

**EXHIBIT D
CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT**

SITE PLAN NO. PLAN 19-00029

November 2019

CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

**Assessor Parcel Numbers 0472-131-03, -04, -08, -10, -13, -16, -17,
and 0472-141-16**

Victorville, San Bernardino County, California

Prepared for:

ALTEC Land Planning
19531 U.S. Highway 18
Apple Valley, California 92307

Prepared by:

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA
BCR Consulting LLC
505 W. 8th Street
Claremont, California 91711
Project No. COL1903

Data Base Information:

Type of Study: Reconnaissance Survey
Resources Recorded: COL1903-H-1
USGS Quadrangle: 7.5-minute Victorville, California (1993)



BCRCONSULTING LLC

July 19, 2019

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to ALTEC Land Planning to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 0472-131-03, 04, 08, 10, 13, 16, 17, and 0472-141-16 (approximately 52 acres; the project) in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. The project is located on the southwest side of National Trails Highway approximately 550 feet southeast of the intersection of National Trails and LA Bureau of Power and Light Road. A cultural resources records search, reconnaissance-level pedestrian field survey, paleontological resources overview, and Sacred Lands File Search with the Native American Heritage Commission were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The records search revealed that 21 cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 18 cultural resources within one mile of the project site. The project site has not been subject to any previous cultural resource assessments and contains no previously identified cultural resources.

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists identified a cinder block wall alignment, the only remnant of a 1950s residence (no longer present). The wall is not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources and is not considered a historical resource (i.e. is not significant) under CEQA. Therefore, no significant impacts related to archaeological or historical resources is anticipated and no further investigations are recommended for the proposed project unless:

- the proposed project is changed to include areas not subject to this study;
- the proposed project is changed to include the construction of additional facilities;
- cultural materials are encountered during project activities.

Although the current study has not indicated sensitivity for cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface during previous surveys. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist shall have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- historic artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements;
- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;

- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks.

If human remains are encountered, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to ALTEC Land Planning to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 0472-131-03, -04, -08, -10, -13, -16, -17, and 0472-141-16 (approximately 52 acres; the project) in the City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. The project is located on the southwest side of National Trails Highway approximately 550 feet southeast of the intersection of National Trails and LA Bureau of Power and Light Road. A cultural resources records search, reconnaissance-level pedestrian field survey, paleontological overview, and Sacred Lands File Search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is located in the southeast quarter of Section 32, Township 6 North, Range 4 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Victorville* (1993), *California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

NATURAL SETTING

Geology

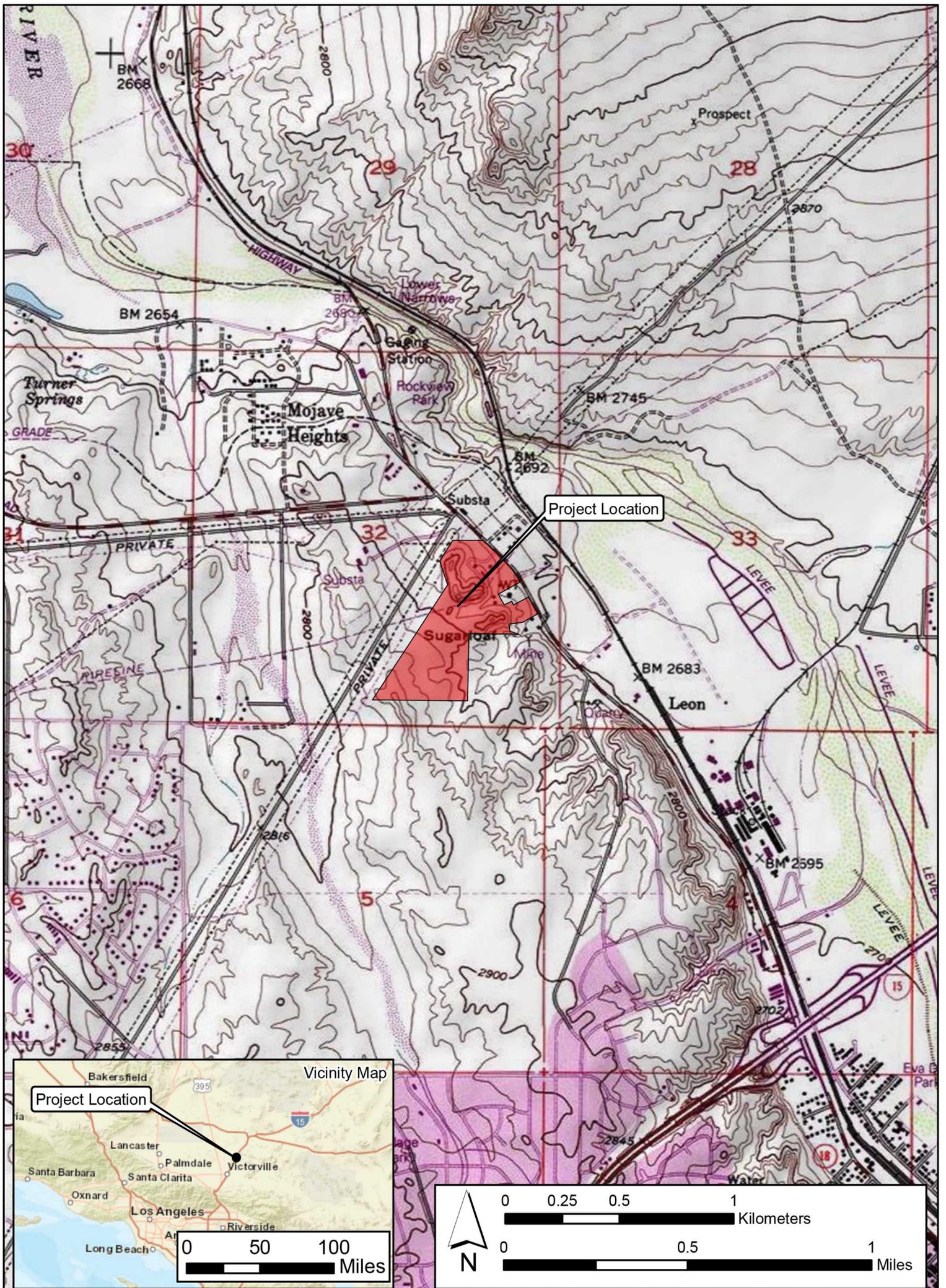
The project is located in the southwestern Mojave Desert. Sediments within the project boundaries include a geologic unit composed of young alluvial-fan deposits formed during the late Pleistocene and Holocene Epochs of the Quaternary Period (Miller and Matti 2006, Lambert 1994:17). The unit is composed of “slightly consolidated, undissected to slightly dissected deposits of poorly sorted sand and silt containing scattered subangular pebbles” (Miller and Matti 2006). Field observations during the current study are basically consistent with these descriptions, and are elaborated in the Field Survey Results section, below.

Hydrology

The project elevation ranges from approximately 2720 to 2870 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sheetwashing occurs from southwest to northeast, and water flowing across the project site eventually empties into the Mojave River. To the south, the peaks of the San Bernardino Mountains rise above 10,000 feet and are often capped with snow until late spring or early summer. The area currently exhibits a relatively arid climate, with dry, hot summers and cool winters. Rainfall ranges from five to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer.

Biology

The mild climate of the late Pleistocene allowed piñon-juniper woodland to thrive throughout most of the Mojave (Van Devender et al. 1987). The vegetation and climate during this epoch attracted significant numbers of Rancholabrean fauna, including dire wolf, saber toothed cat, short-faced bear, horse, camel, antelope, mammoth, as well as birds which included pelican, goose, duck, cormorant, and eagle (Reynolds 1988). The drier climate of the middle Holocene resulted in the local development of complementary flora and fauna, which remain largely intact to this day. Common native plants include creosote, cacti, rabbit bush, interior golden bush, cheese bush, species of sage, buckwheat at higher elevations and near drainages, Joshua tree, and various grasses. Common native animals include



coyotes, cottontail and jackrabbits, rats, mice, desert tortoises, roadrunners, raptors, turkey vultures, and other bird species (see Williams et al. 2008).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistoric Context

The prehistoric cultural setting of the Mojave Desert has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for the Mojave are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the Mojave and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, Mojave chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends the findings of Warren and Crabtree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

Ethnography

The Uto-Aztecan "Serrano" people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term "Serrano" to four groups, each with distinct territories: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. Bean and Smith (1978) indicate that the Vanyume, an obscure Takic population, was found along the Mojave River near Apple Valley at the time of Spanish contact. The Kitanemuk lived to the north and west, while the Tataviam lived to the west. The Serrano lived mainly to the south (Bean and Smith 1978). All may have used the western Mojave area seasonally. Historical records are unclear concerning precise territory and village locations. It is doubtful that any group, except the Vanyume, actually lived in the region for several seasons yearly.

History

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

Spanish Period. The first European to pass through the project area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San

Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, they camped at the headwaters of the Mojave River, one night less than a day's march from the mountains. Today, this is estimated to have been approximately 11 miles southeast of Victorville (Marenczuk 1962). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

Mexican Period. In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

American Period. The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19th century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. He also completed the cultural resources records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), compiled the technical report, and provided project oversight. BCR Consulting Staff Archaeologist Nicholas Shepetuk, B.A. completed the pedestrian field survey.

METHODS

Research

Prior to fieldwork, a records search was conducted at the SCCIC. This archival research reviewed the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one mile of the project site. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and documents and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists of

California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

Field Survey

An archaeological field survey of the project site was conducted on May 14, 2019. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the project site. All soil exposures were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

RESULTS

Research

Research completed through the SCCIC revealed that 21 cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 18 cultural resources within one mile of the project site. The project site has not been subject to any previous cultural resource assessments and contains no previously identified cultural resources. A summary of the records search results is included below.

Table A. Cultural Resources and Studies within One Mile of the Project Site

USGS 7.5 Min. Quad	Cultural Resources	Cultural Resource Reports
<i>Victorville, California</i> (1993)	P-36-68: Unspecified Prehistoric Site (1 Mile NW) P-36-70: Prehistoric Food Processing (1/2 Mile NW) P-36-71: Prehistoric Lithic Reduction (1 Mile SW) P-36-5227: Prehist. Food Processing (1/4 Mi. NW) P-36-6304: Unspecified Prehistoric Site (3/4 Mile E) P-36-6313: Prehistoric Campsite (1/2 Mile E) P-36-6316: Historic-Period Refuse (1/4 Mile E) P-36-6317H: Historic-Period Mine (1 Mile N) P-36-6319: Historic-Period Ranch (1/2 Mile E) P-36-6323: Historic-Period Refuse (1 Mile ENE) P-36-7036: Prehistoric Hearth (1 Mile E) P-36-8392H: Historic-Period Railroad (1/4 Mile NE) P-36-8829: Historic-Period Farm (1/4 Mile NE) P-36-8830: Historic-Period Refuse (1/4 Mile N) P-36-13420: Prehistoric Bedrock Mortar (1 Mile N) P-36-18738: Historic-Period Bridge (1 Mile NNW) P-36-26815: Isolated Prehistoric Mano (1/2 Mile NE) P-36-61289: Isolated Prehistoric Mano (3/4 Mile NE)	SB-106-0078, 0614, 0763, 1271, 1280, 1789, 2399, 2731, 3166, 3167, 3169, 3859, 4427, 4452, 4833, 5193, 5335, 5339, 6628, 7022, 7541

Field Survey

The project site exhibited approximately 75(+) percent surface visibility. Artificial disturbances were severe and have resulted from recent off-road vehicle activity, former building construction and demolition, grading, and refuse and sediment dumping. The project site has been subject to sheetwashing and aeolian deflation. It exhibits a northeasterly aspect and runoff flows towards the Mojave River which is located approximately about a quarter mile to the northeast. Soils include sandy silt and vegetation

includes creosote scrub and mixed seasonal grasses. One historic-period cinder block wall (temporarily designated COL1903-H-1) was identified during the survey. It was located at the entrance of a 1950s residence, which was demolished between 1969 and 1994 (see historicaerials.com). This resource has been recorded in detail on Department of Park and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms. It is not eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) and as such is not considered a historical resource (i.e. is not significant) under CEQA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A
PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Project Overview (View Northeast)



Photo 2: Project Overview (View Northwest)

APPENDIX B

DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND RECREATION 523 FORMS

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*a. County: San Bernardino

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad: *Victorville, California* Date: 1993

T 6 N; R 4 W; Section 32; SBBM

c. Address: N/A

City: Victorville

Zip: 92394

d. UTM: Zone: 11; 471078 mE/ 3824689 mN (G.P.S.; NAD83)

Elevation: 2750 Feet AMSL

e. Other Locational Data: From the intersection of National Trails Highway and Air Expressway travel southeast on National Trails about 1,000 feet. At this point the northwest end of the site is located on the southwest side of National Trails approximately 25 feet from the edge of the highway.

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements: design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, boundaries)
The site consists of a historic-period cinderblock wall, the length of which travels parallel to National Trails Highway. The longest section of the wall is 240 feet and runs parallel to the highway while the shorter section is 40 feet long and is perpendicular to the highway, intersecting the longer portion of the wall at its southeast end. The height of the wall varies and does not exceed approximately two feet. Most of the wall parallel to the highway is a few inches high at maximum. The cinderblock wall once featured a steel fence fixed into it. The only remnants of the steel fence are the cut poles of its base which still protrude from the cinderblock wall.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: AH4. Privies/dumps/trash scatters

P5a. Photo or Drawing (Photo required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



P5b. Description of Photo:
(View, date, accession #) North,
5/14/19, Photo 2

*P6. Date Built; Age and
Source: Historic
 Prehistoric Both

*P7. Owner and Address:
Altec Land Planning
PO Box 1175
Apple Valley, California 92307

*P8. Recorded by:
J. Orozco
BCR Consulting LLC
505 W. Eighth Street
Claremont, CA 91711

*P9. Date: 7/3/19

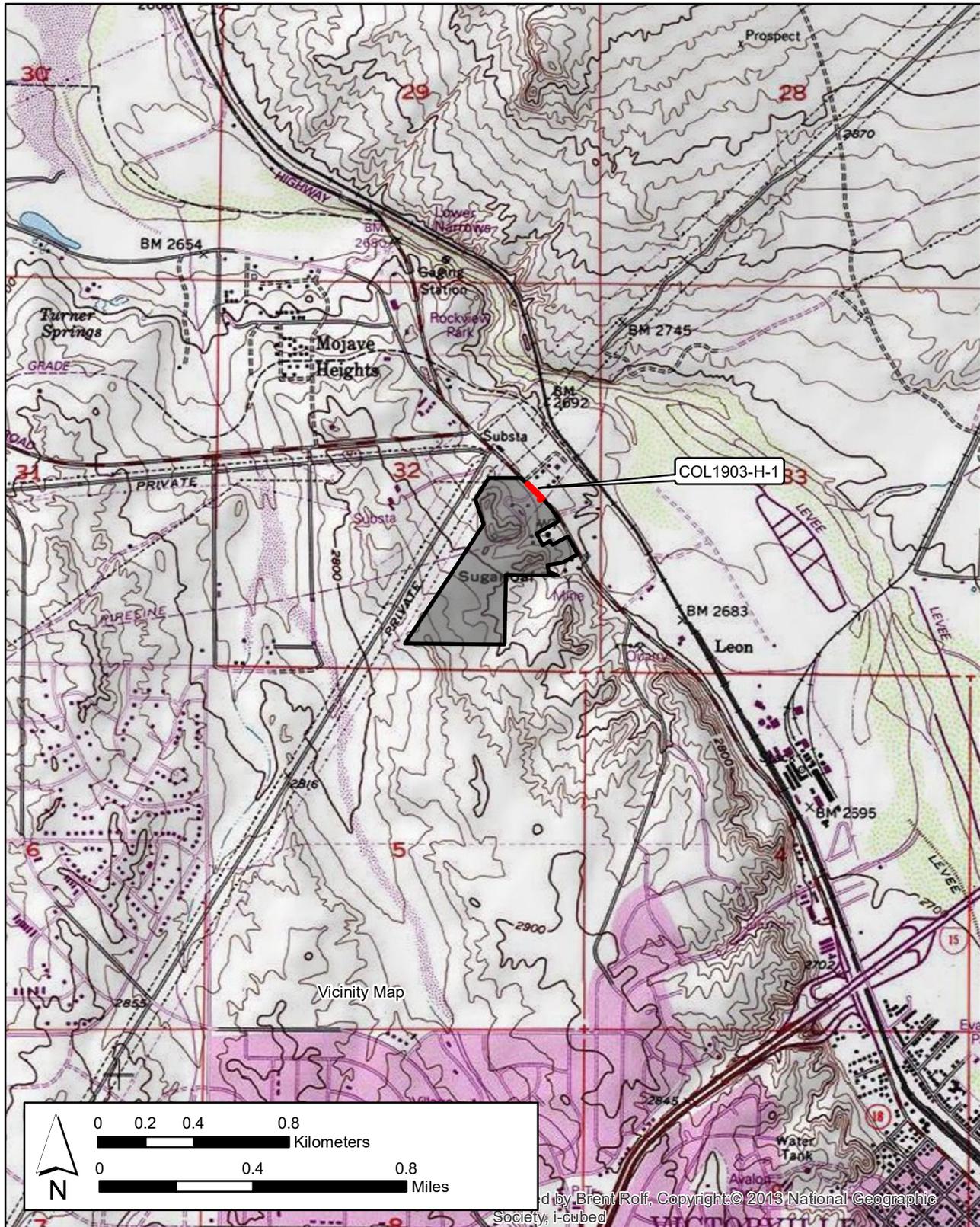
*P10. Survey Type: Intensive.

*P11. Report Citation: *Cultural
Resources Assessment of
Assessor Parcel Numbers 0472-
131-03, 04, 08, 10, 13, 16, 17,
and 0472-141-16. BCR
Consulting LLC.*

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Sketch Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List):

*Map Name: Victorville, CA

*Scale: 1:24,000 *Date of Map: 1993



APPENDIX C
NAHC SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
San Bernardino County
6/26/2019**

Chemehuevi Indian Reservation

Charles Wood, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1976 1990 Palo Verde Drive Chemehuevi
Havasu Lake, CA, 92363
Phone: (760) 858 - 4219
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Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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Fax: (503) 574-3308
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26569 Community Center Drive Serrano
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Phone: (909) 864 - 8933
Fax: (909) 864-3370
lclauss@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

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 Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Apple Valley 52 Acres Project, San Bernardino County.

APPENDIX D

PALEONTOLOGICAL OVERVIEW



June 20, 2019

BRC Consulting LLC
Joseph Orozco
505 West Eighth Street
Claremont, CA 91711

Dear Mr. Orozco,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for the Apple Valley 52 Acres Project in Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The project site is located west of National Trails Highway, north and north east of Ranch Road, and east of LA Bureau of Power and Light Road in Township 6 North, Range 4 West, Section 32 on the Victorville USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle.

The geologic units underlying this project are mapped entirely as alluvium of the ancestral Mojave River deposits dating from the Pliocene to Pleistocene periods (Hernandez, Brown & Cox, 2008). Pliocene and Pleistocene alluvial units are considered to be of high paleontological sensitivity. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or within a 1 mile radius, but does have numerous fossil localities in similarly mapped units throughout California.

Any fossil specimen recovered from the Apple Valley 52 Acres Project would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the project area would impact the paleontologically sensitive Pleistocene alluvial units and it is the recommendation of the Western Science Center that a paleontological resource mitigation program be put in place to monitor, salvage, and curate any recovered fossils associated with the study area.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at dradford@westerncentermuseum.org

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darla Radford', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Darla Radford
Collections Manager