CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

CENTER STREET INDUSTRIAL PROJECT

CITY OF COLTON

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

LSA

September 2017

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INTRODUCTION

LSA was retained by the City of Colton to conduct a cultural resources assessment of the 13.7-acre Center Street Industrial Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. This study was undertaken to determine whether cultural resources are present in the project area. The cultural resources study was completed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Chapter 2.6, Sections 21083.2 and 21084.1, and California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5.

The project, a proposed warehouse development, is located just east of the Santa Ana River, south of Pellisier Road and north of Center Street. The site is largely surrounded by industrial uses and hillsides, with a residential neighborhood located nearby to the southeast. The project is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *San Bernardino South, California* 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map in Township 2 South, Range 5 West in an unsectioned area, San Bernardino Base Line and Meridian (USGS 1967, photorevised 1980; Figures 1 and 2). The research and field survey were performed to determine whether the development of this land would affect historic or prehistoric archaeological resources.

NATURAL SETTING

The natural setting of the project vicinity is presented based on the underlying theoretical assumption that humans and human societies are in continual interaction with the physical environment. Being an integral and major part of the ecological system, humans respond to the limits imposed by the environment by technological and behavioral adaptation and by altering the environment to produce more favorable conditions. Locations of archaeological sites are based on the constraints of these interactions, whether it is proximity to a particular resource, topographical restrictions, or shelter and protection. Sites will also contain an assemblage of artifacts and ecofacts consistent with the particular interaction.

Geology

The project is located in the San Bernardino Valley, which is bordered by the Transverse Ranges to the north, the San Jacinto Mountains to the east, and the Jurupa Mountains to the west. The parcel is situated southwest of the San Jacinto Fault Zone on the Perris Block, which lies within the Peninsular Ranges geomorphic province. The project sits on very old Pleistocene alluvium that covers Cretaceous granitic rocks (Morton and Miller 2003). The La Loma Hills, located near the northern end of the Perris Block, are 0.5 mile east and Rattlesnake Mountain is 2.5 miles to the west of the project.

Climate and Hydrology

The project region is characterized by an arid climate, with dry, hot summers and moderate winters (Jaeger and Smith 1971). The natural character of the project area has been altered by previous ground-disturbing activity. Precipitation comes in late winter and spring, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer. The project area is located approximately 0.5 mile east of the Santa Ana River in the southwestern portion of Colton. The valley is drained by the Santa Ana River, which is one of the largest river systems in Southern California. The Santa Ana River was an important feature to the native cultures and early pioneer settlers of the region.

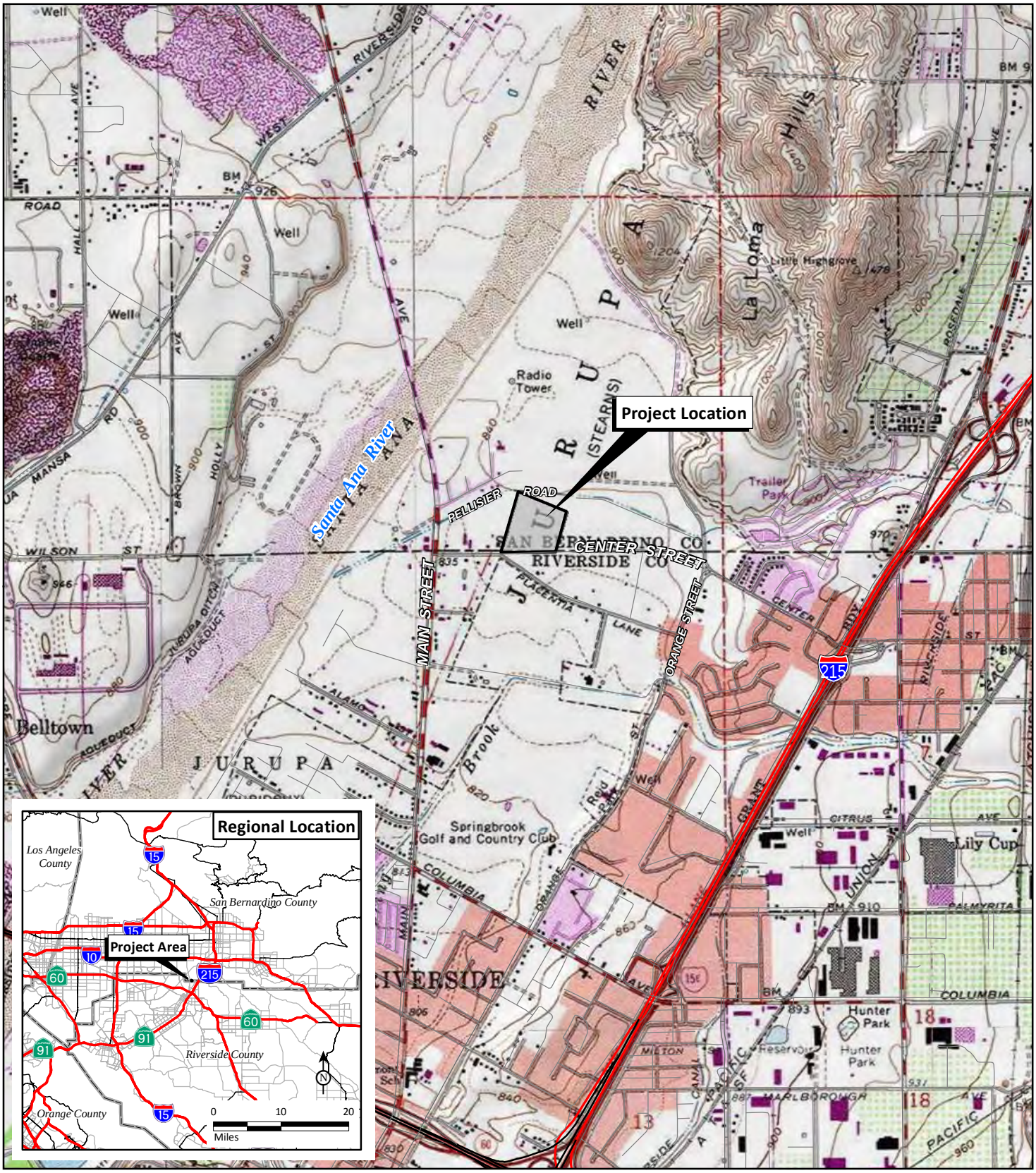

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FIGURE 1

0 1000 2000
FEET

Center Street Industrial Project

Regional and Project Location

SOURCE: USGS 7.5' Quads: San Bernardino South, Fontana & Riverside East, 1980; ESRI Streetmap, 2013

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LEGEND

Project Boundary

FIGURE 2

N

0 75 150

FEET

SOURCE: Google Earth, 2016.

Center Street Industrial Project

Aerial View of Project

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Biology

At an altitude of approximately 850 feet above mean sea level (amsl), the project area falls into the Upper Sonoran life zone of California (Jaeger and Smith 1971), ranging from approximately 500 to 4,500 feet amsl. Generally, it is represented in cismontane valleys and low mountain slopes covered with mixed Joshua tree–creosote scrub. Common native plants include creosote, cacti, rabbit bush, interior golden bush, species of sage, and various grasses. Common native animals include coyotes, cottontail and jack rabbits, rats, mice, reptiles, roadrunners, raptors, and other bird species (Jaeger and Smith 1971). Vegetation present at the time of the survey was sparse and limited to sagebrush and dried xeric grasses.

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistory

The description of various prehistoric stages or chronologies identifying cultural evolution in the Southern California area has been attempted numerous times. Several of these chronologies are reviewed in Moratto (1984). No single description is universally accepted. The various chronologies are based primarily on material developments identified by researchers familiar with sites in a region, and variation exists essentially due to the differences in those items found at the sites. Small differences occur over time and space, which combine to form patterns that are variously interpreted.

Currently, two primary regional culture chronology syntheses are commonly referenced in the archaeological literature. The first, Wallace (1955), describes four cultural horizons or time periods: Early Man (9000–6500 BC), Milling Stone Assemblages (6500–2000 BC), Intermediate Cultures (2000 BC–AD 200), and Late Prehistoric Cultures (AD 200–historic contact). This chronology was refined (Wallace 1978) using absolute chronological dates unavailable in 1955.

The second cultural chronology (Warren 1968) is based broadly on Southern California prehistoric cultures, and was also revised (Warren 1984; Warren and Crabtree 1986). Warren's chronology includes five periods in prehistory: Lake Mojave (7000–5000 BC), Pinto (5000–1000 BC), Gypsum (1000 BC–AD 1), Saratoga Springs (AD 500–1000), and Protohistoric (AD 1000–historic contact). Changes in settlement pattern and subsistence focus are viewed as cultural adaptations to a changing environment, which begins with gradual environmental warming in the late Pleistocene; continues with the desiccation of the desert lakes, followed by a brief return to pluvial conditions; and concludes with a general warming and drying trend, with periodic reversals that continue to the present (Warren 1986).

Ethnohistory

The project area is situated near the intersection of the traditional tribal boundaries of the Serrano, Gabrielino, Cahuilla, and Luiseño (Bean and Smith 1978a and 1978b; Kroeber 1976).

Typically, the native culture groups in Southern California were named after nearby Spanish period missions, and such is the case for these coastal Takic populations. For instance, the term "Gabrielino" is applied to the natives inhabiting the region around Mission San Gabriel, and "Luiseño" was given to those native people living within the "ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Mission San Luis Rey ... [and who

shared] an ancestral relationship which is evident in their cosmogony, and oral tradition, common language, and reciprocal relationship in ceremonies" (Oxendine 1983). The Cahuilla are one exception to this naming convention, as their territory was distant enough from the missions for them to be only marginally affected and assimilated by the missions in the last few years of the Spanish period.

Serrano

The Serrano Indians lived in the area occupying much of present-day San Bernardino County and northeastern Los Angeles County. The term Serrano is Spanish for "mountaineer, highlander" and is derived from sierra, meaning "mountain range" (Bean and Smith 1978b). This term was given to people who inhabited the areas of the San Bernardino Mountains and who had no associated mission. The Serrano spoke a language that falls into the Uto-Aztecan family, more specifically the Takic subgroup of that family (Warren 1984).

The Serrano enjoyed a social organization that was composed of patrilineal clans and families linked by both ancestry and ceremony. Most Serrano lived in small villages near water, usually perennial seeps, streams, and small lakes. The availability of water largely determined the nature, duration, and distribution of Serrano settlements (Benedict 1924 in Bean and Smith 1978b). Family dwellings were circular, domed, willow-frame structures covered with tule thatching (Bean and Smith 1978b). Dwellings contained a central fire pit and were used primarily for sleeping and storage. Other village structures included granaries, sweat houses, and large ceremonial houses in which the ceremonial leader resided. Sweat houses were usually constructed near streams (Bean and Smith 1978b).

Gabrielino

The Gabrielino were hunters and gatherers who utilized food resources along the coast as well as inland areas of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties during ethnohistoric times (Kroeber 1976; Heizer 1968).

The lifestyle of the Gabrielino was considered semi-sedentary, living in permanent communities near inland watercourses and coastal estuaries. They caught and collected seasonally available food, and moved to temporary camps to collect plant resources such as acorns, buckwheat, berries, and fruit as well as conducting communal rabbit and deer hunts. Seasonal camps were also established along the coast and near estuaries where they would gather shellfish and hunt waterfowl (Hudson 1971).

Social organization for the Gabrielino was focused on families living in small communities. Patrilineally organized, extended families would occupy villages; both clans and villages would marry outside of the clan or village (Heizer 1968). The villages were administered by a chief whose position was passed from the father to the son. Spiritual and medical activities were guided by a shaman; group hunting and fishing were supervised by individually appointed male leaders (Bean and Smith 1978a).

Cahuilla

The Cahuilla also inhabited the Santa Ana River; their traditional territory encompassed diverse topography ranging from the Salton Sink to the San Bernardino Mountains and San Gorgonio Pass

(Bean 1978; Kroeber 1976). The Cahuilla were generally divided into three groups: Desert Cahuilla, Mountain Cahuilla, and Pass Cahuilla (Kroeber 1976). Like other Southern California Native American tribes, the Cahuilla were semi-nomadic peoples leaving their villages and using temporary camps near available plant and animal resources.

Cahuilla villages usually were in canyons or near adequate sources of water and food plants. The immediate village territory was owned in common by a lineage group or band. The other lands were divided into tracts owned by clans, families, or individuals. Trails used for hunting, trading, and social interaction connected the villages. Each village was near numerous sacred sites that included rock art panels (Bean 1978).

Social organization of the Cahuilla was patrilineal clans and kinships groups known as moieties. Lineages within a clan cooperated in defense, subsistence activities, and religious ceremonies. Most lineages owned their own village sites and resource plots; although the majority of their territory was open to all Cahuilla people (Bean 1978).

Luiseño

Prior to Spanish occupation of California, the territory of the Luiseño extended along the coast from Agua Hedionda and Aliso Creeks and the Elsinore Valley and Palomar Mountain to the south. These territorial boundaries were somewhat fluid and changed through time. They encompassed an extremely diverse environment that included coastal beaches, lagoons and marshes, inland river valleys and foothills, and mountain groves of oaks and evergreens (Bean 1978; Bean and Shipek 1978).

The Luiseño lived in small communities that were the focus of family life. Patrilineally linked, extended families occupied each village (Kroeber 1976; Bean and Shipek 1978). The Luiseño believed in the idea of private property. Property rights covered items and land owned by the village as well as items (houses, gardens, ritual equipment, trade beads, eagle nests, and songs) owned by individuals. Trespass against any property was punished (Bean and Shipek 1978). Luiseño villages were politically independent, and were administered by a chief, who inherited his position from his father.

With the Spanish intrusion came a drastic change in lifestyle for the natives of Southern California. Incorporation of the indigenous populations into the mission system led to the disruption of native cultures and changes in subsistence and land use practices. Mission San Gabriel, established in 1771, probably had a limited effect on the Serrano population compared to the Luiseño and other tribes in the region until the *asistencia* was established near Redlands, perhaps as early as 1819 (Harley 1988). Cattle ranch/farm settlements were established on or near Indian villages, primarily in the major drainages conducive to horticulture and animal husbandry. Within a short time, the missions controlled many ranchos where Indians lived and worked.

History

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

Spanish Period

The first European to pass through the Hesperia area is thought to be a Spaniard named Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, the group rested at the headwaters of the Mojave River. Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed northward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

A string of 21 missions was established along the California coastline between San Diego and Sonoma; many of these locations were selected for colonization and were easily defended. Access to supply ships and proximity to Native American villages was also important to the selection of mission locations. As the missions prospered, their lands extended inland into San Bernardino County; these lands were used primarily for cattle and sheep grazing (Hampton et al. 1988).

Mexican Period

In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. American entrepreneurs and explorers began venturing into and exploring the California desert. The first American to enter the area was Jedidiah Smith who, in 1826, crossed the Colorado River into California. Smith and his group were led by Indian guides along the Mojave Indian Trail, over the Cajon Pass, and further on to the Mission San Gabriel. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1951). The Old Mojave Indian Trail was a main route between Santa Fe, New Mexico and Los Angeles; commercial traders and trappers used the road extensively. Later, the Mormons who settled in Salt Lake City used this route to and from Southern California and the route became known as the Salt Lake-Santa Fe Trail (Sturm 1993).

Extensive land grants were established in the San Bernardino and Riverside areas during the Mexican Period; the first grant in San Bernardino County was made to Juan Bandini in 1838. Known as the Jurupa Grant, it consisted of 32,000 acres; Bandini built his adobe and began to stock his rancho (Brown and Boyd 1922; Hampton et al. 1988). During the rancho period (1834–1848), the majority of the lands were used for grazing cattle and the cattle hides became a trade commodity throughout the United States and Mexico (Cook 1955).

American Period

The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep

from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by two years of extreme drought, which continued to some extent until 1876, altered ranching forever in the southern California area (Beattie and Beattie 1951; Cleland 1941).

In 1868, after the Civil War, overland stage services resumed within Southern California and development of the transcontinental railroad system became an important effort. The Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) and the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railway (AT&SF) arrived in the San Bernardino County area in the 1870s and 1880s, resulting in an economic and population boom.

Colton. Established in 1873, development in Colton was slow until the arrival of the railroad. The Santa Fe Railroad established a route between San Bernardino and Los Angeles in 1887, after which Colton became a major rail hub for the region (Clucas 1974). Colton was the only location where two major transcontinental railroads joined; this allowed Colton to play a vital role in the settling of the area and development of agriculture in Southern California (City of Colton 2017).

La Placita de Los Trujillo. In 1845 Juan Bandini donated a portion of his Jurupa Rancho land to a group of New Mexican settlers relocating from a brief stay on the adjoining Rancho San Bernardino on the condition that they would help protect his livestock from Indian raiders. This group called the area La Placita, which is the earliest community that was established along what is now the boundary between San Bernardino and Riverside Counties (Gunther 1984). These pioneering settlers had served for years as guides along the Old Spanish Trail, and they represent the first colonizing group to found what would become the cities of San Bernardino, Riverside, and Colton. The settlers planted and developed farms, orchards, and vineyards as well as an extensive irrigation system (Harley 1996). The community was destroyed during a flood in 1862 but soon rebuilt. When Riverside County was formed in 1893, the new county line was located in the center of La Placita resulting in some of its buildings being within San Bernardino County and some in Riverside County (Gunther 1984). The project is within the historic La Placita area.

METHODS

Records Search

In July 2017, prior to fieldwork, a records search of the project area and a one-mile radius was completed. Because the search area extended into both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, the records search was performed by both the Eastern Information Center (EIC), located at the University of California, Riverside and at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) located at California State University Fullerton. The searches included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites within one mile of the project, as well as a review of known cultural resource survey and excavation reports. In addition, the California State Historic Property Data File (HPD), which includes the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), California Historical Landmarks (CHL), and California Points of Historical Interest (CPHI), was also searched.

Additional Research

On July 20, 2017, LSA Senior Cultural Resources Manager Gini Austerman reviewed historic aerial photographs of the project area for evidence of historic use.

Field Survey

An intensive pedestrian field survey for cultural resources was performed on July 12, 2017, by LSA Archaeologist Bill Gillean. The survey was conducted using the block transect method with transects conducted at 15-meter (45-foot) intervals throughout the entirety of the roughly rectangular project area. Rodent backdirt was examined for cultural items such as prehistoric flaked and ground stone items, ceramics, and bone, as well as historic material.

RESULTS

Records Search

Table A is based on the results of the July 2017, records search completed by the EIC and SCCIC. The table lists the cultural resources within a one-mile radius of the project area that are mapped, documented on Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) forms, and on file at the EIC or SCCIC. A more detailed discussion of those resources is provided following the table.

Table A: Cultural Resources Within One Mile of the Project

Primary #	Site Description
Riverside County Resources (Provided by the EIC)	
33-001984	Historic Trujillo Adobe, built 1862 La Placita Community
33-004495	Upper Riverside Canal segment
33-004787	Riverside-Warm Creek Canal segment
33-006935	495 Electric Avenue; single-family residence built in 1903
33-006967	649 Kemp Street; single-family residence built in 1900
33-006971	220 North Main Street; single-family residence built in 1898
33-006973	3667 Placentia Avenue; single-family residence built in 1922
33-008650	Historic refuse scatter
33-008651	Historic orchard house remnants; built in 1930s
33-008652	Prehistoric lithic artifact scatter
33-008752	Historic refuse deposit; prehistoric artifact scatter
33-009006	Historic refuse deposit
33-010902	Historic irrigation system
33-011444	4451 Columbia Avenue; single-family residence
33-014884	3184 Chase Road; single-family residence built in the 1950s
33-014885	3224 Chase Road; single-family residence built in 1916
33-014886	3262 Chase Road; single-family residence built in the 1950s
33-017517	4320 Alamo Street; single-family residence built in 1933
33-024727	Fraternity Order of Eagles (FOE) Aerie Lodge No. 997 of Riverside; meeting hall built in 1959

Table A: Cultural Resources Within One Mile of the Project

Primary #	Site Description
San Bernardino County Resources (Provided by the SCCIC)	
36-000314	Large bedrock milling feature complex with rock shelter
36-002998	Milling feature
36-005109	Bedrock milling features
36-005110	Bedrock milling feature
36-006862	Historic refuse deposit
36-007169	City of Riverside's Flume Wells Nos. 1–6 and concrete canal system
36-007172	Riverside Lower Canal northern terminus
36-009814	Historic refuse scatter; prehistoric lithic and ceramic artifact scatter
36-005221	Agua Mansa Trail
36-019807	Bedrock milling feature
36-019808	Historic residential remnants; house, agricultural structures and outbuildings; post-1935
36-019809	Historic single-family residence, associated outbuildings, fences, landscape; pre-1925
36-019810	Historic concrete well ca. 1890s
36-019811	Prehistoric artifact scatter; bedrock milling feature
36-019812	Bedrock milling features
36-019813	Bedrock milling features
36-019814	Bedrock milling features
36-019815	Residential ruins with associated outbuilding and a well
36-019816	CA-SBR-13177 Bedrock milling complex and rock shelter
36-019817	Historic water conveyance features
36-019821	Historic well
36-025454	Dairyman's Service Association Warehouse
36-026885	3001–3007 La Cadena Drive; residential properties built in 1905 and 1913
36-029029	Bedrock milling features
36-029030	Stacked rock feature
36-029031	Historic rock shelter
36-029032	Rock shelter and stacked rock feature
36-029033	Bedrock milling feature
36-029034	Yoni rock feature
36-029035	Rock shelter
36-029036	Rock shelter
36-029037	Yoni rock feature
36-029038	Rock shelter
36-029039	Bedrock milling features
36-060234	Isolated prehistoric lithic artifact, mano
36-060235	Historic artifact scatter
36-060238	Isolated prehistoric artifact: three mano fragments
36-060252	Historic sun-colored amethyst bottle fragment

Resources

Data from the EIC noted 20 cultural resources within the one-mile radius of the project, none of which is located within the project boundaries. The resources noted within the one-mile radius of the project, but outside of the project boundaries, include 18 historic resources (10 residential properties, 1 commercial/public use property, 3 water conveyance resources, remnants of 1 orchard house, 2 refuse deposits, and 1 historic adobe residence) and 2 prehistoric resources (isolated ground stone artifacts).

Data from the SCCIC noted 37 cultural resources within the one-mile radius of the project, none of which is located within the project. The 14 historic-period resources noted within the one-mile radius of the project, but outside of the project boundaries, include 2 residential properties, 1 commercial/public use property, 5 water conveyance resources, 3 refuse deposits, 1 trail, and the remnants of 2 residential/farm properties. The 23 prehistoric resources documented within the one-mile radius include 13 bedrock milling sites, 8 rock features, and 2 isolated ground stone artifacts. The closest resources to the project are two historic wells situated approximately 800 feet to the northeast of the project. One multi-component site (historic and prehistoric 33-009006) is located 0.4 mile (640 meters, 2000 feet) to the southeast of the project. The majority of the prehistoric resources are located along the west-facing slope of the La Loma Hills, over 0.5 mile from the project.

Reports

Data from the EIC indicate that there have been 12 previous cultural resource studies conducted in the records search area, none of which included the project. Data from the SCCIC indicate that there have been 10 previous cultural resource studies conducted in the records search area, one of which was adjacent to the southern boundary (SB-3927) and another within the project (SB-6084); these studies are discussed below.

SB-3927

During the course of the field survey, the historic Trujillo Adobe (36-001984) and Upper Riverside Canal (36-007172) were located as described in *An Identification Investigation of Historical Resources and Soils for the Center Street Extension Project* (Alexandrowicz 2001). No additional cultural resources were identified.

SB-6084

The Cultural Resources Inventory for the Pellissier Ranch Specific Plan Project (Dietler 2008) documented numerous previously documented resources within a 1,448-acre project area located at the southern boundary of San Bernardino County in addition to 15 newly identified resources. Of the 15 newly recorded resources, 12 are within the 1-mile study radius of the current project, 36-019807 through 36-019817 and 36-019821.

Additional Research

Aerial photographs of the project were reviewed and indicate that, since at least 1938, the project was used for agriculture. Rows of trees indicate property boundaries within the project area; these

are noted on aerial photographs until 1995 when all of the trees had been removed. By 1978 structures had been built in the center of the project. The 1980 aerial photograph indicates that additional structures, possibly residential and agricultural outbuildings, were present; however, by 1995, all had been removed and the project was again used for agriculture. Since 2005, the project has been cleared of all agriculture and structural remnants (Nationwide Environmental Title Research 1938, 1948, 1959, 1968, 1978, 2005, 2009, 2010, and 2012).

Field Survey

Despite vegetation, surface visibility within the project area was good at approximately 70 to 75 percent. The project area is generally flat and currently undeveloped (Figure 3). Instances of modern trash dumping are noted throughout the project area with concentrations of household and construction debris most prevalent within the south portion of the project area. A large metal tank is located near the center of the project (Figure 4); this tank is evident on the aerial photographs between 1978 and 2010 and is probably associated with the residential and outbuilding structures present at that time. No prehistoric or historic-period cultural resources were identified during the survey.

Figure 3: Overview of the project, facing southwest.

Figure 4: Overview of metal tank within the project, facing southwest.

RECOMMENDATIONS

A cultural resources records search, literature review, and field survey were conducted for the project. Results of the records search and field survey indicate that no cultural resources were identified within the project. The nearest historic-period resource is 0.4 mile to the northeast and the nearest prehistoric site is approximately 0.5 mile to the southeast of the project. However, the fact that the project sits between the La Loma Hills and the Santa Ana River places it in a moderate density of cultural resources, both prehistoric and historic. In addition, archival research noted the historic settlement of the area and the presence of structures and features within the project more than 50 years ago, all which indicate a moderate sensitivity for subsurface cultural resources.

Due to the proximity to the Santa Ana River and the historic community of La Placito, as well as the sensitivity for subsurface material, archaeological monitoring by a qualified archaeologist is recommended for the initial ground disturbance, including grubbing and vegetation and tree removal. In the event any archaeological resources are identified during earthmoving activities, work in the area should be halted until the nature and significance of the find can be assessed by a qualified archaeologist.

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

inspection and make recommendations or preferences for treatment within 48 hours of being granted access to the site. The MLD recommendations may include scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials, preservation of Native American human remains and associated items in place, relinquishment of Native American human remains and associated items to the descendants for treatment, or any other culturally appropriate treatment.

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