

**APPENDIX C:**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT**



## MEMORANDUM

To: Mario Suarez, Planning Manager  
Development Services Department, Planning Division  
659 N. La Cadena Dr., Colton, CA 92324

From: Jessica Mauck, MA, RPA  
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.  
3801 University Ave., Ste 300, Riverside, CA 92501

Date: 27 March 2023

Subject: Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for 2245 W. Valley Blvd Project in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California

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Dear Mr. Suarez,

At the request of the City of Colton (City), Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) conducted a Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment of the property located at 2245 W. Valley Blvd in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California. This study was completed to support the City's review of potential impacts to cultural resources within the property as a result of the proposed 2245. W Valley Blvd Project (Project). A literature review and field visit were conducted for the property to identify the likelihood of present cultural resources that would be adversely impacted by the Project.

Project Location and Setting:

The 2245 W. Valley Boulevard Project (Project) site is in the northwestern portion of the City in the southwestern portion of the County San Bernardino, California (Image 1). The Project area encompasses nine acres (APN 0254-041-04) with E. Valley Boulevard to the south, E. San Bernardino Ave. to the far north, South Riverside Ave. to the west, and Wildrose Ave. to the east (Image 2).

The Project is bounded on the north and east by the San Bernardino Mountains and San Andreas Fault, with the San Jacinto Fault Zone to the east and the Santa Ana River to the south/southeast. The Project is located on an alluvial fan derived from granite from the San Bernardino Mountains (USDA Web Soil Survey, accessed March 27, 2023). The area, like much of California, contains a unique and diverse climate and environment. This regional diversity provided Native Californians the ability to exploit a range of different plants, animals, and natural resources. Today, Colton is characterized by its Mediterranean climate with warm summers and cool winters.

The proposed Project site is located within the ancestral territory of the Gabrieleño/Tongva and Serrano (Maara'yam). Although Kroeber (1925) recorded the territories of southern California tribes, the ancient territorial borders remain vague for two reasons: first, territorial boundaries were flexible (Kroeber 1925) and, secondly, indigenous borders and land use were not recorded until after European contact destroyed native lifeways. Although firm and defining borders cannot be known,

archaeological, ethnographic, and historic evidence exists to support the prehistoric use by the Gabrieleño/Tongva and Serrano (Maara'yam).

#### Literature Review and Field Survey:

A review of available historical and topographic maps and technical studies was conducted to ascertain the potential for existing buried and built cultural resources and to identify appropriate methodology for the Phase I survey.

The literature review revealed that, while the nearby Agua Mansa area is sensitive for both historic and prehistoric buried resources, the Project falls outside of this culturally sensitive area. Historic maps showed the Project area used for agriculture as far back as 1938 and the development of a structure sometime between 1959 and 1965 (Historic Aerials, accessed March 27, 2023). Real Estate data indicates the structure is an industrial building that underwent redevelopment in 1988 (LoopNet, accessed March 27, 2023). Current maps show that the site is paved and contains the noted industrial building, perimeter fencing, several mature trees, and scattered vegetation in the northern portion of the site. Land use history obtained from the City of Colton notes that the Project area has been utilized for truck and trailer parking, storage, and other transportation-related activities.

Due to existing development within the Project area, there is no ability to identify surficial archaeological resources via an intensive pedestrian survey, and the likelihood of *in situ* buried archaeological resources is low. However, a site visit was conducted to survey the standing building to identify if the original historic structure remains and, if so, provide recommendations for evaluating the resource for significance and eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) (Figure 3). The site visit was performed by two KHA staff, including one Archaeologist that Meets Secretary of Interior Professional Qualifications, on March 27, 2023.

#### Results and Recommendations

Given the low level of archaeological sensitivity and extensive disturbance across the Project area, it is unlikely that any *in situ* archaeological resources are present within the Project area. Further, the results of the literature review and field survey determined that the original structure built between 1959 and 1965 was redeveloped in 1988 and, as such, the standing building does not meet the age requirements for consideration for listing in the California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR).

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) did not identify any existing cultural resources, nor the potential for unknown buried cultural resources, as a part of the Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment. As such, no further consideration regarding the impacts to cultural resources as a result of the Project is recommended.

Sincerely,



Jessica Mauck, MA RPA  
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

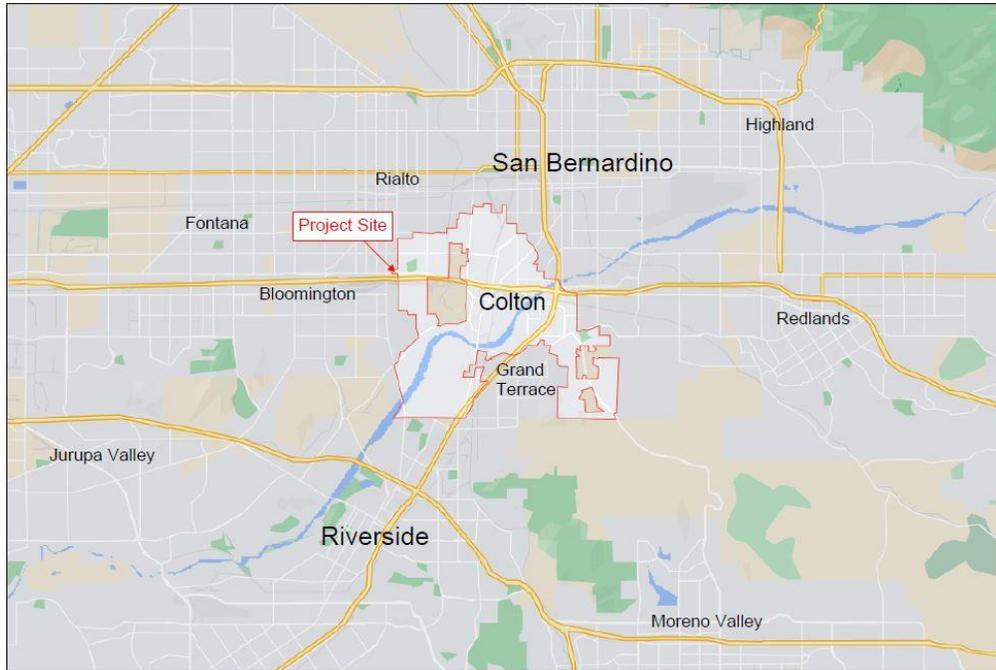


Figure 1: Project Area Vicinity



Figure 2: Project Area



Figure 3: Overview of Industrial Warehouse (East)