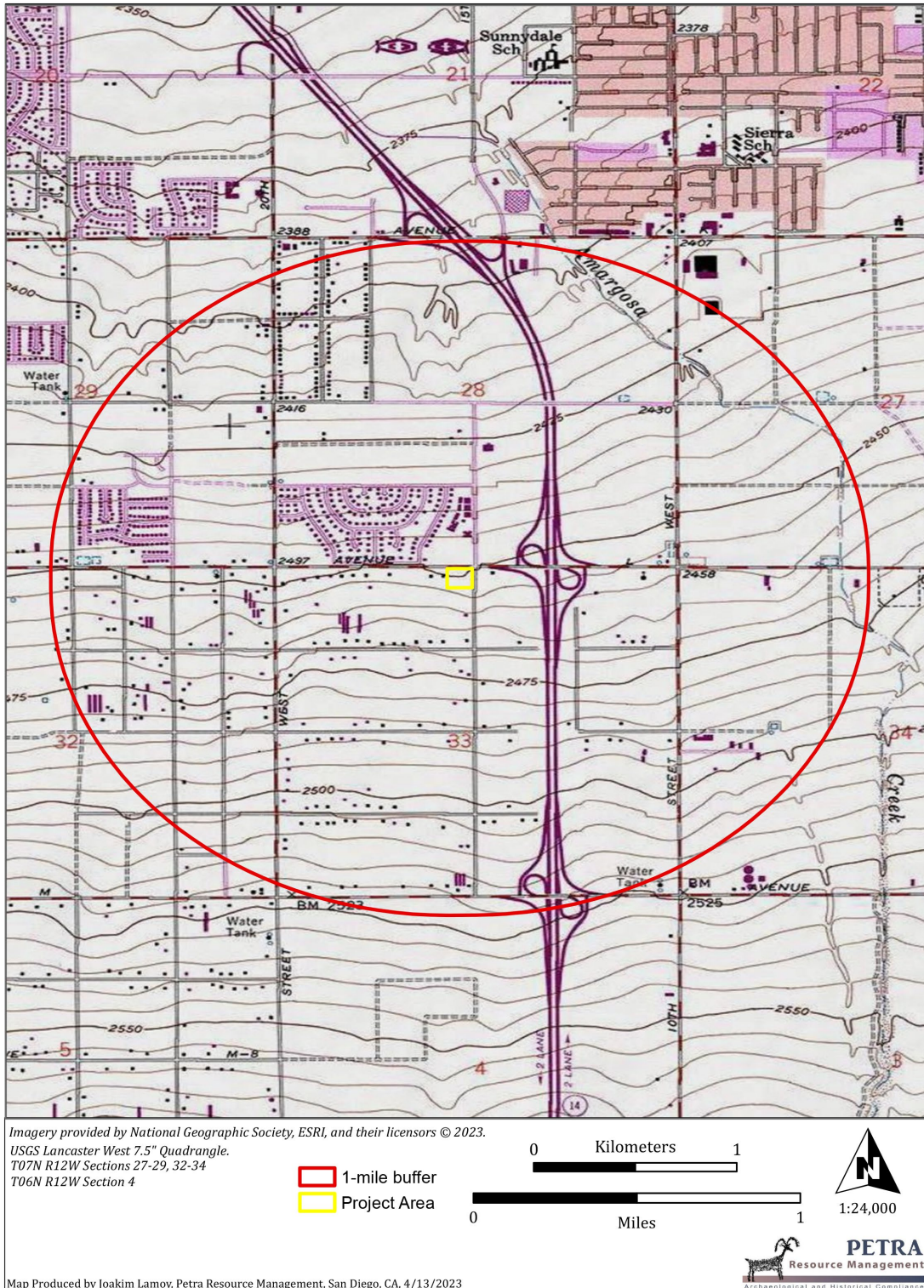


Figure 1. Frontier Industrial Warehouse Project area shown on the USGS Lancaster West, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

June 5, 2023

Sherri Andrews
ASM Affiliates, Inc.

Via Email to: sandrews@asmaffiliates.com

Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Maverik Fueling Station Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Andrews:

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with California Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:



ACTING CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Raymond C. Hitchcock
Miwok, Nisenan

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:

- Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code section 6254.10.

3. The result of any Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Tribal Consultation List
Los Angeles County
6/5/2023**

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Sarah Brunzell, CRM Manager
1019 Second Street
San Fernando, CA, 91340
Phone: (818) 837 - 0794
CRM@tataviam-nsn.us
Tataviam

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5259
Fax: (951) 572-6004
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov
Cahuilla
Serrano

Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Phone: (951) 755 - 5110
Fax: (951) 755-5177
abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov
Cahuilla
Serrano

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (928) 261 - 0254
historicpreservation@quechantribe.com
Quechan

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman - Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (928) 210 - 8739
culturalcommittee@quechantribe.com
Quechan

Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Jordan Joaquin, President,
Quechan Tribal Council
P.O.Box 1899
Yuma, AZ, 85366
Phone: (760) 919 - 3600
executivesecretary@quechantribe.com
Quechan

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

Donna Yocum, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838
Newhall, CA, 91322
Phone: (503) 539 - 0933
Fax: (503) 574-3308
dyocum@sfbmi.org
Kitanemuk
Vanyume
Tataviam

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Alexandra McCleary, Cultural Lands Manager
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA, 92346
Phone: (909) 633 - 0054
alexandra.mccleary@sanmanuel-nsn.gov
Serrano

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (253) 370 - 0167
serranonation1@gmail.com
Serrano

Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson
P. O. Box 343
Patton, CA, 92369
Phone: (909) 528 - 9032
serranonation1@gmail.com
Serrano

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Maverik Fueling Station Project, Los Angeles County.



June 14, 2023

Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Robert Martin, Chairperson
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA, 92220
Via email: abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Re: Maverik Fueling Station, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairperson Martin,

ASM Affiliates, Inc. (ASM) is conducting a cultural resources study for the Maverik Fueling Station Project, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. The proposed Project site is a currently vacant lot located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Avenue L and 15th Street in a residential area just west of State Route 14. The Project area is illustrated on the Lancaster West, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (see attached). This study is being undertaken in compliance with CEQA.

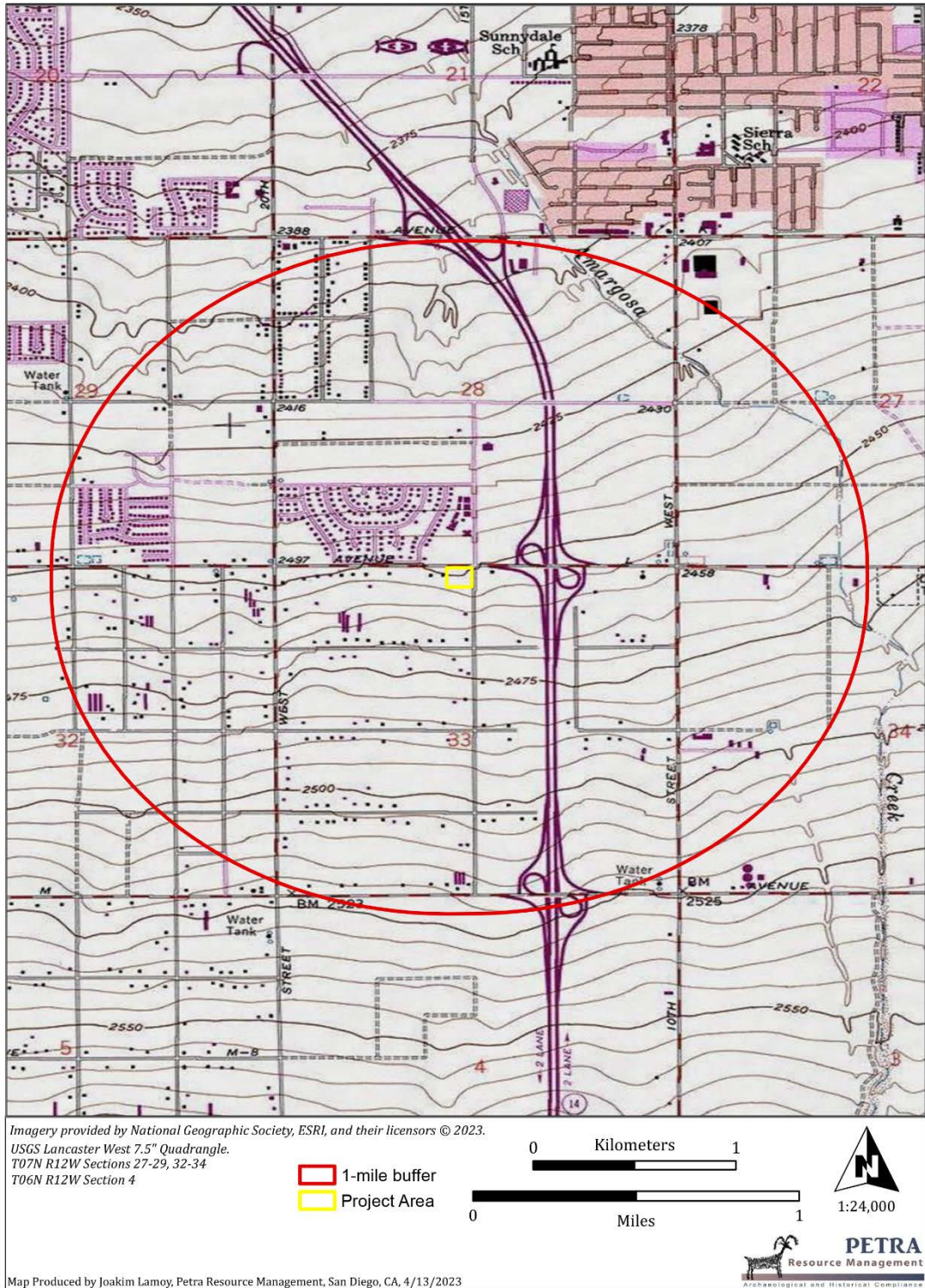
A search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) Sacred Lands File has been undertaken with positive results. The NAHC response also included a list of additional contacts, upon which you appear. As a result, we would appreciate any information you may wish to share regarding Native American cultural resources located in or near the proposed Project location or concerns you may have regarding the proposed Project. This query is for informational purposes only. Any information concerning the location, identity, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified will be considered strictly confidential.

You may contact me at sandrews@asmaffiliates.com, (626) 793-7395, or the Pasadena office address provided below. Thank you in advance for taking the time to review this request.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sherri Andrews'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherri Andrews, M.A., RPA
Senior Archaeologist



Map of the Maverik Fueling Station Project area shown on the USGS Lancaster West, California 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.