Cultural Resources Technical Report

Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project City of Victorville, California

JUNE 2024

Prepared for:

DESERT VALLEY HOSPITAL
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Project Information Page

Report Title: Cultural Resources Technical Report for the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project, City of Victorville, California

Lead Agency: City of Victorville

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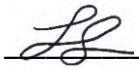
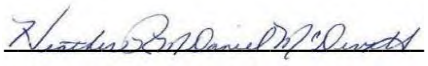
Signature: 

Signature: 

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Project Proponent: Desert Valley Hospital

Report Date: June 2024

Type of Study: Cultural Resources Inventory

USGS Quads: Hesperia

Resources: P-36-007061/CA-SBR-07061H

Acreage: 10.59 acres

Keywords: Cultural Resources Inventory, Bear Valley Road, Big Bear Cutoff, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, P-36-007061/CA-SBR-07061H

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Executive Summary

Dudek was retained by Desert Valley Hospital to prepare a cultural resources technical report for the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project (project) located in the City of Victorville, within the Victor Valley Region of San Bernardino County, California. The approximately 10.59-acre project site is located at 16850 Bear Valley Road, within the grounds of the existing Desert Valley Hospital, located north of Bear Valley Road, west of 1st Avenue and existing development, south of vacant land and Jasmine Street, and east of 2nd Avenue. The project site is composed of four parcels and includes Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 309137104, 309137105, 309137109, and 309137110. The project would include the addition of a new facility to the hospital at Desert Valley Medical Center, relocation of the existing helipad on site, and associated on-site and off-site improvements.

This report documents Dudek's efforts to identify and evaluate cultural resources consistent with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Victorville is the lead agency responsible for compliance with CEQA. These efforts included a records search of the California Historical Resources Information System, a Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, consultation with interested parties, an in-depth review of geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information, an archaeological pedestrian survey, an analysis of the sensitivity of the project site to contain archaeological resources, the evaluation of built environment resources 45 years of age or older using the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), and management recommendations.

The records search results indicated that one historic-era built environment resource, a segment of Big Bear Cutoff (CA-SBR-07061H), intersects the project site. This road segment was evaluated on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 forms and is recommended not eligible for the NRHP and the CRHR. In addition, two previously recorded cultural resources are located immediately adjacent to the project site. These resources consist of two prehistoric isolates, P-36-060842 and P-36-060844.

The NAHC stated that resources are listed in the SLF for this area but did not provide details on what the resource(s) are or where they are located. Although the results were positive, it is important to understand that NAHC SLF results relate to the general regional area within and surrounding the project site and don't necessarily equate to the existence of resources within the specific area occupied by the project site.

In consideration of the number of known resources within proximity to the project area, and because alluvial soils suited to supporting the development of archaeological deposits are present within the project area, there is moderate potential for identifying unanticipated buried cultural resources deposits within previously undisturbed areas during subsurface project activities. Cultural resources monitoring with a qualified archaeologist is recommended during initial ground-disturbing activities within previously undisturbed deposits. Monitoring can be reduced or terminated should no cultural discoveries be made during observation of subsurface exposures or if documentation is provided that demonstrates that ground-disturbing activities will be occurring in sediments with no potential for cultural resources to be present or otherwise persist. If human remains are found, the San Bernardino County coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery in accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code.

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1 Introduction

Desert Valley Hospital retained Dudek to complete a cultural resources technical report for the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project (project). This report documents the identification and evaluation of cultural resources within or adjacent to the proposed project in conformance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Victorville (City) is the lead agency responsible for compliance with the CEQA. This report includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search; the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; interested party consultation, background research focusing on geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information; the development of an applicable historic context for the project area; an archaeological pedestrian survey of the project site; an analysis of the potential for the project site to contain cultural resources; an evaluation of significance for built environment resources in the area of potential impacts (API); and management recommendations. This report was prepared Guidelines Section 15064.5 for historical resources and California PRC 21083.2 for archaeological resources.

1.1 Project Personnel

Dudek Lead Archaeologist Linda Kry, BA, RA, co-authored the report and provided management oversight and recommendations for cultural resources. Dudek Associate Archaeologist Jennifer De Alba, BA, co-authored the report. Ms. Brenda Lee Rogers, BA, completed the pedestrian survey. Dudek Senior Archaeologist Micah Hale, Ph.D., RPA and Loukas Barton, Ph.D., RPA authored the prehistoric and ethnohistoric contexts. Dudek Architectural Historian Danielle Baza, BA, prepared the historic context and assisted with the evaluation of built environment resources. Dudek Senior Architectural Historian Patricia Ambacher, MA, provided senior review. Dudek Senior Archaeologist Heather McDaniel McDevitt, MA, RPA thoroughly reviewed the report for quality assurance/quality control and compliance with applicable regulations.

1.2 Project Location and Description

1.2.1 Project Location

The approximately 10.59-acre project site is in the southeastern part of the City of Victorville, which is situated in the Victor Valley region in western San Bernardino County within public land survey system (PLSS) section 33 of Township 5 North, Range 4 West on the Hesperia, CA 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle (Figure 1, Project Location). The project site is located at 16850 Bear Valley Road, within the grounds of the existing Desert Valley Hospital, located north of Bear Valley Road, west of 1st Avenue and existing development, south of vacant land and Jasmine Street, and east of 2nd Avenue (Figure 2, Project Site).

1.2.2 Project Description

The project would include the addition of a new facility to the hospital at Desert Valley Medical Center. The approximately 80,000-square-ft Building Addition will be two stories. The first floor of the Building Addition will include 39,036 square ft for a new Emergency Department (ED). The new ED will connect to the existing hospital on the first floor through an existing corridor that will be widened. The new ED will provide 68 treatment bays. The second floor of the Building Addition will include 38,269 square ft for a Medical-Surgical Department (Med Surg

Unit). The Med Surg Unit will provide 71 beds. One existing bed in an existing Med Surg Unit will be eliminated to accommodate access from the existing hospital to the new Building Addition. The Med Surg Unit will connect to the existing hospital through a new bridge over the existing hospital's low roof. The vertical transportation system is planned to be traction type elevators with hospital size cabs. Two patient/staff/service elevators will be provided. The exterior building will have the modern façade consisting of corrugated metal and composite panels integrated with an Exterior Insulation and Finish System applied on metal stud framing.

On-Site Improvements

Helipad Area

Desert Valley Hospital has an existing ground-based helipad on site, located east of the existing Medical Office Building with access to the helipad through a driveway along Bear Valley Road. The existing ground-based helipad and associated gurney ramp would be demolished as part of the site make ready for the proposed Building Addition and new driveway location. A new helipad is proposed for the hospital and will be located on the roof level of the proposed Building Addition. The new helipad will accommodate a regional emergency medical services helicopter. The top of the helideck will be approximately 45 ft above grade.

Service Yard

The project will include a new Service Yard on the northeast portion of the project site to accommodate utilities for the Building Addition. The Service Yard will include a pump house, a cooling tower, a chiller room, a normal power electrical room, and an emergency power electrical room. The portions of the Service Yard housing the pump house and the cooling tower will be open to the sky. East of the Service Yard will be a new Bulk Oxygen Storage Yard. North of the Service Yard in the existing employee parking lot with be two new emergency water storage tanks that will be located underground.

Vehicular and Pedestrian Access

The primary patient vehicular access to the site will be from the relocated driveway along Bear Valley Road. Walk-In Emergency Department patients can be dropped off at the Emergency Department canopy located at the south end of the Building Addition or park in the proposed parking spaces to the east of the Building Addition and walk along the provided sidewalks and crosswalks to the Walk-In Entry.

The project will provide additional parking for ED walk-in patients and physicians east of the proposed Building Addition. A total of 152 new parking stalls would be provided, for a total of 952 parking stalls on site. Of these new parking stalls, 19 will be accessible (for a total of 54 accessible stalls on site, and three would be van accessible stalls (for a total of nine van accessible stalls). Additionally, nine stalls will be Clean Air Stalls, and 29 will be future electric vehicle charging only stalls.

Landscaping

All landscaping for the proposed facility would be consistent with Section 16-3.10.020(e) of the City of Victorville Municipal Code development standards for commercial districts and Water Conservation Ordinance 2114, which requires the use of native and low water plants for the development of the landscaping palette.

The project would require the removal of 26 trees. Chapter 13.33 of the City of Victorville Municipal Code prohibits the removal of Joshua trees without the consent of the Director of Parks and Recreation. All tree removal will be compliant with Chapter 13.33 of the City of Victorville Municipal Code.

Lighting

Lighting for the ED would be consistent with current lighting usage and would be illuminated from 6:00pm to 6:00am. All lighting for the proposed facility would be consistent with Section 16-3.10.020(e) of the City of Victorville Municipal Code development standards for commercial districts.

Infrastructure Improvements

Site improvements include relocating the driveway on Bear Valley Road, providing an ED walk-in/drop-off area with a canopy, ambulance parking and drop-off with a canopy, a new service yard, and a new parking lot for ED patients and physicians.

Sustainable Design Features

The design of the Building Addition includes several sustainable design features related to energy efficiency and drainage. The glazing system of the Building Addition is designed to maximize energy efficiency, incorporating a combination of storefront-type windows and fixed windows, all equipped with low-E insulated glass, which minimizes energy consumption. Additionally, the roofing system of the Building Addition would have reflective white surface to mitigate heat absorption and would include tapered rigid foam sheets are adhered to the flat concrete roof slab providing insulation and enabling efficient water drainage.

Off-Site Improvements

Off-site improvements for the project would include the relocation of two existing electrical poles, and improvements at Bear Valley Road and 1st Avenue Improvements along Bear Valley Road include the installation of a median and sidewalk. Off-site improvements along 1st Avenue would consist of sidewalk improvements and the continuation of 1st Avenue to Bear Valley Road.

1.3 Environmental Setting

The project site is situated within the geomorphic province of the Mojave Desert, which is bound to the northwest and south by the Transverse Ranges including the northern peninsular Tehachapi Mountains and the southern San Gabriel Mountains and San Bernardino Mountains. More specifically, the project is in the City of Victorville within the Victor Valley portion of the subregion of the southwestern Mojave Desert in southwestern San Bernardino County. The project site is approximately 16 miles northwest and approximately 11 miles north of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains, respectively. Water sources near the project site include the Mojave River located over 2 miles directly east, the California Aqueduct located over 5.5 miles to the southwest. The project site is relatively flat with elevation ranges between approximately 3,025 and 3,045 ft above mean sea level (amsl) (Google Earth 2023). There are no substantial topographical features in the project site.

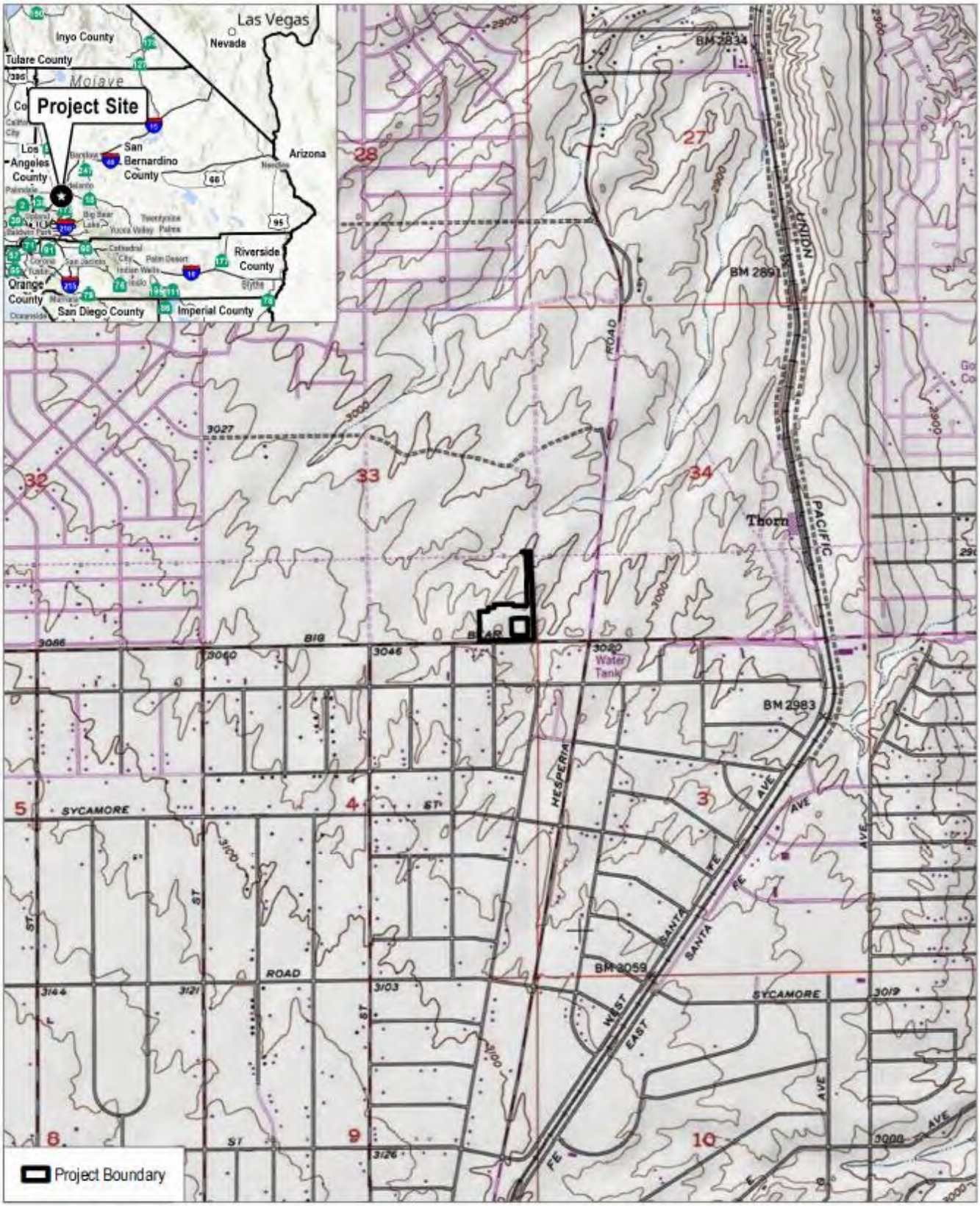
1.3.1 Review of Soils

According to the U.S Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (USDA 2023a), one soil type has been identified in the project site: Bryman Loamy Fine Sand with 5% to 9% slopes. The available official USDA soil description is summarized below.

- **Bryman Series** (USDA 2023b): The Bryman series consists of deep, well-drained soils that formed from dominantly granitic sources. Bryman soils are found on terraces and older alluvial fans with 0% to 15% slopes. A typical Bryman pedon extends from 0 to 100 inches below ground surface (bgs).

The Bryman soil series occur on fan remnants at elevations ranging from 3,000 to 3,200 ft, consisting of alluvium derived from granite sources.

A review of the USGS mineral resources (USGS 2022) online spatial data for geology indicates that native soils within the project site are composed of Older Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene epoch. The terminal Pleistocene-era alluvial formations do have the potential to support the presence of buried archaeological resources. These soils are associated with the period of prehistoric human use that have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on area-specific topographical setting.



SOURCE: USGS Topo 7.5' Series Hesperia Quadrangle, Township 5N, Range 4W, Section 33

1:24,000

0 300 600 Meters

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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Figure 1

Project Location

Desert Valley Hospital Project

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SOURCE: Bing Maps

1:3,600

0 40 80 Meters

0 150 300 Feet

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Figure 2

Project Site

Desert Valley Hospital Project

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1.4 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable state laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during construction of the project.

1.4.1 Federal

National Register of Historic Places

Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the nation's official list of buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts worthy of preservation because of their significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. To be listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP a property must meet one or more of the following key criteria to be considered significant:

A. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history; or
B. It is associated with the lives of people significant in our past; or
C. It embodies the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic values, or it represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
D. It has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 60.4).

IN addition to meeting one of the above criteria, a property must retain integrity to convey its significance. Integrity is assessed through seven key aspects: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association (36 CFR 60.4).

Resources that are not commonly found eligible for listing in the NRHP are cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historic figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, properties that have been reconstructed, properties principally commemorative in nature, and properties that are not yet 50 years of age. However, these types of properties may be eligible for the NRHP if they are essential features of eligible districts or resources, or meet the criteria considerations described in 36 CFR 60.4.

1.4.2 State

California Register of Historical Resources

In California, the term "historical resource" includes but is not limited to "any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which 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)). In 1992, the California legislature established the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) "to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens to identify the state's historical resources and to indicate what properties are to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change" (California Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 5024.1(a)). The

criteria for listing resources on the CRHR were expressly developed to be in accordance with previously established criteria developed for listing in the NRHP, enumerated below. According to California PRC Section 5024.1(c)(1–4), a resource is considered historically significant if it (i) retains "substantial integrity," and (ii) meets at least one 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 in prehistory or history.

In order to understand the historic importance of a resource, sufficient time must have passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resource. A resource less than 50 years old may be considered for listing in the CRHR if it can be demonstrated that sufficient time has passed to understand its historical importance (see 14 CCR 4852(d)(2)).

The CRHR protects cultural resources by requiring evaluations of the significance of prehistoric and historic-era resources. The criteria for the CRHR are nearly identical to those for the NRHP, and properties listed or formally designated as eligible for listing in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are the California State Landmarks (No. 770 and all consecutively numbered state landmarks following No. 770) and California Points of Historical Interest that are reviewed by the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) and recommended for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission (California PRC Section 5024.1(d)(2) and (3)). The CRHR also includes properties designated under local ordinances or identified through local historical resource surveys.

California State Assembly Bill 52

Assembly Bill 52 of 2014 (AB 52) amended California PRC Section 5097.94 and added California PRC Sections 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2, and 21084.3.

Consultation with Native Americans

AB 52 formalizes the consultation process between lead agencies and tribal representatives, requiring the lead agency to initiate consultation with California Native American groups that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project area. This includes tribes that may not be federally recognized. Lead agencies are required to begin consultation prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report.

Tribal Cultural Resources

Section 4 of AB 52 adds Sections 21074 (a) and (b) to the California PRC, addressing tribal cultural resources (TCRs) and cultural landscapes. Section 21074 (a) defines tribal cultural resources as one of the following:

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 CRHR.
   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. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 5024.1 for the purposes of this paragraph, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

Section 1 (a)(9) of AB 52 establishes that "a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource has a significant effect on the environment." Effects on tribal cultural resources should be considered under CEQA. Section 6 of AB 52 adds Section 21080.3.2 to the PRC, which states that parties may propose mitigation measures "capable of avoiding or substantially lessening potential significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource or alternatives that would avoid significant impacts to a tribal cultural resource." Further, if a California Native American tribe requests consultation regarding project alternatives, mitigation measures, or significant effects to tribal cultural resources, the consultation shall include those topics (California PRC Section 21080.3.2[a]). The environmental document and the mitigation monitoring and reporting program (where applicable) shall include any mitigation measures that are adopted (California PRC Section 21082.3[a]).

Native American Historic Cultural Sites

The Native American Historic Resources Protection Act (California PRC Section 5097, et seq.) 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 NRHC 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 an Indian historical or cultural site that is listed or may be eligible for listing in the CRHR.

California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

The California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (California Repatriation Act), enacted in 2001, requires all 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 Repatriation Act also provides a process for the identification and repatriation of these items to the appropriate tribes.

California Environmental Quality Act

As described further below, the following CEQA statutes and CEQA Guidelines are relevant to the analysis of archaeological and historic resources:

1. California PRC Section 21083.2(g): Defines "unique archaeological resource."
2. California PRC Section 21084.1 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a): Defines historical resources. In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b) defines the phrase "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource. It also defines the circumstances when a project would materially impair the significance of a historical resource.

3. California PRC Section 5097.98 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(e): These statutes set forth standards and steps to be employed following the accidental discovery of human remains in any location other than a dedicated ceremony.
4. California PRC Sections 21083.2(b)-(c) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4: These statutes and regulations provide information regarding the mitigation framework for archaeological and historic resources, including options of preservation-in-place mitigation measures; identifies preservation-in-place as the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to significant archaeological sites.

Under CEQA, a project may have a significant effect on the environment if it may cause "a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource" (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)). An "historical resource" is any site listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR. The CRHR listing criteria are intended to examine whether the resource in question: (a) is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage; (b) is associated with the lives of persons important in our past; (c) embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or (d) has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

The term "historical resource" also includes any site described in a local register of historic resources or identified as significant in a historical resources survey (meeting the requirements of California PRC Section 5024.1(q)).

CEQA also applies to "unique archaeological resources." California PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a "unique archaeological resource" as any archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that, without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

1. Contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and that there is a demonstrable public interest in that information.
2. Has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type.
3. Is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

In 2014, CEQA was amended to apply to "tribal culture resources" as well, but the amendment did not provide a definition for such resources or identify how they were to be evaluated or mitigated (California PRC Sections 21084.2 and 21084.3). Instead, California PRC Section 21083.09 required that the Office of Planning and Research develop and adopt guidelines for analyzing "tribal cultural resources" by July 1, 2016. As of the effective date of this report, however, those guidelines have not been finalized or adopted. Consequently, this report addresses only historic resources and unique archaeological resources.

All historical resources and unique archaeological resources – as defined by statute – are presumed to be historically or culturally significant for purposes of CEQA (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). The lead agency is not precluded from determining that a resource is a historical resource even if it does not fall within this presumption (California PRC Section 21084.1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)). A site or resource that does not meet the definition of "historical resource" or "unique archaeological resource" is not considered significant under CEQA and need not be analyzed further (California PRC Section 21083.2(a); CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c)(4)).

Under CEQA and significant cultural impact results from a "substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource [including a unique archaeological resource]" due to the "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(1); California PRC Section 5020.1(q)). In turn, the significance of a historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

1. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for, inclusion in the CRHR; or
2. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics that account for its inclusion in a local register of historical resources pursuant to section 5020.1(k) of the California PRC or its identification in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of section 5024.1(g) of the California PRC, unless the public agency reviewing the effects of the project establishes by a preponderance of evidence that the resource is not historically or culturally significant; or
3. Demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register as determined by a lead agency for purposes of CEQA.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b)(2)

Pursuant to these sections, the CEQA first evaluates evaluating whether a project site contains any "historical resources," then assesses whether that project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource such that the resource's historical significance is materially impaired.

When a project significantly affects a unique archeological resource, CEQA imposes special mitigation requirements. Specifically, "[i]f it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts to be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. Examples of that treatment, in no order of preference, may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:"

1. Planning construction to avoid archeological sites.
2. Deeding archeological sites into permanent conservation easements.
3. Capping or covering archeological sites with a layer of soil before building on the sites.
4. Planning parks, greenspace, or other open space to incorporate archeological sites.

California Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(b)(1)-(4)

If these "preservation in place" options are not feasible, mitigation may be accomplished through data recovery (California PRC Section 21083.2(d); CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C)). California PRC Section 21083.2(d) states that "[e]xcavation as mitigation shall be restricted to those parts of the unique archeological resource that would be damaged or destroyed by the project. Excavation as mitigation shall not be required for a unique archeological resource if the lead agency determines that testing or studies already completed have adequately recovered the scientifically consequential information from and about the resource, if this determination is documented in the environmental impact report."

These same requirements are set forth in slightly greater detail in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3), as follows:

1. Preservation in place is the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archeological sites. Preservation in place maintains the relationship between artifacts and the archeological context. Preservation may also avoid conflict with religious or cultural values of groups associated with the site.
2. Preservation in place may be accomplished by, but is not limited to, the following:
    a. Planning construction to avoid archeological sites;
    b. Incorporation of sites within parks, greenspace, or other open space;
    c. Covering the archeological sites with a layer of chemically stable soil before building tennis courts, parking lots, or similar facilities on the site [; and]
    d. Deeding the site into a permanent conservation easement.
3. When data recovery through excavation is the only feasible mitigation, a data recovery plan, which makes provision for adequately recovering the scientifically consequential information from and about the historical resource, shall be prepared and adopted prior to any excavation being undertaken.

Note that, when conducting data recovery, "[i]f an artifact must be removed during project excavation or testing, curation may be an appropriate mitigation." However, "[d]ata recovery shall not be required for an historical resource if the lead agency determines that testing or studies already completed have adequately recovered the scientifically consequential information from and about the archeological or historic resource, provided that determination is documented in the EIR and that the studies are deposited with the California Historical Resources Regional Information Center" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(D)).

California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and Public Resources Code Section 5097.98

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 assigns special importance to human remains and specifies procedures to be used when Native American remains are discovered. As described below, the procedures are detailed in California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 and California PRC Section 5097.98.

California law protects Native American burials, skeletal remains, and associated grave goods, regardless of their antiquity, and provides for the sensitive treatment and disposition of those remains. Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that if human remains are discovered in any place other than a dedicated cemetery, no further disturbance or excavation of the site or nearby area reasonably suspected to contain human remains shall occur until the County coroner has examined the remains (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5[b]). PRC Section 5097.98 also outlines the process to be followed in the event that remains are discovered. If the coroner determines or has reason to believe the remains are those of a Native American, the coroner must contact the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours (California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5[c]). In accordance with California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98(a), the NAHC will notify the Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner, the MLD may inspect the site of discovery. Within 48 hours of being granted access to the site, the MLD may recommend means of treatment or disposition, with appropriate dignity, of the human remains and associated grave goods.

1.4.3 Local

City of Victorville General Plan 2030

The City of Victorville General Plan 2030 contains the following goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures that address cultural resources that are applicable to the project for archaeological resources (City of Victorville 2008):

Resource Element: Cultural Resources

Goal No. 5. Preservation of Important Cultural Resources: Protect identified archaeological resources within the planning area.

Objective 5.1: Preserve known and expected cultural resources.

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

- Implementation Measure 5.1.1.1: As a City Planning Department function, maintain maps illustrating areas that have a moderate-high probability of yielding important cultural resources as a result of land alteration projects.
- Implementation Measure 5.1.1.2: Establish a transmittal system with the Archaeological Information Center (AIC) at the San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands. When a project is in its initial phase, the City may send a location map to the AIC for a transmittal-level records search. The transmittal identifies the presence or absence of known cultural resources and/or previously performed studies in and near the project area. The AIC also offers recommendations regarding the need for additional studies, if warranted.
- Implementation Measure 5.1.1.3: When warranted based on the findings of reconnaissance level surveys by a qualified professional archaeologist and/or transmittals from the AIC, require Phase I cultural resource assessments by qualified archaeologists, historians, and/or architectural historians, especially in areas of high sensitivity for cultural resources, as shown on the maps maintained in the City Planning Department. The scope of such a survey shall include, as appropriate, in-depth records search at the AIC, historic background research, intensive-level field survey, consultation with the Mohave Historical Society, and consultation with the appropriate Native American representatives and tribal organizations.

Policy 5.1.2: Prohibit destruction of cultural and paleontological materials that contain information of importance to our knowledge of the evolution of life forms and history of human settlement in the Planning Area, unless sufficient documentation of that information is accomplished and distributed to the appropriate scientific community. Require mitigation of any significant impacts that may be identified in project or program level cultural and paleontological assessments as a condition of project or program approval.

- Implementation Measure 5.1.2.1: Enact a historic preservation ordinance and/or prepare a historic preservation plan to outline the goals and objectives of the City's historic preservation

programs and present an official historic context statement for the evaluation of cultural resources within the City's jurisdiction.

1.5 Area of Potential Impacts

The area of potential impacts (API) is the study area delineated to assess potential impacts from the construction and operation of the project on both archaeological and historic built environment resources. The API for built environment resources encompasses the geographic area or areas within which the project may directly or indirectly cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a known or unknown historical resource. A substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource means physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of the resource is materially impaired (14 CCR Section 15064.5[b][1]). Under CEQA, material impairment of a historical resource is considered a significant impact (or effect), which can be direct, indirect, or cumulative.

Delineation of the API considered the proposed project activities in conjunction with historic-era built environment resources that are 45 years of age or older. The API includes any areas were ground disturbance related to the project will occur.

2 Cultural Context

2.1 Prehistoric Setting

While it is likely that long-term trends in prehistoric subsistence/settlement adaptations, and the timing of major changes in them, were largely similar across the Mojave Desert region, several attempts to summarize them during the last 30 years of archaeological research have often produced differing results. In particular, the character of late Pleistocene/early Holocene adaptations is still unclear and strongly debated, due in part to the persistence of long-standing notions of "Paleoindian" lifeways but also due to the continued scarcity of archaeological data from ancient sites in good (e.g., stratigraphically intact), dateable contexts.

The following summary of early prehistoric culture history, therefore, contains some assertions that are largely inferred and many that are highly debatable. Other important, more detailed syntheses can be found elsewhere (Basgall 1993, 2000; Giambastiani and Basgall 2000; Grayson 1993; Sutton et al. 2007; Sutton 2017; Warren 1984; Warren and Crabtree 1986) that provide additional opinions on broader datasets for the region.

The following discussion begins with summaries of local cultural chronological traditions as they are popularly understood, embedded within Paleoclimatic trends, and separated into the following periods: Fluted Point Period, Lake Mojave Period, Pinto Period, Gypsum Period, Saratoga Springs Period, Post-Saratoga Springs/Late Period, and Contact/Ethnographic Period. This setting divides the pre-contact cultural sequence into five periods. These periods are analytical constructs and do not necessarily reflect Native American views.

Terminal Pleistocene – Fluted Point Period (ca. 12,000–10,000 BP)

Disregarding claims for extremely ancient human presence in the Mojave Desert, there is substantial evidence that human occupation of the arid west began at the end of the Pleistocene era. Archaeological assemblages of such antiquity have been recognized mainly due to the presence of fluted-base projectile points similar to the well-known Clovis forms of the Great Plains and are fairly well-dated to 12,000-10,000 BP. Many of the earliest discoveries were made in the Mojave Desert at places like Lake Mojave, China Lake, Tiefort Basin, and Little Lake. Many of those recovered were surface finds, but sites at China Lake held fluted points in apparent association with the burned remains of extinct fauna; these locations remain among the more convincing for the Pleistocene antiquity of fluted point occupations (Basgall et al. 2002; Warren et al. 2004). Fluted points in the West often occur as isolated finds but they also tend to be found with flaked stone assemblages that are dominated by bifaces and formally shaped, unifacial flake tools. The comparable prevalence of bifaces in central plains Paleoindian (Clovis) assemblages could signify a need for a generalist, portable technology among extremely mobile groups. The premise of high residential mobility among Paleoindian groups has drawn support from studies of lithic assemblages transported long-distances and from obsidian source profiles for Great Basin Concave-base points and crescents in the Mojave Desert.

Recent discoveries of fluted points have increased the spatial distribution of these artifacts but have not contributed much to solidifying their place in time. Finds from the Mojave Desert have slowly multiplied (Basgall and Hall 1991), revealing differences in the spatial distributions of fluted and stemmed points (e.g., at Fort Irwin) that may point to a cultural division between them throughout the Mojave Desert (Basgall and Hall 1994).

More recent work at Edwards AFB has identified a few sites with Great Basin Concave-base points around the shore of Rosamond Lake, also known as Pleistocene Lake Thompson (Basgall and Overly 2004), where various surface assemblages contain Great Basin Concave-base points, Great Basin Stemmed points, crescents, and even buried cultural deposits of late Pleistocene-early Holocene age.

Early Holocene – Lake Mojave Period (ca. 10,000–7,000 BP)

In the western Great Basin, various stemmed projectile point forms have been fairly well dated to the early Holocene, roughly between 10,000 and 7500 BP. Generally subsumed under the broader appellation "Great Basin Stemmed," these artifacts are elongate, lanceolate forms often with subtle, sloping shoulders, although many different regional styles exist. In the western Mojave Desert, typical stemmed points are Lake Mojave (unshouldered) and Silver Lake (slightly shouldered) forms, both of which are parts of lithic assemblages similar to those of the Fluted Point Period.

Because of their tendency to occur along the shorelines of extinct lakes, stemmed point assemblages were once considered to represent a unique, lacustrine-based subsistence adaptation. The term "Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition" (WPLT), originally coined by Bedwell (1973), was applied to stemmed point sites found in ancient lakeshore contexts across the Great Basin. Lithic assemblages of the WPLT were found to be fairly comparable to Clovis materials, and in many cases points of both kinds occur together in the same sites (Basgall and Hall 1991; Davis and Panlaqui 1978). Flaked stone "crescents" (Amsden 1937) were found primarily in such lakeshore assemblages, leading many archaeologists to draw associations between crescents and lacustrine environments. Support for the WPLT has faded in recent years, however, as additional stemmed point sites have been discovered in locations away from extinct bodies of water and the landform bias in early survey programs becomes increasingly clear. Bias in the differential preservation of ancient land surfaces along fossil washes and in the center of dry lake basins has also been recognized (Basgall and Hall 1991; Waters 1988, 1991).

Middle Holocene – Pinto Period (ca. 7,000–4,000 BP)

Archaeological assemblages dating to this period are typified by Pinto points, projectiles bearing weak shoulders and indented or split-stem bases. 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 evidently favored fine-grained igneous stones such as basalt and rhyolite for points and bifaces. Milling stones 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 due to the oppressive climate, but more recent studies suggest that the middle Holocene in the Antelope Valley was punctuated by wetter episodes (Grayson 1993; Mehringer 1987) and that the effects of the Altithermal were variable in different parts of the desert.

Early Late Holocene – Gypsum Period (ca. 4,000–1500 BP)

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 are typified by bifaces, scrapers, and a variety of other flake-based tools, but also contain mortars and pestles as evidence of expanded plant processing (including mesquite, pine nuts, yucca, and agave). Large villages or village complexes appear during Gypsum times that may reflect a transition from seasonal transhumance to year-round sedentary occupation within

the Antelope Valley (Sutton 1988, 1996, 2017). The presence of marine shell artifacts at Gypsum period sites (near Edwards Air Force Baase for example) indicates economic ties between the Antelope Valley and the California coast (Warren 1984). Gardner (2006) analyzed data from a slew of sites in the western Mojave to assess the socioeconomic impact of the MCA and in so doing, suggested a revision in the terminus of the Gypsum period to about 2000 BP. Gardner (2006) based this revision on the early appearance of the bow and arrow within the Rose Spring Complex in conjunction with an increase in effective moisture at 2000 BP.

Middle Late Holocene – Saratoga Springs Period (ca. 1500–800 BP)

By at least 1500 BP (or 2000 BP using Gardner's 2006 chronological scheme), the aboriginal people of the Mojave Desert had replaced the atlatl (or spear-thrower) with the bow and arrow (Yohe 1992). 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. Ancestral Puebloan (also called "Anasazi") ceramics also appear in the southern Mojave around 1200 to 1100 BP, coinciding with the westward spread of the Virgin Anasazi into southern Nevada. Influence from the cultures of the Colorado River eventually grew stronger than those from the east, allowing for an influx of buffware ceramics and other goods that persisted until the historic present. The intensification of plant use initiated during the Gypsum period continued in the Saratoga Springs period, as diet breadth was expanded to include a wide range of plant foods that required high cost/high return procurement and processing strategies. This is indicated by a general increase in milling equipment from Gypsum times through the Saratoga Springs period (see Gardner 2006).

Recent Late Holocene – Post-Saratoga Springs Period/Late Period (ca. 800–300 BP)

Social and economic adaptations during this final prehistoric interval were largely an extension of patterns that developed during the Saratoga Springs period. Trade along the Mojave River continued to provide the people of Central and Eastern Mojave Desert with a variety of exotic goods and materials, although it appears that relationships with groups in coastal California eventually grew stronger than those with groups inhabiting the arid interior. Projectile points also shifted in form, with unnotched Cottonwood Triangular and Desert Side-notched points being even smaller than their predecessors. Mortars and pestles also appear in significant quantities, probably an indication of increased emphasis on high-cost/high-yield processing.

2.2 Ethnohistoric Period

The history of the Native American communities prior to the mid-1700s has largely been reconstructed through later mission-period and early ethnographic accounts. The first records of the Native American inhabitants of the region come predominantly from European merchants, missionaries, military personnel, and explorers. These briefs, and generally peripheral, accounts were prepared with the intent of furthering respective colonial and economic aims and were combined with observations of the landscape. They were not intended to be unbiased accounts regarding the cultural structures and community practices of the newly encountered cultural groups. The establishment of the missions in the region brought more extensive documentation of Native American communities, though these groups did not become the focus of formal and in-depth ethnographic study until the early twentieth century (Bean and Shipek 1978; Boscana 1846; Harrington 1934; Laylander 2000; Sparkman 1908; White 1963). The principal intent of these researchers was to record the precontact and culturally specific practices, ideologies, and languages that had survived the destabilizing effects of missionization and colonialism. This research, often understood as "salvage ethnography," was driven by the understanding that traditional

knowledge was being lost due to the impacts of modernization and cultural assimilation. Alfred Kroeber applied his "memory culture" approach (Lightfoot 2005:32) by recording languages and oral histories within the region. Ethnographic research by Dubois, Kroeber, Harrington, Spier, and others during the early twentieth century seemed to indicate that traditional cultural practices and beliefs survived among local Native American communities.

It is important to note that even though there were many informants for these early ethnographies who were able to provide information from personal experiences about native life before the Europeans, a significantly large proportion of these informants were born after 1850 (Heizer and Nissen 1973); therefore, the documentation of precontact, aboriginal culture was being increasingly supplied by individuals born in California after considerable contact with Europeans. As Heizer (1978) stated, this is an important issue to note when examining these ethnographies, since considerable culture change had undoubtedly occurred by 1850 among the Native American survivors of California.

Based on ethnographic information, it is believed that at least 88 different languages were spoken from Baja California Sur to the southern Oregon state border at the time of Spanish contact (Johnson and Lorenz 2006:34). The distribution of recorded Native American languages has been dispersed as a geographic mosaic across California through six primary language families (Golla 2007).

Golla contended that one can interpret the amount of variability within specific language groups as being associated with the relative "time depth" of the speaking populations (Golla 2007:80). A large amount of variation within the language of a group represents a greater time depth than a group's language with less internal diversity. One method that he has employed is by drawing comparisons with historically documented changes in Germanic and Romantic language groups. Golla observed that the "absolute chronology of the internal diversification within a language family" can be correlated with archaeological dates (2007:71). This type of interpretation is modeled on concepts of genetic drift and gene flows that are associated with migration and population isolation in the biological sciences.

The tribes of this area have traditionally spoken Takic languages that may be assigned to the larger Uto–Aztecan family (Golla 2007:74). These groups include the Gabrielino, Cahuilla, and Serrano. Golla interpreted the amount of internal diversity within these language-speaking communities to reflect a time depth of approximately 2,000 years. Other researchers have contended that Takic may have diverged from Uto–Aztecan ca. 2600 BC–AD 1, which was later followed by the diversification within the Takic speaking tribes, occurring approximately 1500 BC–AD 1000 (Laylander 2000).

Serrano

Traditionally, the Serrano lived in an area east of the Gabrielino and north of the Cahuilla, near present-day western San Bernardino County and northeastern Los Angeles County (Laylander 2010). The Serrano occupied an area in and around the San Bernardino Mountains between approximately 1,500 and 11,000 ft amsl. Their territory extended west along the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, east as far as Twentynine Palms, north along the Mojave River, and south to the San Jacinto area. Kroeber (1925) divided the Serrano into four distinct groups within the western Mojave Desert: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Serrano, and Vanyume. Each group held a distinct territory within the region (Kroeber 1925). According to Bean and Smith (1978:570), "the Serrano resided in an area that extended east of the Cajon Pass, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, to Twenty-nine Palms, the north foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains and south to include portions of the Yucaipa Valley."

Serrano social organization was based on patrilineal and patrilocal lineages. Exogamy rules required that a man could not marry a woman related to them within five generations. Women moved to their husband's village but kept their identity as a member of their natal lineage.

The Serrano were mainly hunters and gatherers who occasionally fished. Game hunted included mountain sheep, deer, antelope, rabbits, small rodents, and various birds, particularly quail. Vegetable staples consisted of acorns, piñon nuts, bulbs and tubers, shoots and roots, berries, mesquite, barrel cacti, and Joshua tree (Bean and Smith 1978). A variety of materials was used for hunting, gathering, and processing food, as well as for shelter, clothing, and luxury items. Shells, wood, bone, stone, plant materials, and animal skins and feathers were used for making baskets, pottery, blankets, mats, nets, bags and pouches, cordage, awls, bows, arrows, drills, stone pipes, musical instruments, and clothing (Bean and Smith 1978).

The majority of the Serrano lived in small villages, close to sources of fresh water (Benedict 1924). Houses and ramadas were round, dome-shaped, and constructed of poles covered with bark and tule mats (Benedict 1924; Kroeber 1925). The Serrano also had sweat houses and ceremonial houses for religious activities. Further, according to Benedict (1924), a typical Serrano settlement was a village with multiple small satellite camps surrounding it. Most Serrano villages also had a ceremonial house used as a religious center. Other structures within the village might include granaries and sweathouses (Bean and Smith 1978). According to DeBarros (2004), one of the more prominent Serrano villages was called Guapiabit, and it was located in Summit Valley.

2.3 Historic Setting

Unlike the coastal areas of California, the Mojave Desert was not intensively explored by the Spanish in early historic-era times, remaining beyond the limit of Hispanic settlement during the period of Mexican rule, which ended after the Mexican-American War of 1848. The first visit to the region by the Spanish was made in 1772 by Pedro Fages, who was searching for deserters from the Spanish army. In 1776, Father Francisco Hermenegildo Garcés traveled the course of the Mojave River across the desert and the mountains westward through the Tejon Pass. A portion of the Garcés route was the first documented use of what was eventually called the Old Spanish Trail, an important transportation route between southern California and Santa Fe. Garcés's venture into the Mojave Desert while traveling from Sonora to Los Angeles is an example of the many attempts to find pathways through the desert, although it would appear from his writings and his dealings with military Captain Fernando Rivera that Garcés was more concerned about good relations with native populations. In any case, a stable trade route was not established until well after Mexico achieved independence from Spain in 1821, when Antonio Armijo opened a trade route between Santa Fe and Los Angeles between 1829–1831 (DOI 2001). The newly established trade route enhanced economic ties between Mexican colonies for a short time until 1848 when the Spanish ceded much of its territory to the United States. Other explorers made more regular visits to the Mojave Desert beginning in the late 1820s. Early explorers included trappers Jedediah Smith and Joseph Walker. Kit Carson, a trapper on Jedediah Smith's 1828 expedition, later served as guide for John C. Frémont's exploratory expedition in 1844 traveling parts of the Old Spanish Trail. Although the exact route is unknown, and likely varied over time, the trail is generally thought to proceed through Silurian Valley from Salt Spring, along the west side of Silurian Lake, across Red Pass, and down to Bitter Spring, then south to the Mojave River (Duffield-Stoll 1998).

The Old Spanish Trail (also known as the Santa Fe Trail or Mormon Road) is currently a listed National Historic Trail (CA-SBR-4272H/CHL 576), and as Winslow et al. (2011) correctly asserts, it was a corridor made up of a series of roads and trails between common points connecting New Mexico and California with its period of significant use

occurring between Garces' initial travels in 1776 through the exploratory mining days prior to 1882. It was originally named by John Fremont after his 1844 scientific expedition during which he surmised that he was following the original Spanish trail (DOI 2001; Winslow et al. 2011). With publication of the trail by the U.S. government after Kit Carson took the maps and news to Washington, D.C., including news of California gold strikes, the "49ers" gold rush was born (Winslow et al. 2011).

The Old Spanish Trail likely has its roots in ancient Native American trail systems; in this sense, the act of blazing the trail by the Spanish was more an act of Indian suppression than of finding appropriate terrain. Following Spanish and Mexican use of the trail, trappers, emigrants, and especially miners made use of it for various purposes, leading to segments of the trail being given different names (see Winslow et al. 2011).

2.3.1 History of Victorville

In the mid-1880s Victorville was known as the community of Victor and was established as a result of the original railroad station. Named after Jacob Nash Victor, a construction superintendent for the California Southern Railroad, the town gradually developed into a flourishing ranch town, railroad stop, and mining town that serviced Oro Grande, Lucerne Valley, and Big Bear (Almendral 2013: p. 7). A vein of marble was first discovered in 1886, and limestone and granite deposits were discovered around the turn of the century (DC 1886: p. 4; City of Victorville 2023). The soil in the Victor Valley was highly conducive for agriculture, and Victorville prospered from the development of farms and cattle ranches (Almendral 2013: p. 23).

The community's name was changed to Victorville in 1901 by the U.S. Post Office as it was confused with the community of Victor in Colorado (City of Victorville 2023). U.S. Route 66 was established in 1926 and went through Victorville until it was replaced with the construction of Interstate 15. Mining and agriculture remained vital industries for Victorville as it continued to develop, and the addition of construction and cement manufacturing plants in the early twentieth century created a new leading industry (Cemex 2024).

The Victorville Army Airfield (George Air Force Base) was constructed for World War II and completed in 1943. After decades of use, the base was deactivated in 1992 and annexed into Victorville in 1993. Part of it is now the Southern California Logistics Airport. Victorville was incorporated in 1962, and the City's population has grown from 8,000 in 1962 to 136, 854 in 2023 (Route 66 2024; City of Victorville 2023). Presently, Victorville encompasses approximately 75 square miles, and includes the Desert Valley Hospital, which was founded in 1994 as an acute care hospital to serve the Victor Valley. Since 1923, Victorville has hosted the Victor Valley Fair (now San Bernardino County Fair), and continues to display exhibits that showcase the agricultural, manufacturing, and business industries (VVNH 1923; SBC Fair 2024).

Bear Valley Road extends approximately 18 miles in southern Victorville and is first mentioned in a 1921 San Bernardino County Sun article that refers to the road as the "Victorville-Bear Valley Road." (SBCS 1921). The resource appears as a dirt road on a 1929 aerial (UCSB 1929). By 1942, Bear Valley Road appears to be a paved light duty road and is designated as a secondary highway by 1953 (USGS 2024). Bear Valley Road was widened sometime between 1984 and 1994, and again sometime between 1994 and 2005 (Historic Aerials 2023a [1984, 1994, 2005]). At the western boundary of Victorville, at the intersection of Bear Valley Road and Monte Vista Road, the right-of-way is split between Victorville to the east and San Bernardino County to the west. Bear Valley Road continues into San Bernadino County but is designated as Duncan Road (DP 2024). Outside the eastern boundary of Victorville, Bear Valley Road intersects with Highway 18 from the southwest.

3 Background Research

3.1 CHRIS Records Search

On August 10, 2023, Dudek conducted a search of the CHRIS at the South Central Coast Information Center (SCCIC), located on the campus of California State University, Fullerton. The search included any previously recorded cultural resources and investigations within a 1-mile radius of the project site. The CHRIS search also included a review of the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Historical Landmarks list, the California Points of Historical Interest list, and the California State Historic Resources Inventory list.

Dudek reviewed the available SCCIC records to determine whether the implementation of the project would have the potential to impact any known and unknown cultural resources. The confidential records search results are provided in Confidential Appendix A.

3.1.1 Previously Conducted Cultural Resources Studies

Results of the CHRIS records search indicate that 36 previous cultural resources studies have been conducted within 1 mile of the project site. These studies were conducted between 1975 and 2013. Of these investigations, 3 studies, SB-01218, SB-02738, and SB-02739, address the entirety (100%) of the project site and four studies are adjacent to the south. Table 1 provides a complete list of all 36 previous cultural resources studies within 1 mile of the project site followed by brief summaries of the overlapping and adjacent reports.

Table 1. Previous Technical Studies Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-00535	Hearn, Joseph E.	1977	Bear Valley Cutoff Ho 6452	Adjacent
SB-00709	Hearn, Joseph E.	1978	Bear Valley Cutoff: From Mariposa Road to Bornite Avenue Ho 7035 Cultural Resources Assessment	Adjacent
SB-00794	San Bernardino County Museum Association	1979	Cultural Resources Assessment For Sycamore Hills Ranch, Hesperia, California	Outside
SB-00995	Smith, Gerald A.	1980	Cultural Resources Assessment: Bear Valley Cutoff From Mariposa to Bornite Avenue	Adjacent
SB-00996	Harris, Ruth O.	1975	Big Bear Valley Cutoff Road	Adjacent
SB-00997	Hearn, Joseph E.	1976	Archaeological - Historical Resources Assessment of Proposed Road Construction, Victorville Area	Outside
SB-00998	Hearn, Joseph E.	1978	Hesperia Road from Bear Valley Road to Ottawa Street Ho 7034 Cultural Resources Assessment	Outside
SB-00999	Smith, Gerald A.	1980	Cultural Resources Assessment: Hesperia Road from Bear Valley Road to Ottawa Street	Outside

Table 1. Previous Technical Studies Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-01218	Weil, Edward B.	1981	Cultural Resource Survey of Bear Valley Road Redevelopment Project Study Area, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Addresses 100%
SB-01820	Peak & Associates Inc.	1988	Cultural Resource Survey and Clearance for Re-Routed Portions of the Proposed American Telephone and Telegraph Las Vegas to San Bernardino Fiberoptics Communication Route	Outside
SB-02668	Mckenna, Jeanette A.	1992	Archaeological Investigations of Well Sites and Proposed Facility Locations for the Victor Valley Water District, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-02738	Alexandrowicz, J. Stephen, Susan R. Alexandrowicz, and Eric Scott	1993	Cultural and Paleontological Resources Investigations for the Proposed Medical Facilities At 12141 Second Avenue, City of Victorville, County of San Bernardino, California	Addresses 30%
SB-02739	Alexandrowicz, J. Stephen, Mari Parker, and Eric Scott	1993	Monitoring Report for Cultural And Paleontological Resources at the Proposed Medical Facilities at 12141 Second Avenue, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Addresses 30%
SB-03704	Alexandrowicz, J. Stephen	2002	Historical & Paleontological Resources Monitoring For The Parcel Map 15791 Project, City of Victorville, California	Outside
SB-03972	Wlodarski, Robert	2003	A Phase I Archaeological Study for a 20-Acre Parcel of Land, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04181	Cerreto, Richard, and Christy Malan	2004	Cultural Resource Assessment For TT 16860, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-04221	Mirro, Michael	2004	Cultural Resources Survey of 249 Acres on The Krauss & Adjacent Property For NRCS	Outside
SB-04411	Alexandrowicz, John Stephen	2001	Cultural & Paleontological Monitoring for the Foxborough Development, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05214	Malan, Christy, and Richard Cerreto	2004	Cultural Resources Assessment for City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05215	Malan, L. Christiine and Richard Cerreto	2005	Cultural Resources Assessment for Tentative Tract No. 16900, APN# 3092-391-02, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05370	Jordan, Stacey C.	2007	Archaeological Survey Report for the Southern California Edison Company DSP – Monaloa 12 KV O/O Savage Sub Project, San Bernardino County, California (WO#6073-5316, AI#6-5302)	Outside

Table 1. Previous Technical Studies Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-05462	Billat, Lorna	2007	Property Assessment for the Balsom Mojave park / CA-5356C Wireless Telecommunications Service (WTS) Facility, at 16252 Burwood Avenue, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-05468	Unknown author	2005	Balsam - CA5356	Outside
SB-05766	Love, Bruce	1997	Cultural Resources Report: Bakersfield—Rialto Fiberoptic Line Project, Kern, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California	Outside
SB-05773	Sanka, Jennifer M.	2007	Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment and Paleontological Records Review, Bear Valley Road Project, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-06544	Billet, Lorna	2009	Property Assessment for Silica/CA2612A-TCO Wireless Facility, 17199 Jasmine Street, in Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-06545	Bonner, Diane F., and Robert J. Wlodarski	2009	Cultural Resources Record Search and Archaeological Survey Results for the Proposed Royal Street Communications, California LLC, Site LA3344A (Mojave Park) located at 16252 Burwood Avenue, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California 92392	Outside
SB-06859	Tang, Bai "Tom," Terri Jacquemain, Daniel Ballester, and Harry Quinn	2010	Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: Town of Apple Valley and City of Hesperia Wastewater Reclamation Plants and Related Facilities Project, Victor Valley Area, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
SB-06956	Bonner, Wayne H and Marnie Aslin Kay	2010	Cultural Resource Record Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile USA Candidate IE25556A (Mojave Vista Park), 16252 Burwood Avenue, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California. EBI Job no. 61104185	Outside
SB-06999	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2010	Record Search Results for the Proposed AT&T Wireless Telecommunications Site ES0233 (Mojave Vista Park), 16252 Burwood Avenue, Victorville, California 92395	Outside
SB-07082	Akyuz, Linda	2012	Archaeological Survey Report for the Southern California Edison Company's Replacement of Two Deteriorated Pole Structures on the 66 kV Oak Hills/Lugo Yard Transmission Line Work Order 73/TD 560368, Unincorporated San Bernardino County, California	Outside

Table 1. Previous Technical Studies Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

SCCIC Report Number	Authors	Year	Title	Proximity to Project Site
SB-07156	Tang, Bai "Tom," Daniel Ballester, and Nina Gallardo	2011	Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report: Water Supply System Improvements Projects, Fiscal Years 2010/2011 – 2014/2015, Victorville Water District, San Bernardino County, California.	Outside
SB-07403	Tang, Bai "Tom"	2012	Building Renovation Project, 16453 Bear Valley Road, City of Hesperia, San Bernardino County	Outside
SB-07404	Basalik, Kenneth J.	2013	Phase I Archaeological Survey, Martin Environmental Solution Inc. Site # 2012-TWC-0005 (Silica), Victorville, San Bernardino County, California	Outside
SB-07843	Wlodarski, Robert J.	2013	Records Search Results for the Proposed AT&T Wireless Telecommunications Site ES0233 (Mojave Vista Park), 16252 Burwood Avenue, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California 92392	Outside

Notes: SCCIC = South Central Coastal Information Center. Proximity to project site is approximate.

Report SB-01218

Cultural Resource Survey of Bear Valley Road Redevelopment Project Study Area, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California (Weil 1981), documents the results of a cultural resources assessment for archaeological and paleontological resources and consists of an archival record search, literature review, and pedestrian survey. The area of study addresses the entirety (100%) of the current project site. The archival records search completed for the 1981 study did not identify any previously recorded archaeological resources or previous studies. The pedestrian survey was conducted in 30 m transects. As a result of the pedestrian survey, two isolated jasper flakes and one possible hammerstone were identified within the 1981 study area and well outside of the current project site; the artifacts were not collected. Overall, no cultural materials were identified within or immediately adjacent to the current project site as a result of the 1981 study. While no resources were identified as a result of the investigation, Weil notes that the possibility of encountering cultural materials within the study area is possible. The report provides the following recommendations in the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural resources: halting work in the vicinity of the discovery; contacting a qualified archaeologist to evaluate the discovery; and if the resource is considered significant, preparation and implementation of a mitigation plan.

Report SB-02738

Cultural and Paleontological Resources Investigations for the Proposed Medical Facilities At 12141 Second Avenue, City of Victorville, County of San Bernardino, California (Alexandrowicz et al. 1993a), documents the results of a cultural resources assessment for archaeological and paleontological resources and consists of an archival record search, literature and historical maps review, reconnaissance-level pedestrian survey, and presence/absence testing as a result of the survey findings. The area of study addresses approximately 30% of the current project site. The archival records search completed for the 1993 study did not identify any previously recorded prehistoric

resources within the study area; however, three previously recorded historic-period resources were identified, including the National Old Trails Highway (CA-SBR-2901H), Big Bear Cutoff or Bear Valley Road (CA-SBR-7061H), and the Atkinson, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad Berm (CA-SBR-6793H). Of these previously recorded resources, only one is located within the current project site (CA-SBR-7061H). As a result of the reconnaissance survey, seven isolated prehistoric artifacts were identified and collected within four loci as follows: Locus 1 consisted of one large flake (P-36-060841); Locus 2 consisted of one flake and one core (P-36-060842); Locus 3 consisted of two flakes (P-36-060843); and Locus 4 consisted of two flakes (P-36-060844). Two of the loci (P-36-060842 and P-36-060844) were identified adjacent to the current project site prior to development. As a result of the discoveries made during the survey, presence/absence testing was conducted via four shovel test pits (STPs) measuring 1.5 ft square within each locus to determine whether subsurface deposits existed. The STPs were excavated to depths between 1 and 1.7 ft below ground surface. No cultural materials were identified as a result of the presence/absence testing. Although the survey conducted for the 1993 study resulted in the identification and recovery of isolated cultural materials adjacent to the current project site, the report states that no further actions are recommended at the loci investigated. However, the report does state that there is a potential for subsurface archaeological deposits to exist within the study area; therefore, recommended archaeological monitoring during ground disturbing/construction activities, including protocols and procedures for the inadvertent discovery of cultural resources. These protocols/procedures include contacting a qualified archaeologist to evaluate the discovery; and if necessary, data recovery.

Report SB-02739

Monitoring Report for Cultural And Paleontological Resources at the Proposed Medical Facilities at 12141 Second Avenue, City of Victorville, San Bernardino County, California (Alexandrowicz et al. 1993b), documents the results of monitoring activities and discoveries for the development of a proposed medical facility. The area of study addresses approximately 30% of the current project site. Archaeological and paleontological monitoring was conducted between February 1 and 13, 1993. Monitoring activities resulted in the recovery of one prehistoric resource described as a heat spall and/or possible core (P-36-060845), this isolate is not located within the current project site. No other cultural materials were identified during the course of the monitoring program and no further actions were recommended for the isolate identified.

3.1.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The CHRIS records search identified 13 previously recorded cultural resources within the 1-mile records search radius. Of these, one is a historic-era built environment resource, and the remaining 12 resources consist of prehistoric archaeological resources. One cultural resource is mapped intersecting the project site, CA-SBR-7061H, a segment of Bear Valley Cutoff, which is considered a built environment resource. Two cultural resources are mapped as being adjacent to the project site, consisting of P-36-060842and P-36-060844, both consisting of prehistoric isolates. Table 2 summarizes all previously recorded cultural resources identified within the records research radius followed by summaries of each cultural resource located within and adjacent to the project site.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
007061	7061H	Built environment: Paved Road	Segment of Bear Valley Cutoff or Bear Valley Road; no evidence of old unpaved portions of road	7R: Not evaluated	1991 (J. A. McKenna) 2011 (J. Trampier)	Intersecting
012596	012324	Archaeological site: Prehistoric	Lithic scatter with possible seed processing and possible separate locus; includes seven flakes/shatter fragments, one possible tool, several ground stones and two isolates	7R: Not evaluated	2006 (R. Cerreto, C. Malan, K. Ward, C Arter, and K. Arter)	Outside
012841	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Unifacial mano	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2004 (L. C. Malan and R. Cerreto)	Outside
012991	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One gray chert shatter	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2007 (J. Sanka)	Outside
020184	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One rhyolite secondary flake and one fire affected rock (FAR) from quartzite material	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2001 (J. S. Alexandrowicz and B. Loren-Webb)	Outside
027463	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Chert bi-polar core	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2005 (C. Malan and R. Cerreto)	Outside
060841	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Large decortication flake of quartzite material	7R: Not evaluated	1993 (J. S. Alexandrowicz, F. Dittmer, B. Slater, and K. Slater)	Outside
060842	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One secondary quartzite flake and one basalt core	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1993 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Adjacent
060843	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Two decortication flake of quartzite material	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1993 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Outside

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 1 Mile of the Project Site

Primary (P-36-)	Trinomial (CA-SBR-)	Resource Age and Type	Resource Description	NRHP/CRHR Eligibility	Recording Events	Proximity to Project Site
060844	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	Two decortication flake of quartzite material	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1993 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Adjacent
060845	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One heat spall and/or core of quartzite material	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	1993 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Outside
064607	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One crescent-shaped secondary flake of quartzite material interpreted to be a crude cutting/ scraping tool and possible spoke shave	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2002 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Outside
064608	N/A	Archaeological isolate: Prehistoric	One secondary flake of quartz material interpreted to be a biface	6Z: Ineligible for NRHP, CRHR, or Local	2002 (Alexandrowicz et al.)	Outside

Notes: NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; CRHR = California Register of Historical Resources; N/A = not applicable.

P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H

P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H is a historic-era built environment resource, historically referred to as Big Bear Cutoff, and also referred to by its present-day name, Bear Valley Road. The resource was first formally recorded in 1991 by J. A. McKenna, who described the resource as a pre-1940 road alignment that consisted of a two-lane asphalt road with no curbs. According to McKenna, the older and unpaved portions of the road are overlain by pavement and utility pipes have impacted the resource. A 50 ft segment of this resource was revisited, and the record updated in 2011 by J. Trampier, who described the segment as an undivided highway that measures between 45 and 50 ft across and paved with asphalt and that no cultural materials were observed that are associated with the road. Resource P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H has not been formally evaluated for listing on the NRHP or the CRHR.

P-36-060842

P-36-060842 is a prehistoric isolate that was formally recorded in 1993 by J. S. Alexandrowicz et al., who described the isolate as a locus consisting of a small secondary white quartzite flake and a grayish basalt core. The resources were identified on a slightly elevated dune near an ephemeral arroyo during a pedestrian survey and collected (Alexandrowicz et al. 1993a).

P-36-060844

P-36-060844 is a prehistoric isolate that was formally recorded in 1993 by J. S. Alexandrowicz et al. In the record, the isolate is described as consisting of two medium-sized white quartzite decortication flakes. The resources were identified during a pedestrian survey and collected (Alexandrowicz et al. 1993a).

3.2 Geotechnical Report Review

The Geotechnical Engineering Report, Proposed Desert Valley Hospital Addition, Victorville, San Bernardino County, California (Terracon Consultants Inc. 2023), was prepared for Prime Healthcare Management Inc. in May 2023 to determine the subsurface geological conditions of the project site. The report details the results of eight subsurface exploratory borings (B-1 through B-8) and three subsurface percolation tests (P-1 through P-3), performed by truck-mounted drill rig with an 8-inch hollow-stem auger to depths ranging from approximately 5 to 51.5 ft below existing site grades in January and February 2023. These subsurface investigations were placed at accessible locations within the project Site, as depicted in Exhibit 1, below.

The project site is composed of asphalt concrete (1.5 to 2 inches thick) at aggregate base (6 inches thick) underlain by native soils at three investigated locations and native soils for the remainder of the locations subjected to subsurface. The on-site soils generally consisted of interbedded layers of poorly graded sand, sandy silt, and silty sand with varying amounts of silt extending to the maximum depth of the exploration approximately 51.5 ft bgs. investigations.

Exhibit 1. Boring and Percolation Testing Locations Map.

Source: Terracon Consultants Inc. 2023.

3.3 Additional Records Reviewed

The following sources provide additional information regarding the potential of built environment resources located within the API. This information was used to understand the history of the area and how the landscape has changed and developed over time.

3.3.1 Built Environment Resource Directory

The California OHP maintains the Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD), an inventory of built environment cultural resources that are processed through OHP's office. A May 28, 2024, search of the BERD for San Bernardino County showed no previously recorded or evaluated resources are located within the project area.

3.3.2 Calisphere

Calisphere provides access to 2,000 collections contributed by more than 300 cultural heritage organizations in California, including universities, libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies. Dudek searched for the subject property address and other keywords on Calisphere on May 28, 2024. This search did not identify any materials pertaining to the subject property.

3.3.3 Online Archive of California

The Online Archive of California (OAC) provides free public access to detailed descriptions of primary resource collections maintained by more than 300 contributing institutions including libraries, special collections, archives, historical societies, and museums throughout California as well as collections maintained by the 10 University of California campuses. Dudek searched for historical tenants and addresses associated with the subject property on OAC on May 28, 2024, and did not identify any relevant materials.

3.3.4 Historic Aerials

A review of historic aerial photographs from the following years was conducted as part of the archival research effort and includes the following years: 1952, 1959, 1968, 1969, 1984, 1985, 1994, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 (Historic Aerials 2023a). Through careful comparative review of historic aerials, changes to the landscape of a study area may be revealed. Disturbance to the study area is specifically important as it helps determine if soils within the study area are capable of sustaining intact archaeological deposits. Additionally, historical aerials have the potential to reveal whether a study area was subjected to alluvial deposits by way of flooding, debris flows, or mudslides, as well as the placement of artificial or foreign fill soils that may have buried intact archaeological deposits. Table 3 summarizes the results of the aerial photograph review for all available years that include the project site and surrounding properties.

Table 3. Historic Aerial Photograph Review

Year	Description
1952	The project site is undeveloped open desert. There is a road running east-west within the southern boundary of the project site where the present-day Bear Valley Road is located. There is also a road east of the project site where the present-day Hesperia Road is located.
1959	There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred. There are now roads and scattered structures south of Bear Valley Road. There is an unimproved dirt road running north-south along the eastern boundary of the project site, connecting to Bear Valley Road.
1968	The unimproved dirt road running north-south along the eastern boundary of the project site, changes course at its southern terminus to the southwest before connecting to Bear Valley Road. There are no other apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred. There appears evidence of natural modification through wind and water erosion and depositional event to the east of the unimproved dirt road and the proposed project site.

Table 3. Historic Aerial Photograph Review

Year	Description
1969	There appears to be evidence of natural modification through wind and water erosion and depositional event within the project site.
1984	There is significant development east of the project site, within the Hi Desert Plaza Shopping Center. There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
1985	There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
1994	There are large structures and associated parking lots shown that appear to be consistent with the present-day Victor Elementary School District Office and the Desert Valley Hospital structural layout. The parking area of the Desert Valley Hospital overlaps the western portion of the project site. There is an informal dirt road along the eastern boundary of the Desert Valley Hospital parking lot, within the project site.
2005	There is a paved parking lot to the east of the Desert Valley Hospital within the northwest portion of the project site. The eastern portion of the project site, where the present-day First Street is located, is an informal road.
2009	The parking lots and landscaped areas of the project site appear as they do currently. There are what appears to be storage containers or trailers within the undeveloped area of the project site.
2010	There appears to be significant ground disturbance of the undeveloped area of the project site as evidenced by the presence of dirt piles, staged equipment and/or trailers/structures.
2012	The undeveloped areas of the project site appear to have been fully graded and all staged equipment/structures are no longer visible. First Street is paved within the project site and appears as it does currently.
2014	There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
2016-2020	The present-day helicopter-pad has been constructed in the project site and is consistent with present-day site conditions. There are no other apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.

3.3.5 Historic Newspapers

Dudek reviewed historical newspapers from the California Digital Newspaper Collection and Newspapers.com covering Victorville and the surrounding area to understand the development of the API.

3.3.6 Historic Topographic Maps

Topographic maps depict the elevation of the study area and the areas surrounding it and illustrate the location of roads and some buildings. Although topographic maps are not comprehensive, they are another tool in determining

whether a study area has been disturbed and at times to what approximate depth. A review of available topographic maps was conducted and includes the following years: 1902, 1906, 1912, 1923, 1936, 1942, 1945, 1957, 1970, 1980, 1984, 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021 (Historic Aerials 2023b). Table 4 summarizes the results of the historic topographic map review of the project site and surrounding properties for all available years.

Table 4. Review of Historic Topographic Maps

Year	Description
1902	The project site appears to be mostly undeveloped desert land with a road traveling roughly north–south, overlapping the eastern portion of the project site. To the east and well outside the project site is a railroad, also roughly traveling north–south.
1906–1936	There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
1942	The road no longer overlaps the project site. There are now roads to the east and to the south of the project site.
1945	This topographic map depicts the same information as the 1936 map.
1957	A secondary highway labelled Big Bear (present-day Bear Valley Road) is depicted traveling east-west, representing the southern boundary of the project site. Outside of the project site to the east, a secondary highway labeled Hesperia Road is depicted, consistent with the present-day layout. The railroad segment outside and to the east of the project site is labeled Union Pacific.
1970	There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
1980	A north/south-traveling unimproved road is depicted along the eastern boundary of the project site. There are no other apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
1984	This topographic map depicts the same information as the 1970 map.
2012	Directly west of the project site, the area is symbolized with an “H” to represent a hospital. There is a grid of roads consistent with the present-day road configurations, with the exception of First Avenue, which is depicted as connecting to Bear Valley Road. There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
2015	First Avenue is no longer the eastern boundary of the project site and stops at Jasmine Street. Bear Valley Road, located within the southern boundary of the project site, and Hesperia Road, located east and outside of the project site, are now depicted as a primary highways. There are no apparent changes within the project site that suggests ground disturbance has occurred.
2018 and 2021	These topographic maps depict the same information as the 2012 topographic map.

While topographic maps are informative, they do not illustrate the minute changes that can occur to a landscape overtime and at times, are inconsistent with what is depicted year to year. Most often, structures depicted in topographical maps are limited to those with community or social significance (e.g., firehouses, churches, or

hospitals), including additions or changes to roads and/or waterways. Nonetheless, the information gathered contributes to the understanding of the chronological development of a study area.

3.4 Native American Coordination and Interested Parties Consultation

3.4.1 NAHC Sacred Lands File Search

The SLF, maintained by the NAHC, represent a curation of "ancient places of special religious or social significance to Native Americans and known ancient graves and cemeteries of Native Americans on private and public lands in California" (nahc.gov 2023) provided by Tribal entities and Native American representatives. For various reasons, Tribal entities and Native American representatives do no not always report sacred lands or TCRs to the NAHC; as such, the NAHC's SLF is not necessarily a comprehensive list of known TCRs and searches of the SLF must be considered in concert with other research and not used as a sole source of information regarding the presence of TCRs. Additionally, results of the SLF provided relate to the general regional area within and surrounding the project site and don't necessarily equate to the existence of resources within the specific area occupied by the project site.

Dudek requested a search of the NAHC SLF on July 26, 2023, to determine the presence of any Native American cultural resources within the project site. The NAHC SLF search was conducted by Cultural Resources Analyst Cameron Vela on January 17, 2024. The NAHC SLF search results were positive. However, the NAHC SLF record is maintained at a PLSS Section level, which indicates a recorded sacred site could be anywhere within this 1-square-mile (640-acre) area. The NAHC identified 24 Native American individuals who would potentially have specific knowledge as to whether Native American cultural resources are identified within the study area that could be at-risk. To date, Dudek has not initiated contact with the individuals on the NAHC's contact list, regarding the project site. However, in compliance with AB 52, the City has contacted all NAHC-listed traditionally geographically affiliated tribal representatives that have requested project notification and is briefly discussed in the following section. Documentation of the NAHC SLF search results is provided in Appendix B.

3.4.2 Assembly Bill 52 Consultation

The project is subject to compliance with AB 52 (PRC 21074), which requires consideration of impacts to TCRs as part of the CEQA process, and that the lead agency notify California Native American Tribal representatives that have requested notification who are traditionally or culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project site. All records of correspondence related to AB 52 notification and any subsequent consultation are on file with the City. A summary of the consultation record is provided and addressed in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration document for the project.

3.4.3 Kirkman-Harriman Historical Map Review

Dudek cultural resources specialists reviewed sources commonly identified though Tribal consultation, notably the 1938 Kirkman-Harriman Historical Map (Exhibit 2). Based on this map, the project site is located within an area labeled "Desert" and approximately 5.5 miles directly east of the confluence of three roads near the mapped location of Victorville. These roads include two segments of "Old Spanish Trail" and one unnamed road. The closest

water source is the Cajon Wash, nearly 15 miles to the southwest. The nearest mapped Native American village is approximately 27 miles south/southeast of the project site and is unnamed.

Exhibit 2. Proposed Project Site Depicted in Green.

Source: 1938 Kirkman-Harriman Historical Map.

It should be noted that this map is highly generalized due to scale and age and may be somewhat inaccurate with regards to distance and location of mapped features. Additionally, this map was prepared based on review of historic documents and notes more than 100 years following secularization of the missions (in 1833). Although the

map contains no specific primary references, it matches with the details documented by the Portolá expedition (circa 1769–1770). The map is a valuable representation of post-colonization mission history; however, it is limited to a specific period of Native American history and substantiation of the specific location and uses of the represented individual features should be verified by archaeological records and/or other primary documentation.

Although the SLF results for the project were positive, the NAHC did not provide any specificity as to the location of the resources identified nor was any information pertaining to the type of resource provided. Moreover, the results of the SLF provided by the NAHC indicate the presence of resources in the general regional area within and surrounding the project site and not necessarily within the project site. Moreover, while no archaeological evidence of the nearest village on the 1938 Kirkman-Harriman map was provided in the digitally available SCCIC records or as the result of a review of other archaeological information for the project site, the SCCIC records does indicate that two isolated prehistoric cultural materials were identified adjacent to the project site and an additional ten are within the 1-mile records search radius. This suggests that although there are no mapped villages near the project site, the general area was utilized in prehistoric times either in passing or as temporary camp sites. Therefore, the potential to encounter additional Native American or prehistoric resources subsurface, is possible in areas and depths not previously explored/investigated.

3.4.4 Interested Parties Consultation

On May 24, 2024, and May 28, 2024, Dudek Architectural Historian Danielle Baza sent electronic contact letters to the Mohahve Historical Society, the Victor Valley Legacy Museum, and the Victor Valley Museum. The letters briefly described the proposed project and requested information about cultural resources near the project area.

Tamara Serrao-Leiva from the San Bernardino County Museum, on behalf of the Victor Valley Museum, responded on May 28, 2024, that they do not have any resources listed in the project area.

Copies of the outreach submitted in conjunction with this project and all responses are located in Appendix C.

3.5 Cultural Resources Pedestrian Survey

3.5.1 Field Methods

Dudek Archaeologist, Brenda Lee Rogers, conducted a pedestrian survey of the project site on October 19, 2023, using standard archaeological procedures and techniques. The intensive-level survey methods consisted of a pedestrian survey conducted in parallel transects, spaced no more than 10 m apart (approximately 30 ft), where feasible and safe to do so. In areas of limited ground surface visibility due to the presence of extant structures and paved parking lot, formal transects were not utilized. Instead, a mixed approach (opportunistic survey) and reconnaissance survey (visual inspection) were utilized, selectively examining areas of exposed ground surfaces, where possible.

The ground surface was inspected for prehistoric artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, ground stone tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, features indicative of structures and/or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, post holes, foundations), and historical artifacts (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics, building materials). Ground disturbances such as

burrows, cut banks, trails and drainages were also visually inspected for exposed subsurface materials. No artifacts were collected during the survey.

All field notes, photographs, and records related to the current study are on file at Dudek's Pasadena, California office. All field practices met the Secretary of Interior's standards and guidelines for a cultural resources inventory.

3.5.2 Results

The survey area included an open desert landscape, paved and dirt roads, and paved parking areas close to the existing hospital campus. Ground surface visibility ranged from fair to excellent (70% to 100%) in the open desert areas but was poor to non-existent in paved areas (30%). The project site has been subjected to consistent disturbance due to previous grading activities and opportunistic dumping, evidenced by the presence of modern debris scattered across the site, including concrete foundation debris, household items, clothing, toys, a mattress, metal fragments, and food waste wrappers and containers. Other disturbances observed consisted of informal dirt roads indicating off-road vehicle use. No cultural materials were observed during the survey. Overall, all soils observed within all areas surveyed are consistent with the USDA's characterization of alluvial soils identified as Bryman Loamy Fine Sand discussed in Section 1.3.1 Review of Soils.

P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H

P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H was first formally recorded in 1991, with a subsequent recordation completed in 2011. The resource was evaluated by Dudek architectural historians and is recommended not eligible for the NRHP and the CRHR because of a lack of historical and engineering significance.

A detailed description and evaluation can be found in the DPR 523 form set in Appendix D.

4 Findings and Conclusions

Two previously recorded cultural resources are located immediately adjacent to the project site. These resources consist of two prehistoric isolates, P-36-060842 (flake and core) and P-36-060844 (two flakes). The NAHC SLF search results were positive. However, as previously stated, the NAHC SLF record is maintained at a PLSS Section level, which indicates a recorded sacred site could be anywhere within this 1-square-mile (640-acre) area.

One previously recorded historic-era built environment resource (CA-SBR-07061H) in the API. It was evaluated using the NRHP and CRHR criteria and is recommended ineligible because it lacks historical and engineering significance. The recommended Status Code is 6Z.

4.1 Sensitivity Analysis

In consideration of the number of known resources within proximity to the project area, and because alluvial soils suited to supporting the development of archaeological deposits are present within the project area, there is moderate potential for identifying unanticipated buried cultural resources deposits within previously undisturbed areas during subsurface project activities.

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5 Management Recommendations

5.1 Archaeology

Dudek recommends the following management considerations to ensure proper treatment of any unknown archaeological resources that may be encountered as a result of project construction. These recommendations would ensure the proper treatment of any cultural resources and human remains encountered during ground disturbing activities. With the proper implementation of these recommendations, the potential impact to archaeological resources is considered to be less then significant.

Workers Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) Training. All construction personnel and monitors who are not trained archaeologists should be briefed regarding unanticipated discoveries prior to the start of construction activities. A basic presentation should be prepared and presented by a qualified archaeologist to inform all personnel working on the project about the archaeological sensitivity of the area. The purpose of the WEAP training is to provide specific details on the kinds of archaeological materials that may be identified during construction of the project and explain the importance of and legal basis for the protection of significant archaeological resources. Each worker should also learn the proper procedures to follow in the event that cultural resources or human remains are uncovered during ground-disturbing activities. These procedures include work curtailment or redirection, and the immediate contact of the on-call archaeologist and if appropriate, Tribal representative. Necessity of training attendance should be stated on all construction plans.

Archaeological Construction Monitoring. In consideration of the general sensitivity of the project site for cultural resources, a qualified archaeologist should be retained to conduct cultural resources monitoring during initial ground-disturbing activities within previously undisturbed deposits. A qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, should oversee and adjust monitoring efforts as needed (increase, decrease, or discontinue monitoring frequency) based on the observed potential for construction activities to encounter cultural deposits. The archaeologist should be responsible for maintaining monitoring logs. Following the completion of construction, the qualified archaeologist should provide an archaeological monitoring report to the lead agency and the SCCIC with the results of the cultural monitoring program.

Inadvertent Discovery of Archaeological Resources. In the event that archaeological resources (sites, features, or artifacts) are exposed during construction activities for the project, all construction work occurring within 100 ft of the find should immediately stop until a qualified archaeologist, meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, can evaluate the significance of the find and determine whether or not additional study is warranted. Depending upon the significance of the find under the California Environmental Quality Act (14 CCR 15064.5(f); California PRC Section 21082), the archaeologist may simply record the find and allow work to continue. If the discovery proves significant under CEQA, additional work, such as preparation of an archaeological treatment plan, testing, or data recovery, may be warranted. If the discovery is Native American in nature, consultation with and/or monitoring by a Tribal representative may be necessary.

Inadvertent Discovery of Human Remains. In accordance with Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, if human remains are found, the County coroner shall be immediately notified of the discovery. No further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains shall occur until the County coroner has determined the appropriate treatment and disposition of the human remains. If

the County coroner determines that the remains are, or are believed to be, Native American, he or she shall follow all required protocols according to California Public Resources Code, Section 5097.98.

5.2 Built Environment

As the proposed project would have no impact on built environment historical resources, no further study is required.

6 References

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Appendix A

Confidential SCCIC Records Search Results

Appendix B
NAHC SLF Search Results

Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95501
(916) 373-3710
(916) 373-5471 – Fax
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

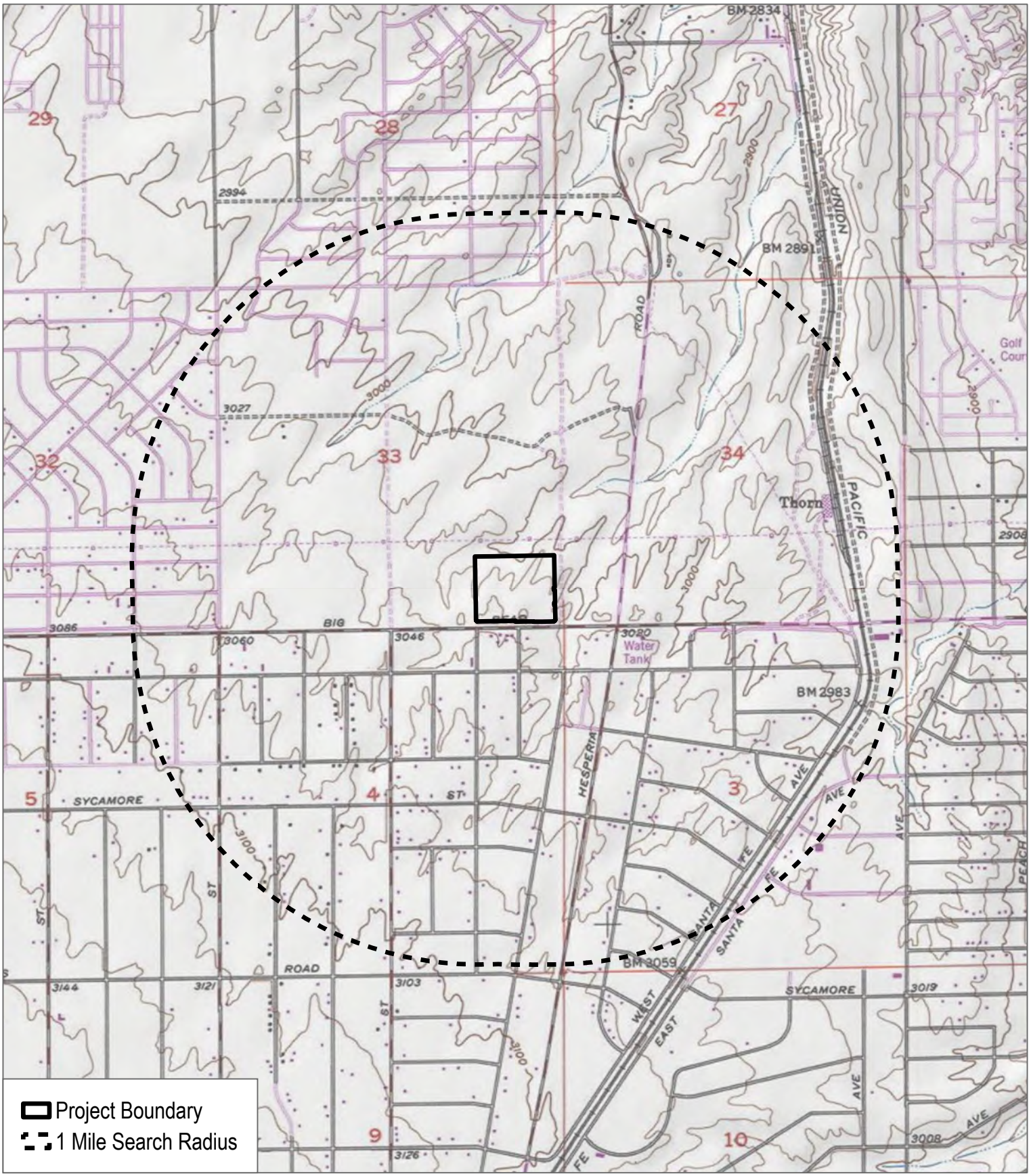
Project: Prime Desert Valley Hospital
County: San Bernardino County

USGS Quadrangle
Name: Hesperia Quadrangle
Township: 5N Range: 4W Section(s): 33

Company/Firm/Agency:
Dudek
Contact Person: Jennifer De Alba
Street Address: 3760 State Street Suite 101
City: Santa Barbara Zip: 93105
Phone: (805) 448-5529 Extension:
Fax:
Email: jdealba@dudek.com

Project Description:
Hospital expansion project

☑ Project Location Map is attached



SOURCE: USGS 7.5-Minutes Series 1:24,000

Hesperia Quadrangle - Township 5N Range 4W Section 33

DUDEK

0 500 1,000 Feet

0 260 520 Meters

Records Search

Prime Desert Valley Hospital Project

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

January 17, 2024

Jennifer De Alba
DUDEK

Via Email to: jdealba@dudek.com

Re: Prime Desert Valley Hospital Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Ms. De Alba:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were positive. Please contact the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians on the attached list for information. Please note that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. A SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites, such as the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) archaeological Information Center for the presence of recorded archaeological sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. Please contact all of those listed; if they cannot supply information, they may recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

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 lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: Cameron.vela@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Cameron Vela

Cameron Vela
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission

County	Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation
San Bernardino	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Lacy Padilla, THPO Operations Manager	5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	(760) 333-5222	ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net	Cahuilla
	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Andrew Salas, Chairperson	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787	admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno
	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787	admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno
	Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	N	Anthony Morales, Chairperson	P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, CA, 91778	(626) 483-3564	GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	Gabrieleno
	Gabrielino /Tongva Nation	N	Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 Los Angeles, CA, 90012	(951) 807-0479	sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com	Gabrielino
	Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal	N	Robert Dorame, Chairperson	P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, CA, 90707	(562) 761-6417	gtongva@gmail.com	Gabrielino
	Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator	P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, CA, 93094	(626) 407-8761	christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu	Gabrielino
	Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Charles Alvarez, Chairperson	23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, CA, 91307	(310) 403-6048	Chavez1956metro@gmail.com	Gabrielino
	Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director	P.O. Box 3919 Seal Beach, CA, 90740	(909) 262-9351	tongvatcr@gmail.com	Gabrielino
	Kern Valley Indian Community	N	Julie Turner, Secretary	P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240	(661) 340-0032		Kawaiisu Tubatulabal Koso
	Kern Valley Indian Community	N	Brandy Kendricks,	30741 Foxridge Court Tehachapi, CA, 93561	(661) 821-1733	krazykendricks@hotmail.com	Kawaiisu Tubatulabal Koso
	Kern Valley Indian Community	N	Robert Robinson, Chairperson	P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240	(760) 378-2915	bbutterbredt@gmail.com	Kawaiisu Tubatulabal Koso

Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Ann Brierty, THPO	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5259	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Robert Martin, Chairperson	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110	abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman - Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	(928) 210-8739	culturalcommittee@quechantribe.com	Quechan
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jordan Joaquin, President, Quechan Tribal	P.O.Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	(760) 919-3600	executivesecretary@quechantribe.com	Quechan
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	(928) 261-0254	historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	Quechan
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians	N	Donna Yocum, Chairperson	P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322	(503) 539-0933	dyocum@sfbmi.org	Kitanemuk Vanyume Tataviam
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	F	Alexandra McCleary, Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management	26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346	(909) 633-0054	alexandra.mccleary@sanmanuel-nsn.gov	Serrano
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(909) 578-2598	serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians	N	Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson	P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	(253) 370-0167	serranonation1@gmail.com	Serrano
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nicosia, Cultural Resources Manager/THPO	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-3972	christopher.nicosia@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Nicolas Garza, Cultural Resources	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2486	nicolas.garza@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Sarah O'Brien, Tribal Archivist	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2460	sobrien@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi

Native American Heritage Commission

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 Prime Desert Valley Hospital Project, San Bernardino County.

Appendix C

Interested Parties Correspondence

From: Danielle Baza
To: mohahve64@gmail.com
Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project
Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:42:00 AM
Attachments: Letter Figure_Mohahve Historical Society.pdf
image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out today on behalf of Dudek and the Desert Valley Hospital to provide you with some information about the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project. As part of the cultural resources study for the proposed project, Dudek is consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be within the proposed project area. Please see the attached letter and map for more information about the nature and location of the project, and please feel free to contact me should you have questions or information regarding cultural or historical resources in this area.

Thank you,
Danielle Baza

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian I
DUDEK

O: 9165847828 **C:** 9166395042
dudek.com

DUDEK
1810 13TH STREET, SUITE 110
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811
T 916.443.8335

Mohahve Historical Society
P.O. Box 21
Victorville, CA 92393

May 23, 2024

Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project

To Whom it May Concern:

Dudek has been retained by the Desert Valley Hospital to complete a cultural resources inventory and evaluation report for the Death Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project is located in the southeastern part of the City of Victorville (City), within the grounds of the existing Desert Valley Hospital. The Proposed Project is located north of Valley Road, west of 1st Avenue and existing development, south of vacant land and Jasmine Street, and east of 2nd Avenue (See Figure 1 enclosed).

The client is proposing to construct a new facility to the hospital at Desert Valley Medical Center. The approximately 80,000 square foot Building Addition will be two stories. The first floor of the Building Addition will include 39,036 square feet for a new Emergency Department (ED). The new ED will connect to the existing Hospital on the first floor through an existing corridor that will be widened. The second floor of the Building Addition will include 38,269 square feet for a Medical-Surgical Department (Med Surg Unit). The Med Surg Unit will connect to the existing Hospital through a new bridge over the existing Hospital's low roof. The exterior building will have the modern façade consisting of corrugated metal and composite panels integrated with an Exterior Insulation and Finish System applied on metal stud framing.

As part of our study, we are consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be affected by the Proposed Project. Your efforts in this process will provide invaluable information for the proper identification and treatment of such resources. If you have any information regarding known cultural resources in the Proposed Project area, please feel free to contact me via phone or email (listed below). All comments, emails, or letters received will be included in the reports generated by this study. Thank you for your time regarding our request.

Sincerely,

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian
(916) 639-5042 // dbaza@dudek.com
Att.: Figure 1, Project Area

SOURCE: Bing Maps

1:3,600

0 40 80 Meters

0 150 300 Feet

DUDEK

Figure 1

Project Site

Desert Valley Hospital Project

From:	Danielle Baza
To:	hdcf@verizon.net
Cc:	Patricia Ambacher
Subject:	Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project
Date:	Friday, May 24, 2024 3:43:00 PM
Attachments:	Letter Figure_VV Legacy Museum.pdf image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png

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To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out today on behalf of Dudek and the Desert Valley Hospital to provide you with some information about the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project. As part of the cultural resources study for the proposed project, Dudek is consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be within the proposed project area. Please see the attached letter and map for more information about the nature and location of the project, and please feel free to contact me should you have questions or information regarding cultural or historical resources in this area.

Thank you,
Danielle Baza

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian I
DUDEK

O: 9165847828 **C:** 9166395042
dudek.com

DUDEK
1810 13TH STREET, SUITE 110
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811
T 916.443.8335

Victor Valley Legacy Museum
20601 CA HWY 18, Suite 171
Apple Valley, CA 92307

May 23, 2024

Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project

To Whom it May Concern:

Dudek has been retained by the Desert Valley Hospital to complete a cultural resources inventory and evaluation report for the Death Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project is located in the southeastern part of the City of Victorville (City), within the grounds of the existing Desert Valley Hospital. The Proposed Project is located north of Valley Road, west of 1st Avenue and existing development, south of vacant land and Jasmine Street, and east of 2nd Avenue (See Figure 1 enclosed).

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Sincerely,

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian
(916) 639-5042 // dbaza@dudek.com
Att.: Figure 1, Project Area

SOURCE: Bing Maps

1:3,600

0 40 80 Meters

0 150 300 Feet

DUDEK

Figure 1

Project Site

Desert Valley Hospital Project

From: Danielle Baza
To: museum@sbcounty.gov
Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project
Date: Friday, May 24, 2024 3:45:00 PM
Attachments: Letter Figure_VV Museum.pdf
image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out today on behalf of Dudek and the Desert Valley Hospital to provide you with some information about the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project. As part of the cultural resources study for the proposed project, Dudek is consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be within the proposed project area. Please see the attached letter and map for more information about the nature and location of the project, and please feel free to contact me should you have questions or information regarding cultural or historical resources in this area.

Thank you,
Danielle Baza

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian I
DUDEK

O: 9165847828 **C:** 9166395042
dudek.com

From:	Patricia Ambacher
To:	Danielle Baza
Subject:	FW: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project
Date:	Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:08:15 PM
Attachments:	image011.png image014.png image015.png image016.png image017.png image018.png image019.png image020.png image021.png image022.png image023.png

---

FYI

Patricia Ambacher
Senior Architectural Historian

O: 916 584 7832 **C:** 916 709 7761
dudek.com

From: Serrao-Leiva, Tamara <Tamara.Serrao-Leiva@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 11:44 AM
To: Patricia Ambacher <pambacher@dudek.com>
Cc: McCormick, Jennifer <Jennifer.McCormick@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>; Myers, David <David.Myers@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>
Subject: RE: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project

Hello Pam,

We do not have resources listed in this specific area, but please ensure you contact the SCCIC at Cal State Fullerton to ensure you are complying with CEQA regulations.

Thank you!

Tamara Serrao-Leiva
Museum Curator, Anthropology
San Bernardino County Museum
Phone: 909-798-8623
Fax: 909-307-0539
2024 Orange Tree Lane
Redlands, CA, 92374

Our job is to create a county in which those who reside and invest can prosper and achieve well-being.
www.SBCounty.gov

San Bernardino County Museum acknowledges that the land on which our facilities are sited is the ancestral and

unceded territory of the Maara'yam, commonly referred to as the Serrano people, which, in the contemporary era, are represented by two federally-recognized tribes: the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Morongo Band of Mission Indians. We also acknowledge that in the historic era other tribal communities and European settlers intersected with Serrano peoples in these spaces. Our histories and stories are intertwined in this space, and by sharing them in culturally-appropriate ways and co-stewarding collections, we hope to honor and celebrate our indigenous neighbors and partners. We also seek to offer an accurate, clear and thorough picture of this region's complicated past and create a shared vision for the future that is mutually-beneficial and respectful to all.

From: McCormick, Jennifer <Jennifer.McCormick@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>
Sent: Saturday, May 25, 2024 9:25 AM
To: Myers, David <David.Myers@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>; Serrao-Leiva, Tamara <Tamara.Serrao-Leiva@sbcm.sbcounty.gov>
Cc: pambacher@dudek.com
Subject: FW: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project

Inquiry for you.

Jenni McCormick
Museum Marketing Specialist
San Bernardino County Museum
Phone: 909-798-8603
Fax: 909-307-0539
2024 Orange Tree Lane
Redlands, CA, 92374

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www.SBCounty.gov

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From: Danielle Baza <dbaza@dudek.com>
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 3:45 PM
To: San Bernardino County Museum <museum@sbcounty.gov>
Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out today on behalf of Dudek and the Desert Valley Hospital to provide you with some information about the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project. As part of the cultural resources study for the proposed project, Dudek is consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be within the proposed project area. Please see the attached letter and map for more information about the nature and location of the project, and please feel free to contact me should you have questions or information regarding cultural or historical resources in this area.

Thank you,
Danielle Baza

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian I
DUDEK

O: 9165847828 **C:** 9166395042
dudek.com

From: Danielle Baza
To: museum@sbcounty.gov
Subject: Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project
Date: Friday, May 24, 2024 3:45:00 PM
Attachments: Letter Figure_VV Museum.pdf
image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out today on behalf of Dudek and the Desert Valley Hospital to provide you with some information about the Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project. As part of the cultural resources study for the proposed project, Dudek is consulting all regional historical organizations to determine if there are any known historic or cultural resources that may be within the proposed project area. Please see the attached letter and map for more information about the nature and location of the project, and please feel free to contact me should you have questions or information regarding cultural or historical resources in this area.

Thank you,
Danielle Baza

Danielle Baza
Architectural Historian I
DUDEK

O: 9165847828 **C:** 9166395042
dudek.com

Appendix D
California DPR 523 Forms

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # P-36-007061 –UPDATE
HRI #
Trinomial CA-SBR-7061H
NRHP Status Code 6Z

Other Listings
Review Code Reviewer Date

 ***Resource Name or #:** (Assigned by recorder) Big Bear Cutoff/Bear Valley Road/SRI-9

P1. Other Identifier: SRI-9

*P2. **Location:** ☐ **Not for Publication** ☒ **Unrestricted** ***a. County** San Bernardino

and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

***b. USGS 7.5' Quad** *Hesperia, Calif.* **Date** 1942, rev. 1956, 2012 **T** 5N; **R** 4W; ¼ **of** ¼ **of Sec** 4; San Bernardino **B.M.**

c. Address Bear Valley Road City Victorville Zip 92395

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone , mE/ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

***P3a. Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

This form records an approximately 0.14-mile segment of Bear Valley Road in Victorville, California (**Photograph 1**). The resource is a seven-lane undivided highway that is paved with asphalt. Within the survey area, the recorded segment measures approximately 85 feet wide. The road follows a northeast to southwest alignment and intersects with Highway 18 from the southwest. The road extends for several miles beyond the right-of-way (**Photographs 2 and 3**).

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP37. Highway/ Trail

***P4. Resources Present:** ☐ Building ☒ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) Photograph 1, Bear Valley Road, looking east, October 19, 2023.

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:**
☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both
c.1921 / *San Bernardino County Sun*

***P7. Owner and Address:**
Unknown

***P8. Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, address)
Brenda Lee Rogers, BA
Dudek
225 South Lake Avenue, Ste. M210
Pasadena, CA 91101

***P9. Date Recorded:**
October 19, 2023

***P10. Survey Type:** (Describe)
Intensive

***P11. Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Dudek. 2024. *Cultural Resources Technical Report for Desert Valley Hospital Emergency Department Project, City of Victorville, California*. Prepared for Desert Valey Hospital.

***Attachments:** ☐ NONE ☒Location 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 ☐Sketch Map ☒Other (List): Previous DPR 523 Form Sets

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

***NRHP Status Code** 6Z

***Resource Name or #** (Assigned by recorder) Big Bear Cutoff/Bear Valley Road/SRI-9

B1. Historic Name: Bear Valley Cutoff
B2. Common Name: Bear Valley Road
B3. Original Use: Road
B4. Present Use: Road
***B5. Architectural Style:** None
***B6. Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations) Dirt road built c. 1921; paved sometime between 1921 and 1942; road widened sometime between 1984 and 1994; road widened again between 1994 and 2005.

***B7. Moved?** ☒No ☐Yes ☐Unknown **Date:** **Original Location:**
***B8. Related Features:** None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown
***B10. Significance: Theme** N/A **Area:** N/A
Period of Significance N/A **Property Type** N/A **Applicable Criteria** N/A
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

In 2011, Statistical Research, Inc. (SRI) recorded Bear Valley Road/Big Bear Cutoff but did not evaluate the resource under the criteria for the National Register of Historic Placed (NRHP) or California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). Dudek concluded that Bear Valley Road does not meet the criteria for the NRHP or CRHR. The property was evaluated in accordance with Section 15064.5 (a)(2)-(3) of the CEQA Guidelines using the criteria outlined in Section 5024.1 of the California Public Resources Code. The property is not considered a historical resource under CEQA. As such, this evaluation assigns a 6Z California Historical Resources Status Code to Bear Valley Road. See Continuation Sheet.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)

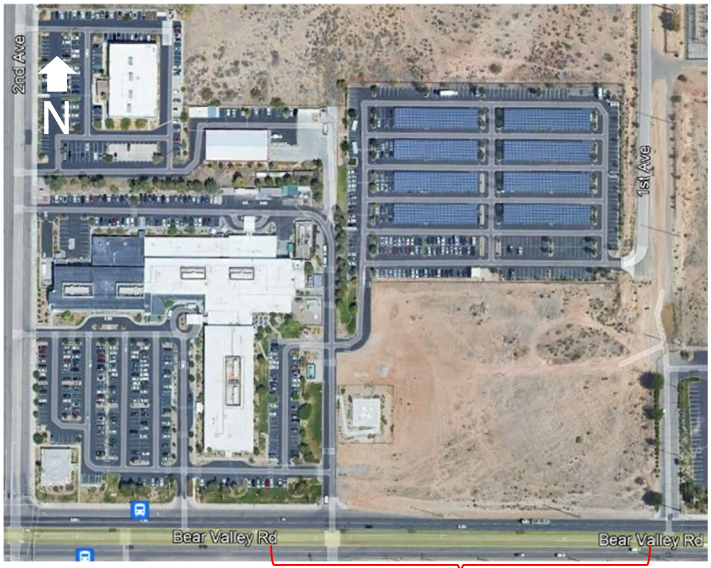
***B12. References:** See Continuation Sheet

B13. Remarks:

***B14. Evaluator:** Danielle Baza, BA
Patricia Ambacher, MA

***Date of Evaluation:** May 24, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)



State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

LINEAR FEATURE RECORD

Primary# P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H
HRI #
Trinomial CA-SBR-7061H

***Resource Name or #** (Assigned by recorder) Big Bear Cutoff/Bear Valley Road/SRI-9

***Recorded by:** Brend Lee Rogers, Dudek ***Date:** October 19, 2023 ☒ Continuation ☐ Update

Historic and/or Common Name: Big Bear Cutoff/Bear Valley Road

L2a. Portion Described: ☐ Entire Resource ☒ Segment ☐ Point Observation **Designation:**

b. Location of point or segment: (Provide UTM coordinates, legal description, and any other useful locational data. Show the area that has been filed inspected on a Location Map.) Zone 11 S; 472807 mE / 3814414 mN

L3. Description: (Describe construction details, materials, and artifacts found at this segment/point. Provide plans/sections as appropriate.)

See Primary form.

L4. Dimensions: (In feet for historic features and meters for prehistoric features.)

a. Top Width 85 feet, estimated
b. Bottom Width Unknown
c. Height of Depth Unknown
d. Length of Segment 739.2 feet, estimated

L4e. Sketch of Cross-Section (include scale) **Facing:**

L5. Associated Resources:

Big Bear Cutoff / Bear Valley Road; P-36-007061/CA-SBR-7061H

L6. Setting: (Describe natural features, landscape characteristics, slope, et., as appropriate.)

Concrete sidewalk, lawn, and loosely compacted sandy gravel to the north of the survey area. Various bushes and grasses within the sandy gravel.

L7. Integrity Considerations:

Traces of the historic-era unpaved dirt road are obscured by asphalt, so integrity is compromised.

L8a. Photograph, Map or Drawing

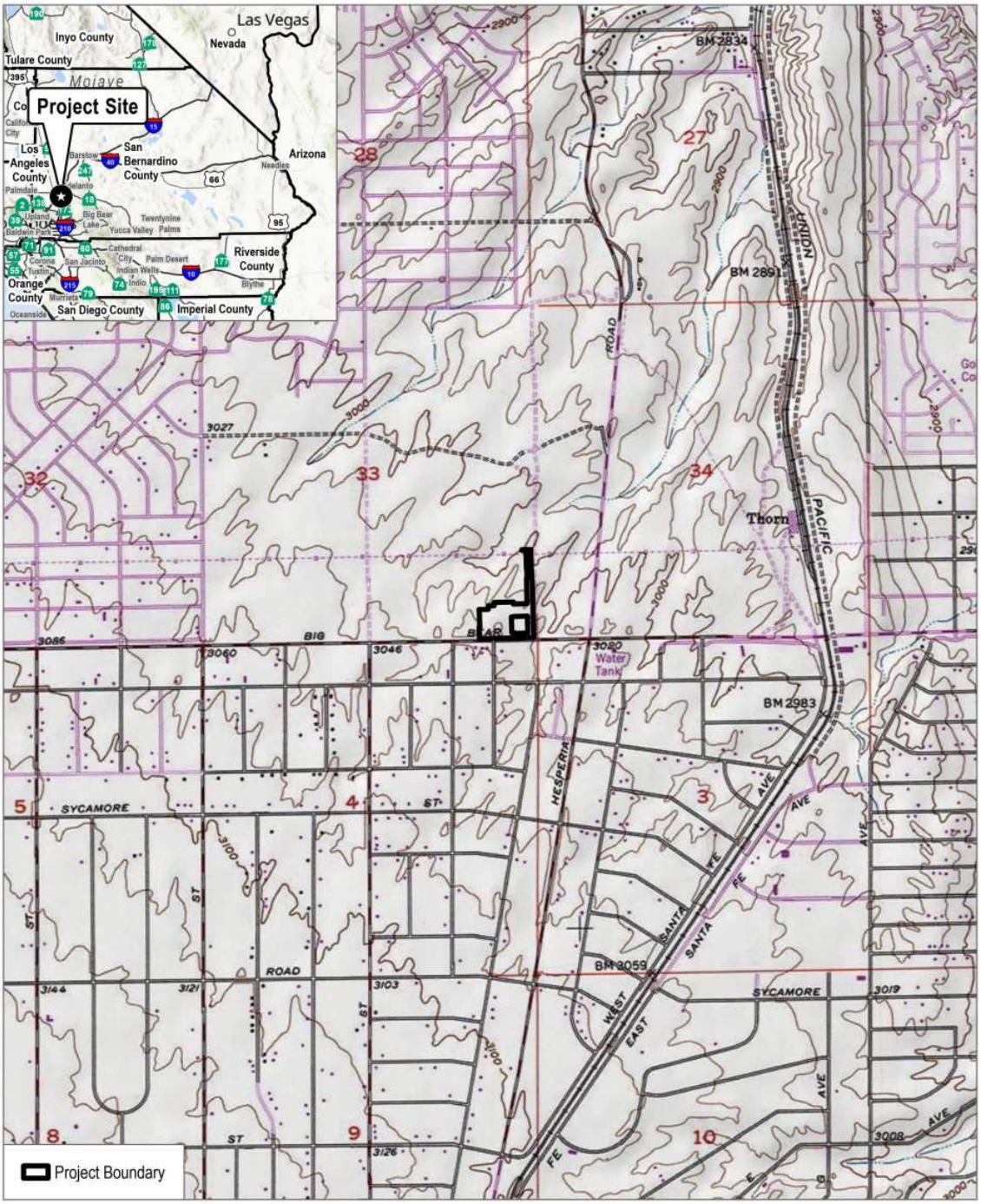
See Primary form.

L8b. Description of Photo, Map, or Drawing: (View, scale, etc) See Primary form.

L9. Remarks: None

L10. Form Prepared by: (Name, affiliation, address)
Danielle Baza, BA and Patricia Ambacher, MA
Dudek
1810 13th Street
Sacramento, CA 95811

L11. Date: May 28, 2024



SOURCE: USGS Topo 7.5' Series Hesperia Quadrangle; Township 5N; Range 4W; Section 33

1:24,000

0 300 600 Meters

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

DUDEK

Figure 2
Project Site
Desert Valley Hospital Project

Significance (cont.)

In the mid-1880s Victorville was known as the community of Victor and was established as a result of the original railroad station. The community was named after Jacob Nash Victor, a construction superintendent for the California Southern Railroad. The community flourished with agricultural development, and limestone and granite deposits were discovered around the turn of the century (City of Victorville 2023). The community's name was changed to Victorville in 1901 by the U.S. Post Office as it was confused with the community of Victor in Colorado (City of Victorville 2023). U.S. Route 66 was established in 1926 and went through Victorville until it was replaced with the construction of Interstate 15.

Bear Valley Road extends approximately 18 miles in southern Victorville and is first mentioned in a 1921 *San Bernardino County Sun* article that refers to the road as the "Victorville-Bear Valley Road." (SBCS 1921). The resource appears as a dirt road on a 1929 aerial (UCSB 1929). By 1942, Bear Valley Road appears to be a paved light duty road and is designated as a secondary highway by 1953 (USGS 1942 & 1953). Bear Valley Road was widened sometime between 1984 and 1994, and again sometime between 1994 and 2005 (NETR 1984, 1994, 2005). At the western boundary of Victorville, at the intersection of Bear Valley Road and Monte Vista Road, the right-of-way is split between Victorville to the east and San Bernardino County to the west. Bear Valley Road continues on the county's side but is designated as Duncan Road (DP 2024). Outside the eastern boundary of Victorville, Bear Valley Road intersects with Highway 18 from the southwest.

Under NRHP/CRHR Criterion A/1 Bear Valley Road has no specific important associations with significant historic events or patterns of development with the City of Victorville or the larger region. The road was widened and paved with asphalt as the city continued to grow and it did not play an important role in the city's development or its transportation network. Therefore, it does not meet NRHP/CRHR Criterion A/1. Under NRHP/CRHR Criterion B/2, the road has no demonstrable association with the lives of persons important to history. Bear Valley Road is not significant under NRHP/CRHR Criterion C/3 because the resource is not an important example of its type, period, or method of construction, nor is it the work of a master, and it does not possess high artistic value. The resource is a common example of a roadway and lacks distinction. Under NRHP/CRHR Criterion D/4, this road, as a built environment resource, is not significant as a source (or likely source) or important information regarding history, and it does not appear to have any likelihood of yielding important information about historic construction materials or technologies.

In summary, Bear Valley Road lacks historic and architectural significance and does not meet the criteria for the NRHP/CRHR. Therefore, the structure is not considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

References (cont.)

DP (Daily Press). 2024. "Bear Valley Road to receive new four-way stop intersection." *Daily Press* (Victorville, California). May 10, 2024. https://www.vvdailypress.com/story/news/2024/05/10/bear-valley-road-to-receive-newfour-way-stop-intersection/73635525007/.

NETR (Historic Aerials Online). 2024. Historic Aerial Photographs of the Area of Potential Impacts, Victorville, CA, dating from 1952, 1969, 1984, 1994, and 2005. Accessed May 23, 2024. http://www.historicaerials.com/.

SBCS (San Bernardino County Sun). 1921. "Auto Club List of Edisons of Road Answered." Newspapers.com: *San Bernardino County Sun* (San Bernardino, California). July 24, 1921.

UCSB (University of California, Santa Barbara). 2024. Historic Aerial Photographs of Victorville, CA, 1929. UCSB Library, Map & Imagery Laboratory (MIL). Accessed May 29, 2024. http://mil.library.ucsb.edu/ap_indexes/FrameFinder.

USGS (U.S. Geological Survey). 2024. Historical Topographic Maps of Victorville, CA, dating from 1942 and 1953. USGS Historical Topographical Map Explorer. Accessed May 29, 2024. https://livingatlas.arcgis.com/topoexplorer/index.html.

Photographs (cont.)

Photograph 2. Bear Valley Road, camera facing east, October 19, 2023.

Source: Dudek 2023

Photo 3. Bear Valley Road, camera looking west, October 19, 2023.

Source: Dudek 2023