

Cultural Resources Assessment for the Lake Creek Logistics Center Project, Town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California

Richard Guttenberg, M.A., RPA Juliette Meling, B.A. Chase M. Mahan, M.A., RPA January 30, 2025



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Prepared by:

Richard Guttenberg, M.A., RPA Juliette Meling, B.A. Chase M. Mahan, M.A., RPA

Prepared for:

T&B Planning, Inc. 3200 El Camino Real, Suite 100 Irvine, California 92602

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Chronicle Heritage

55 East Huntington Drive Arcadia, California, 91006

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Management Summary

The proposed Lake Creek Logistics Center Project (Project) involves the development of three warehouse facilities on approximately 227 acres of land (Assessor Parcel Numbers 0463-373-01, -03, -04, -05, and -06). The Project is bound by Gustine Street to the north, Central Road to the east, Corwin Road to the south, and the Apple Valley Airport to the west in the town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The proposed Project would include the construction of three warehouse buildings, totaling approximate 3.48 million square feet, in addition to the construction of full street classifications of Central Road, Gustine Road, and Corwin Road. Additionally, further refinement determined the need for an off-site facility alignment, particularly a sewer alignment that extends west of the Project area under the Apple Valley Airport runway. This off-site impact area, approximately 0.34 acres, was included and is addressed in this report. Chronicle Heritage was contracted to conduct a cultural resource assessment of the Project area in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Town of Apple Valley (Town) is the Lead Agency for CEQA compliance.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource assessment for the Project. The investigation included background research, communication with the Native American Heritage Committee (NAHC) and local Native American groups, a cultural resource survey of the Project area, and resource documentation and evaluation. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the potential for the proposed Project to impact archaeological and historical resources under CEOA.

As part of the background research, Chronicle Heritage conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information System to identify previously recorded cultural resources and studies within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project area. The records search indicated that 13 previous studies have been conducted within the record search area. Additionally, 12 cultural resources have been documented within 0.5 mile of the Project area; nine date to the historic period and three are prehistoric. No previously recorded cultural resources are mapped within the Project area.

Chronicle Heritage also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the NAHC on December 8, 2023. The Town provided Chronicle Heritage with a list of 20 Native American tribal representatives for the Project area. Chronicle Heritage sent out outreach letters to the 20 individuals on this list on December 18, 2023. The NAHC responded on January 4, 2024, and noted that the SLF search results were negative. On January 4, 2024, outreach letters were sent to four additional individuals identified by the NAHC that were not on the Town's list. In total, Chronicle Heritage sent outreach letters to 24 individuals representing 13 local Native American tribal groups to elicit information on Native American cultural resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed Project. Follow-up phone calls to individuals who had not yet responded were conducted on January 4 and 5, 2024 and on February 5, 2024. To date, four responses have been received.

Archival research indicates the Project area remained relatively undeveloped until the 1970s, with the delineation of roads traveling north-south along Fernandez Road and Somis Avenue. The Project area is part of a serial patent for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, but no railroad or telegraph-related features, or structures related to the patent, were constructed within the Project area.

Chronicle Heritage conducted a survey of the proposed Project area on December 27 through 29, 2023. The results of the field work effort indicate that the Project area is undeveloped, aside from Fernandez Road and Somis Avenue, with surficial trash deposits disturbed and deposited by active alluvial and ephemeral washes across the entire property. The debris was found to be in secondary

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context, having moved across the entire landscape along erosional gullies and washes. Nonetheless, some of the depositional debris was more than 45 years old, and thus meets the minimum age requirements for consideration as potential historical resources under CEQA. The resources were documented and evaluated for significance; the evaluation found that none of the resources meet the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. Given the extent of existing disturbance, the property contains a relatively low sensitivity for in situ buried archaeological deposits. Based on these results, Chronicle Heritage finds that the proposed Project will have no impact on known historical or archaeological resources under CEQA. No additional cultural resource management is recommended for the proposed Project.

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1 Introduction

Chronicle Heritage was retained by T&B Planning, Inc. to conduct a cultural resource assessment for the proposed Lake Creek Logistics Center Project (Project) in the town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The proposed Project involves the construction of three warehouse buildings within a 227-acre Project area within the extent of the town. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), with the Town of Apple Valley (Town) acting as the CEQA lead agency. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the potential for the proposed Project to impact archaeological and historical resources under CEQA. This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource investigations conducted for the proposed Project.

1.1 Project Location and Description

The proposed Project is bound by Gustine Street to the north, Central Road to the east, Corwin Road to the south, and the Apple Valley Airport to the west in the town of Apple Valley (Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2). The Project area consists of five parcels (Assessor Parcel Numbers 0.463-3.73-0.1, 0.5, 0.5, 0.5, and 0.6) that total approximately 227 acres plus off-site areas (Figure 1-2). More specifically, the Project area is within the SE 1/4 and a portion of the SW 1/4 of Section 27 of Township (T) 6 North (N), Range (R) 3 West (W), San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the Apple Valley North, California 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle (Figure 1-2). The elevation of the Project area ranges from 2,980 to 3,080 feet (ft) above mean sea level.

The Project proposes to construct three warehouse structures totaling approximately 3.48 million ft². Together, the warehouses would provide a total of 60,000 ft² of office space on the property. The warehouses would also provide 3,032 stalls for automobile parking including standard stalls, American with Disabilities Act stalls, electric vehicle stalls, 1,565 truck trail parking stalls, and 548 dock doors. Other improvements include the construction of full street classifications of Central Road, Gustine Road, and Corwin Road. Lastly, the Project proposes several off-site impact locations that include a water line, sewer line, electricity connections, and a natural gas line. The proposed water line is east of the Project area and runs as far north as Lafayette Street, as far west as Fernandez Avenue along Corwin Road, and a segment that runs east to west along Gustine Street between Somis Avenue and Central Road. The proposed sewer line runs extends to the west under the Apple Valley Airport runway until Ramona Road. The proposed electricity connector extends from Camino Road and west approximately 2,900 ft on the southern margin of the Project area. Finally, the proposed natural gas line runs from Central Road west approximately 2, 800 ft.

1.2 Project Personnel

Matthew Tennyson, Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA), Regional Principal at Chronicle Heritage, served as Principal Investigator and provided senior oversight and technical expertise. Juliette Meling, B.A., Senior Archaeologist at Chronicle Heritage, served as project manager. Both Meling and Chase M. Mahan, M.A., RPA, Senior Archaeologist at Chronicle Heritage, served as authors of the report. Lindsay Porras, M.A., RPA, Associate Archaeologist, completed the record search at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC). Brian Spelts served as the GIS analyst.

1.3 Report Organization

This report documents the results of a cultural resource investigation completed for the proposed Project. Section 1 introduced the Project location and description. Section 2 states the regulatory context that should be considered for this Project. Section 3 synthesizes the natural and cultural setting of the Project area and surrounding region. Section 4 presents the results of the existing cultural resource data literature and resource record review, the Sacred Lands File (SLF) search, and a summary of Native American communications. Section 5 presents the research design for the Project. Section 6 describes the field methods employed during this investigation and survey findings. Section 7 presents the management recommendations based on the result of the background research and survey findings. This is followed by bibliographic references and appendices.

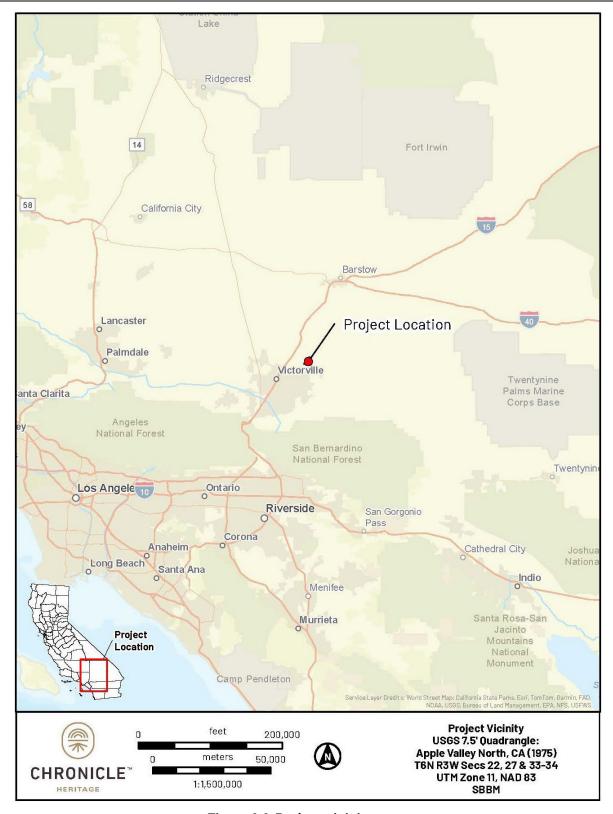


Figure 1-1. Project vicinity map.

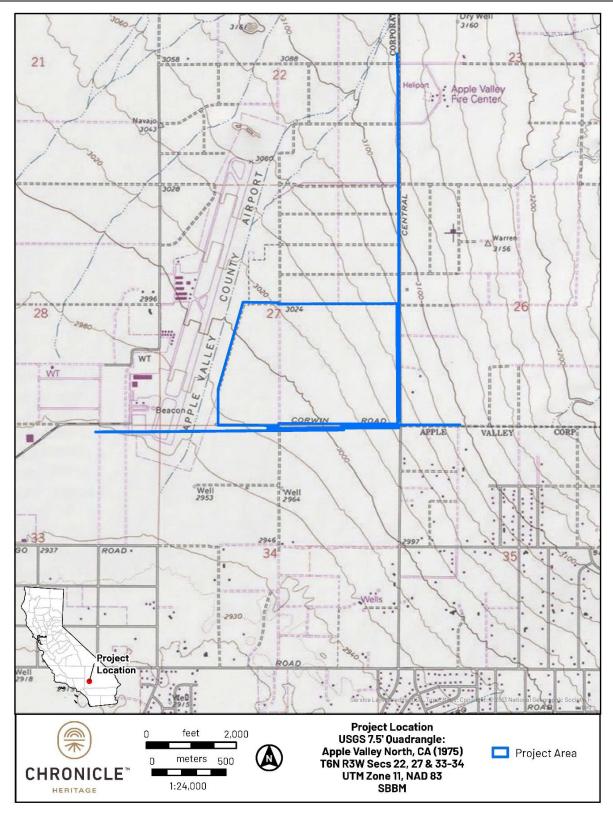


Figure 1-2. Project location map.

2 Regulatory Context

2.1 State

2.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The proposed Project is subject to compliance with CEQA, as amended. Compliance with CEQA statutes and guidelines requires both public and private projects with financing or approval from a public agency to assess the project's impact on cultural resources (Public Resources Code Section 21082, 21083.2 and 21084 and California Code of Regulations 10564.5). The first step in the process is to identify cultural resources that may be impacted by the project and then determine whether the resources are "historically significant" resources.

CEQA defines historically significant resources as "resources listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR)" (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A cultural resource may be considered historically significant if the resource is 45 years old or older and possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In addition, it must meet any of the following criteria for listing on the CRHR:

- 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;
- 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,
- 4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1).

Cultural resources are buildings, sites, human-modified landscapes, traditional cultural properties, structures, or objects that may have historical, architectural, cultural, or scientific importance. CEQA states that if a project will have a significant impact on important cultural resources, deemed "historically significant," then project alternatives and mitigation measures must be considered.

2.1.2 California Assembly Bill 52

Signed into law in September 2014, California Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) created a new class of resources (tribal cultural resources [TCRs]) for consideration under CEQA. TCRs may include sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, or objects with cultural value to California Native American tribes that are listed or determined to be eligible for listing in the CRHR, included in a local register of historical resources, or a resource determined by the lead CEQA agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant and eligible for listing in the CRHR. AB 52 requires that the lead CEQA agency consult with California Native American tribes that have requested consultation for projects that may affect TCRs. The lead CEQA agency shall

¹ The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) guidelines recognize a 45-year-old criteria threshold for documenting and evaluating cultural resources (assumes a 5-year lag between resource identification and the date that planning decisions are made) (OHP 1995:2). The age threshold is an operational guideline and not specific to CEQA statutory or regulatory codes.

begin consultation with participating Native American tribes prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. Under AB 52, a project that has potential to cause a substantial adverse change to a TCR constitutes a significant effect on the environment unless mitigation reduces such effects to a less than significant level.

2.2 Local

2.2.1 Town of Apple Valley 2009 General Plan

The Town has one goal related to archaeological and historic resource preservation in the Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan (Town of Apple Valley 2009). The following presents the goal and the associated policies and program for archaeological and historic resources.

GOAL: That all elements of the Town's cultural heritage, including archaeological and historic sites, artifacts, traditions, and other elements, shall be professionally documented, maintained, preserved, conserved, and enhanced.

- Policy 1.A Early in the planning process, the Town shall implement its obligation to identify, document and assess archaeological, historical, and cultural resources that proposed development projects and other activities may affect.
 - Program 1.A.1 Where proposed development or land uses have the potential to adversely impact sensitive cultural resources, it shall be subject to evaluation by a qualified specialist, comprehensive Phase I studies and appropriate mitigation measures shall, as necessary, be incorporated into project approvals.
 - Program 1.A.2 The Town shall implement the requirements of state law relating to cultural resources, including Government Code 65352.3, and any subsequent amendments or additions.
- Policy 1.B The Town shall establish and maintain a confidential inventory of archaeological and historical resources within the Town, including those identified in focused cultural resources studies.
- **Policy 1.C** The Town shall, to the greatest extent possible, protect sensitive archaeological and historic resources from vandalism and illegal collection.
 - Program 1.C.1 Any information, including mapping, that identifies specific locations
 of sensitive cultural resources, shall be maintained in a confidential manner, and
 access to such information shall be provided only to those with appropriate
 professional or organizational ties.
- Policy 1.D Public participation in and appreciation of the Town's cultural heritage shall be encouraged.
 - Program 1.D.1 The Town shall implement a systematic program to enhance public awareness of Apple Valley's heritage, engender wide-ranging support for its preservation, and enhance community pride.
 - Program 1.D.2 The Town shall support the efforts of local cultural associations to obtain historical materials and artifacts, and to educate the public about the Town's and region's cultural heritage.

3 Setting

This section of the report summarizes information regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Project area, including the prehistoric, ethnographic, and historic period contexts of the general area. Several factors—including topography, available water sources, and biological resources—affect the nature and distribution of human use and occupation of an area. This background provides a context for understanding the nature of the cultural resources that may be identified within the region.

3.1 Environmental Setting

The Project area is within Sidewinder Valley in the western Mojave Desert. The Mojave Desert is bounded on the west by the Sierra Nevada Mountains, on the south by the Transverse and Peninsular ranges, on the southeast and east by the Yuma and Colorado deserts, and on the north by the Great Basin. The western Mojave Desert encompasses several valleys, including Apple Valley, Victor Valley, Antelope Valley, Fremont Valley, and Lucerne Valley, along with the Mojave River and the Barstow area.

Geologically, the Mojave Desert region is a wedge-shaped fault block, which has been termed the "Mojave Block" (Dibblee 1967:4). It is bounded by the San Andreas and Garlock fault zones on the southwest and north, respectively. Rocks within the western Mojave Desert region can be grouped into three main divisions that include crystalline rocks of pre-Tertiary age, sedimentary and volcanic rock of Tertiary age, and sediments and local basalt flows of Quaternary age. Units of the pre-Tertiary crystalline rocks and Quaternary sediments and basalt are widespread; Tertiary volcanic and sedimentary rocks are more limited in their areal distribution (Dibblee 1967).

The Mojave is a warm-temperature desert between the subtropical Sonoran Desert to the south and the cooler-temperature Great Basin to the north. The Mojave Desert is characterized by sparse rainfall, generally ranging from 5–25 centimeters (cm)(2–10 inches [in]) per year. Some areas receive as little as 2.5 cm (1 in) of annual precipitation, though others may receive more than 25 cm (10 in)(Warren 1984:342). The present-day climate and vegetation within the Mojave Desert are substantially different than during the so-called Wisconsin Glacial Stage (60,000–10,500 years Before Present [B.P.]), when the climate was influenced by the massive continental ice sheets, resulting in cooler summer and warmer winter temperatures than at present (Bupp et al. 1998, as cited in Basgall and Overly 2004).

The Sidewinder Valley is dominated by the creosote bush community, which consists of widely-spaced shrubs and cacti (Grayson 1993; Warren 1984:342). Creosote bush (Larrea tridentata) is the dominant perennial, with co-dominant species including burrobush (Ambrosia dumosa) and ephedra (Ephedra nevadensis). Other perennials observed included Joshua tree (Yucca brevifolia), cholla (Opuntia ramosissima), cottonthorn (Tetradymia spinosa), paperbag plant (Salazaria mexicana), spiny hop-sage (Grayia spinosa), and winterfat (Krachenokovia lanata) (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988:88).

Large game animals are rare in the Mojave Desert, although mule deer (Odocoileus hemionus) and black bear (Ursus americanus) make infrequent treks from the nearby Sierra Nevada and San Bernardino mountains. More common to the desert floor are various reptiles and rodents, such as Couch's spadefoot toad (Scaphiopus couchii), desert tortoise (Xerobates [Goperus] agassizii), chuckwalla (Sauromalus obesus), leopard lizard (Crotaphytus wislizenii), horned lizard (Prynosoma platyrhinos), Mojave rattlesnake (Crotalus scutulatus), whitetail antelope squirrel

(Ammospermophilus leucurus), and kangaroo rats (Dipodomys spp.). Other species found in the Mojave include blacktail jackrabbit (Lepus californicus), desert cottontail (Sylvilagus audubonii), kit fox (Vulpes macrotis) coyote (Canis latrans), and bobcat (Lynx rufus) (Laudenslayer and Boggs 1988:114; Martyn and Moore 1996). More than 300 species of birds are known to inhabit the northern Mojave Desert.

3.2 Prehistoric Setting

Over the past century, archaeologists have generally divided the prehistory of the Western Mojave Desert into five distinct periods or sequences distinguished by specific material (i.e., technological) or cultural traits. Early cultural chronologies proposed by Amsden (1937), Campbell and Campbell (1937), and Rogers (1939) were later adapted by Warren and Crabtree (1986) and further detailed by Warren in 1984. Alternative sequences have since emerged (e.g., Bettinger and Taylor 1974) to propose new nomenclature (e.g., Newberry Period vs. Rose Spring Period vs. Saratoga Springs), slightly adjust cultural chronologies, or attempt to link the Great Basin chronological framework to the Mojave Desert.

Sutton and others proposed a cultural-ecological chronological framework based on climatic periods (e.g., Early Holocene) "to specify spans of calendric time and cultural complexes (e.g., Lake Mojave Complex) to denote specific archaeological manifestations that existed during (and across) those periods" (Sutton et al. 2007:233). In this scheme, the cultural history for the area is divided into the Late Pleistocene (10,000–8000 calibrated years B.P. [cal B.P.]), the Early Holocene (8000–6000 cal B.P.), the Middle Holocene (7000–3000 cal B.P.), and the Late Holocene (2000 cal B.P. to European contact). The new sequence draws heavily from Warren and Crabtree (1986) and Warren (1984), as well as from the vast body of recent archaeological research conducted in the region.

3.2.1 Late Pleistocene (ca. 10,000 to 8000 cal B.P.)

The earliest cultural complex recognized in the Mojave Desert is Clovis, aptly named for the fluted projectile points often associated with Pleistocene megafaunal remains. Paleoindian culture is poorly understood in the region due to a relative dearth of evidence stemming from a handful of isolated fluted projectile point discoveries and one presumed occupation site on the shore of China Lake. Archaeologists tend to interpret the available data as evidence of a highly mobile, sparsely populated hunting society that occupied temporary camps near permanent Pleistocene water sources (Sutton et al. 2007).

3.2.2 Early Holocene (ca. 8000 to 6000 cal B.P.)

Two archaeological patterns are recognized during the Early Holocene: The Lake Mojave Complex (sometimes referred to as the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition) and the Pinto Complex. The Lake Mojave Complex is characterized by stemmed projectile points of the Great Basin Series, abundant bifaces, steep-edged unifaces, and crescents. Archaeologists have also identified, in less frequency, cobble-core tools and ground stone implements. The Pinto Complex, on the other hand, is distinguished primarily by the presence of Pinto-style projectile points. Although evidence suggests some temporal overlap, the inception of the Pinto Complex is generally considered a Middle Holocene cultural complex that began during the latter part of the Early Holocene.

During the Lake Mojave cultural complex, inhabitants of the region used more extensive foraging ranges, as indicated by an increased frequency of extra-local materials. Spheres of influence also expanded as potential long-distance trade networks were established between desert and coastal peoples. Groups were still highly mobile, but they practiced a more forager-like settlement

subsistence strategy. Residential sites indicate more extensive periods of occupation and recurrent use. In addition, residential and temporary sites also indicate a diverse social economy characterized by discrete workshops and special-use camps (e.g., hunting camps). Diet also appears to have diversified, with a shift away from dependence upon lacustral environments, such as lakeside marshes, to the exploitation of multiple environments containing rich resource patches (Sutton et al. 2007).

3.2.3 Middle Holocene (ca. 7000 to 3000 cal B.P.)

The Pinto Complex is the primary cultural complex in the Mojave Desert during the Middle Holocene. Once thought to have neatly succeeded the Lake Mojave Complex, a growing corpus of radiocarbon dates associated with Pinto Complex artifacts suggest that its inception could date to the latter part of the Early Holocene. Extensive use of tool stone other than obsidian and high levels of tool blade reworking are characteristic of this complex and the earlier Lake Mojave Complex. A reduction in tool stone source material variability suggests a contraction of foraging ranges that had expanded during the Early Holocene. Conversely, long distance trade with coastal peoples is evidenced by the presence of *Callianax* shell beads.

The most distinguishing characteristic of the Pinto Complex is the prevalence of ground stone tools, which are abundant in nearly all identified Pinto Complex sites. The emphasis on milling tools indicates greater diversification of the subsistence economy during the Middle Holocene. Groups increased reliance on plant processing while continuing to supplement their diet with protein from small and large game animals.

Recent archaeological research in the Mojave Desert suggests there was a greater degree of regional cultural diversity during the Middle Holocene than previously thought. Sutton and others (2007) have proposed a new Middle Holocene cultural complex, exclusively associated with sites at Twentynine Palms in the southeastern Mojave Desert. Artifacts recovered from Deadman Lake Complex sites, such as *Olivella dama* shell from the Sea of Cortez and contracting-stem and lozenge-shaped projectile points like those recovered from Ventana Cave in Arizona, may suggest closer cultural contact with Southwest Archaic cultures than Pinto cultures to the north and west. However, it is also possible that the proposed complex simply reflects a technologically distinct segment of the Pinto, rather than a distinct culture.

3.2.4 Late Holocene (ca. 2000 cal B.P. to European Contact)

The Late Holocene in the greater southern California region is characterized by increases in population, higher degrees of sedentism, expanding spheres of influence, and greater degrees of cultural complexity. In the Mojave Desert, the Late Holocene is divided into several cultural complexes: the Gypsum Complex (2000–1750 cal B.P.), the Rose Spring Complex (1750–850 cal B.P.), and the Late Prehistoric Complexes (850 cal B.P.–European contact).

The Gypsum Complex is defined by the presence of side-notched (Elko series), concave-based (Humboldt series), and well-shouldered contracting stem (Gypsum series) projectile points. Other indicative artifacts include quartz crystals, painted ceramics, rock art, and split twig figurines, which are generally associated with ritual activities. Warren (1984) considers the appearance of these artifact types at Gypsum Complex sites as evidence of the Southwest's expanding influence in the region. Conversely, Sutton and others (2007) opt to associate Gypsum sites, which tend to cluster in the northern Mojave Desert, with temporal sequences modeled for the adjacent Great Basin. It is most likely, however, that the Gypsum Complex was exposed to various cultural influences stemming from long-distance exchange and social interaction networks that linked

groups occupying the Mojave Desert to those on the Pacific Coast, and in the American Southwest and the Great Basin.

The Rose Spring Complex can also be defined by the presence of distinct projectile points (i.e., Rose Spring and Eastgate series) and artifacts, including stone knives, drills, pipes, bone awls, milling implements, marine shell ornaments, and large quantities of obsidian. Of greater significance, however, are the characteristic advancements in technology, settlement strategies, and evidence for expanding and diverging trade networks.

The Rose Spring Complex marks the introduction of bow and arrow technology to the Mojave Desert, likely from neighboring groups to the north and east. As populations increased, groups began to consolidate into larger, more sedentary residential settlements, as indicated by the presence of well-developed middens and architectural styles. West and north of the Mojave River, increased trade activity along existing exchange networks ushered in a period of relative material wealth, exhibited by increased frequencies of marine shell ornaments and tool stone, procured almost exclusively from the Coso obsidian source. East and south of the Mojave River, archaeological evidence suggests there was a greater influence from Southwest and Colorado River cultures (i.e., Hakataya and Patayan).

Between approximately A.D. 1100 and contact with Europeans, several cultural complexes emerged that archaeologists believe may represent prehistoric correlates of known ethnographic groups. Collectively known as the Late Prehistoric Cultural Complexes, during this time material distinctions between groups were more apparent, as displayed by the distribution of projectile point styles (e.g., Cottonwood vs. Desert Side-notched), ceramics, and lithic materials. Long-distance trade continued, benefiting those occupying "middleman" village sites along the Mojave River, where abundant shell beads and ornaments, and lithic tools, have been recovered from archaeological contexts (Rector et al. 1983). Later, trade in Coso obsidian was significantly reduced as groups shifted focus to the procurement of local silicate stone.

The Late Prehistoric Cultural Complex was also a time of increasing regional influence and territorial expansion. Warren (1984) noted "strong regional developments" in the Mojave Desert that included Ancestral Puebloan interest in turquoise in the Mojave Trough, Hakatayan (Patayan) influence from the Colorado River, and the expansion of Numic Paiute and Shoshonean culture eastward. These developments led Sutton (1989) to propose that several interaction spheres were operating in the Mojave Desert during the Late Prehistoric. Sutton (1989) delineated interaction spheres based on the distribution of projectile point styles, ceramics, and obsidian, and argued that the spheres broke along geographical lines that reflected the territorial boundaries of known ethnohistoric groups.

3.3 Ethnohistoric Setting

The Project area encompasses the traditional use area of the Vanyume and the Serrano. Ethnographic information on each of these groups is provided below.

3.3.1 Vanyume

The Vanyume, sometimes referred to as the Desert Serrano, are a subdivision of the Serrano who resided along the Mojave River corridor in the Victorville region and to the north and east along the river as far as Soda Lake. At the time of Spanish contact, the Project area was likely occupied by the Vanyume, a Takic-speaking branch of the larger Uto-Aztecan (or Shoshonean) language family. The Vanyume territory is generally accepted as consisting of the area south of the lower Mojave

Riverbed and to the southeast into the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, and to the north and east along the river as far as Soda Lake.

Diary accounts of travel through the Mojave River region left by Franciscan missionaries Father Garces (1776), Zalvidea (1806), and Nuez (1819) have provided important information on Native settlement, village locations, and place names along the Mojave River (Earle 2005:7–10). Both Garces and Jedediah Smith heard versions of the term Vanyume used to refer to the Native inhabitants of the Mojave River corridor (Earle 2005:4). Kroeber (1925:614–615) also referred to the Native peoples of the Mojave River regions as Vanyume, and described them as a linguistically differentiated desert division of the Serrano language and culture group, the latter being historically associated with the San Bernardino Mountains and surrounding areas. Mojave groups along the Colorado River also appeared to distinguish between what they called the Vanyume of the Mojave River and the Serrano-speakers of the San Bernardino Mountains region (Earle 2005:4).

Ethnohistorical information on the Mojave River area from the 1770s through the 1840s makes it clear that the Mojave River communities of the Vanyume had developed long-standing political and social ties with the Mojave and functioned as intermediaries in the long-distance trade networks maintained by the Mojave. Mojave traders negotiating the Mojave River route on the way to the coast to obtain shell beads and ornaments, which served as an important medium of exchange, relied on the Vanyume for food and shelter along the trek, as they did not carry their own supplies (Earle 2005:10; Harrington 1986:III:167:20). Gifts of shell beads and other goods were bestowed upon the Vanyume as reciprocal exchanges for this hospitality, and cemented relationships between the two groups (Earle 2005:30).

Vanyume settlements were along the Mojave River drainage and to the southeast in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. The location of *Ahamoha*, or birthplace of Moha, a Vanyume informant to Kroeber who survived an attack by the Mojaves in the 1830s, is somewhere in the Barstow-Daggett area. Moha herself placed the village near Daggett, though a Mojave informant to Kroeber stated that it was a few miles north of Victorville. The village was apparently occupied by the Vanyume during the 1820s (Earle 2005:9–10).

A second village site, *Timina*, was reportedly at Newberry Springs (Harrington 1986:147, 695). This village was apparently occupied by the Vanyume prior to the 1830s. Further to the east, along the lower reaches of the Mojave River, were the Vanyume settlements of *Angayaba*, near the later site of Camp Cady; *Asambeat*, in Afton Canyon; and *Guanachique*, on the vicinity of Soda Lake (Earle 2005:7–8).

3.3.2 Serrano

The Serrano also belong to the Takic-speaking branch of the larger Uto-Aztecan language family. Serrano territory included the San Bernardino Mountains, east of Cajon Pass, and the desert area that is immediately south of Victorville, extending east as far as Twentynine Palms and south as far as Yucaipa Valley. The Serrano were primarily hunters and gatherers. Vegetal staples varied with village locality: acorns and pinyon nuts in the foothills; mesquite, yucca roots, cacti fruits, and pinyon nuts in or near the desert regions. Diets were supplemented with other roots, bulbs, shoots, and seeds. An increased yield of herbaceous plants was created by periodic burning (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Communal gathering expeditions, involving several lineages under one leader's authority, were not uncommon (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391–392; Drucker 1937). Deer, mountain sheep, antelope, rabbits, and other small rodents were among the principal animals hunted. Various game birds were also hunted, with quail being the most important. The bow and arrow were used for large game; smaller game and birds were killed with curved throwing

sticks, traps, and snares. Occasionally, game was hunted communally, especially during annual mourning ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:571; Benedict 1924:391–392; Drucker 1937).

Individual family dwellings were occupied by a husband, wife, their unmarried female children, sometimes the husband's parents, and occasionally a widowed aunt or uncle. The Serrano lived in circular, domed structures that were constructed of willow frames and covered with tule thatch. These structures were used primarily as sleeping and storage areas, with most Serrano activities taking place outside or under a shade structure consisting simply of four posts and a roof. On occasion, an individual would erect a separate house for private use (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Kroeber 1925).

Technologically, the Serrano were quite accomplished and produced a vast array of articles. Their manufactured goods included baskets, pottery, rabbit-skin blankets, awls, arrow straighteners, sinew-backed bows, arrows, drills, stone pipes, musical instruments (rattles, rasps, whistles, bull-roarers, and flutes), feathered costumes, mats, bags, storage pouches, and nets (Bean and Smith 1978:571). Food acquisition and processing required the manufacture of additional items such as knives, stone or bone scrapers, pottery trays and bowls, bone or horn spoons, and stirrers. Mortars, made of either stone or wood, and metates were also manufactured (Benedict 1924; Drucker 1937; Strong 1929).

The Serrano were organized into exogamous clans. Each of these, in turn, was affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties (Strong 1929). Although the exact nature of these clans, including their structure, function, and number is unknown, Strong (1929) determined that the clan was the largest autonomous political and landholding unit of the Serrano. The clan was patrilineal: all the male members recognized descent from a common male ancestor. The descendants and wives of these men were also regarded as clan members. When women married, they retained their own lineage names and participated in ceremonies of their natal lineage (Strong 1929:17).

Every clan had a headman or chief, which was a hereditary position passed from father to son. Under unusual circumstances this could pass to the wife of the previous headman (Gifford 1918; Strong 1929). Duties of the head of the clan included determining when and where to collect or hunt, as well as conducting religious and other ceremonies. An assistant (also a hereditary post passing from father to son) assisted the head or chief in these ceremonies. The assistant's duties included taking charge of the sacred bundle (a kit of ceremonial paraphernalia), notification of the time and location of the ceremonies, carrying shell money between groups for ceremonial purposes, and attending to the division of shell money and food at ceremonies (Bean and Smith 1978:572).

Like other California Native American groups, the Serrano had a shaman who acquired his various powers through datura-enhanced dreaming (Strong 1929). Shamans were mainly curers, who healed their patients through administering herbal remedies and sucking out disease-causing agents (Benedict 1924).

3.4 Historical Setting

European exploration of the Mojave Desert began in the sixteenth century, but sustained Euro-American settlement of the region did not occur until the mid-nineteenth century. This extended period of exploration without expansion creates a long proto-historic period in the region, when Europeans and local Native American groups knew of one another but interacted very little. This period is discussed above from the point of view of Native American history. Below, the Euro-American expansion into the region and subsequent historical developments are described.

European settlement in the Mojave Desert began when Spanish missionaries and explorers entered the area in the eighteenth century. Among the first Europeans in the area was Pedro Fages, who led an expedition into the western Mojave in 1772 in pursuit of Spanish soldiers who had deserted (Pourade 1960). Later forays into the Mojave were undertaken in 1776 by Franciscan missionary, Francisco Garces. Garces was tasked with exploring overland routes between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and southern California. During his expedition, he stayed in what is today the town of Mojave (Coues 1900; Sutton 1991). The establishment of trade routes between Santa Fe and Los Angeles and missions in the Mojave Desert were difficult in the eighteenth century because the native Mojave people hindered Spanish expansion beyond the coastal areas of California (Bean and Bourgeault 1989). The Old Spanish Trail, which passes through the Mojave Desert, was not firmly established as a travel route until the 1830s (Norris and Carrico 1978).

The Mexican War of Independence from Spain began in 1810. The Mexicans were victorious in 1821 and declared the Republic of Mexico in 1823. California was made a territory of the Republic in 1825. During Mexican rule, from 1825 to 1847, the rancheros became wealthy from trade in hides, tallow, wine, and brandy. The missions' properties were redistributed between 1834 and 1836, making the rancheros even wealthier. American traders, drawn by low prices for cowhides and other raw materials, made contacts with the Californios. Some married the daughters of the rancheros, started business enterprises, and became increasingly influential in the finance and commerce of the region (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

During the Mexican American War, on August 13, 1846, Captain John Fremont entered the pueblo of Los Angeles and declared it an American territory. The Treaty of Cahuenga ended the conflict in California in 1847 and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the war in 1848 (Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Masterplan 2000:15).

American exploration into the Mojave Desert began in the nineteenth century. Jedediah Smith was the first American to enter the Mojave in 1826 and 1827. Little is known about Smith's time in the Mojave because his notes were lost in a fire (Pourade 1961). Smith followed the Old Spanish Trail, which runs south and east of the current Project area, and ultimately reached the Pacific Ocean, where Spanish authorities prevented him from continuing further and temporarily imprisoned him (Beck and Haase 1974; Norris and Carrico 1978). In 1844, John C. Fremont traveled through the Mojave from the north and eventually met up with the Old Spanish Trail (Beck and Haase 1974; Fremont 1845). Fremont was named "The Great Pathfinder" because his explorations helped open the West for Americans to move into California in the middle and late nineteenth century (Barnard 1977).

By the 1850s, the Old Spanish Trail was established as a reliable overland route to California, and it became easier for people to move into the area. Once California was ceded to the United States, the land was open for settlement and development. With the discovery of gold in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, California's population boomed. Most early mining in California took place in the north, near Sacramento and San Francisco. Mining led to the creation of roads throughout the state. Later, these mining roads would be used to establish railroads that operated in the region.

In the Mojave, scientific exploration was being undertaken in conjunction with investigations into proposed railroads from the east (Sherer 1994). An expedition led by Lt. Amiel Weeks Whipple in 1854 sought to survey a railroad route leading from Arkansas to Los Angeles along the 35th parallel, passing near Fremont Valley. The proposed railroad was meant to tie into lines that originated in both the north and the south (Barnard 1977). Whipple's expedition included scientists who recorded information about the geology, climatology, and biology of the region (Sherer 1994). A later expedition undertaken by Edward Beale in 1857 tested the feasibility of using camels for transport

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across the desert and established an early wagon road through the area (Norris and Carrico 1978; Sherer 1994).

Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR), linking San Francisco to Los Angeles via the Mojave Desert, was completed in 1876. Large numbers of Chinese workers were employed in the construction of the railroad, and following its completion, many became involved in placer mining in the upper Santa Clarita River area (Earle 2003). The SPRR Mojave line also included a 20-day (round trip) rail route that extended over 165 miles (mi) of mountains and desert, running from the Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley (Inyo County) to the railroad loading dock in Mojave (Kyle 1990:129).

By the 1860s, there were numerous mining claims along the periphery of the San Bernardino Mountains, including the gold claim staked by William Holcomb at Big Bear Lake. The boom that followed saw the building of roads from the Victor Valley side of the Cajon Pass to points southward. The 1870s and 1880s witnessed expanded mining in the desert region as well. The Oro Grande mining district, which included Hesperia, Victor, and Oro Grande north of Victorville, was a region rich in minerals, including gold, silver, gemstones, marble, and limestone (Sturm 1993:17).

Although historical settlement of the western Mojave was initially based on mining, which continues to the present day, by the late nineteenth century Victor Valley was slowly being settled by ranchers and farmers. In addition to agrarian pursuits, mining continued to be an important economic focus. As well, growing commercial activities spurred the growth of Victorville and the neighboring communities of Apple Valley, Lucerne Valley, Hesperia, Helendale, Adelanto, and Oro Grande. Further development of the region occurred in 1915, when the state legislature and the federal government authorized the Victor Valley Water Project, the largest of its era in the nation. Railroads were expanded to serve the anticipated needs of the growing Victor Valley. In 1916, the Arrowhead Reservoir and Power Company was formed; however, by 1917 and the onslaught of World War I, many residents of the Valley left to serve in the war. It was not until World War II that the Victor Valley witnessed another expansion of settlement with the establishment of George Air Force Base in 1941, which brought military personnel, families, and associated military services and industry.

4 Cultural Resource Inventory

Chronicle Heritage conducted an in-person records search at the SCCIC, housed at California State University, Fullerton on December 11, 2023, and a supplemental records search at the same location on September 16, 2024. This inventory effort included the Project area and a corresponding 0.5-mi buffer, collectively termed the records search area. The objective of the SCCIC records search was to identify cultural resources that have been previously recorded within the records search area during prior investigations.

As part of the cultural resources inventory, Chronicle Heritage staff also examined historical maps and aerial images to characterize the developmental history of the Project area and surrounding area. A summary of the results of the record search and background research are provided below. Confidential record search results are included in Appendix A.

4.1 Previous Cultural Resource Investigations

The data review indicates 13 previous investigations have been conducted within 0.5 mi of the Project area between 1987 and 2015 (Table 4-1). None of the prior cultural resource studies included the Project area. A map showing the location of the prior cultural studies is provided in Appendix A. As a result of the previous study, it appears that the Project area has not been inventoried for cultural resources.

Table 4-1. Previous Cultural Resource Investigations within 0.5 mi of the Project Area

Report No.	Letter	Year	Author(s)	Title
SB-01719	-	1987	Kaldenberg, Russel	Cultural Resources Field Check, Case File 03/26/87-3 (Robert Campbell)
SB- 02278	-	1991	Sundberg, Frederick A. and Nancy Sundberg	Archaeological and Paleontological Survey for the Apple Valley Airport Master Plan, San Bernardino County, California
SB-03123	_	1996	Parr, Robert E.	An Archaeological Assessment of the Aztec Road Extension, and Overlay and Sewer Pipeline Extension Project (EDA Award No. 07-01-04089), Town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California
SB- 04808	-	2007	Sundberg, Frederick A. and Nancy Sundberg	Cultural Resources Technical Report: North Apple Valley Specific Plan and EIR, Town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California
SB- 05401	-	2007	Jordan, Stacey C.	Archaeological Survey Report for the Southern California Edison Company, Standing Rock 12kV Circuit Project, San Bernardino County, California
SB- 06859	_	2010	Tang, Bai "Tom", Terri Jacquemain, Daniel Ballester, and Harry Quinn	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
SB-07116	-	2011	SWCA Environmental	Cultural Resources Survey for the Apple Valley Airport Master Plan Project, San Bernardino County, California

Report No.	Letter	Year	Author(s)	Title
			Consultants Pasadena Office	
SB-08161	-	2014	Gust, Sherri M.	COMBINED PALEONTOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION REPORT WITHOUT SURVEY FOR THE HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR FREEWAY, LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA
SB-08162	-	2014	Sikes, Nancy, Dustin Keeler, Molly Valasik, and Sherri M Gust	EXTENDED PHASE I TESTING REPORT P-19-004366, P- 36-000066 (CA-SBR-66), P-36-000182 (CA-SBR-182), AND P-36-012609 (CA-SBR-12336), HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR PROJECT FROM SR 14 TO SR 18 LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 07-LA/ 08-SBR EA No. 116720
SB-08162	А	2014	Sikes, Nancy and Sherri M Gust	Extended Phase I Testing Proposal, P-19-004366, P-36-000066 (CA-SBR-66), P-36-000182 (CA-SBR-182) and P-36-012609 (CA-SBR-12336), High Desert Corridor/ SR 138 Widening Project From SR 14 to SR 18, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California, 07-LA/PM 48.0 to SR 138 EA No. 116720
SB-08163	-	2014	Gust, Sherri, Victoria Harvey, Kim Scott, Dustin Keeler, Tadhg Kirwan, Nancy Sikes, David Earle, Karolina Chmiel, Mark C. Robinson, and Catharine M. Wood	ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT FOR THE HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR, LOS ANGELES & SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 07-LA/ 08-SBD, SR-14 TO SR- 18, EA 116720
SB-08163	А	2014	Earle, David D.	Historic Context and Potential National Register Eligibility of Archaeological Sites at Turner Springs, San Bernardino County
SB-08165	-	2015	Gust, Sherri M., Lynn Furnis, Justin Lev Tov, Ian Seharlotta, Desiree Martinez, and Capl'ice "Kip" Harper	PRELIMINARY HISTORIC PROPERTY TREATMENT PLAN FOR THE HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR PROJECT SR-14 TO SR-18 LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 07-LA/ 08-SBD EA 116720, EFIS 07-1200- 0035
SB-08165	Α	2015	Caltrans	HDC Shell Bead Analysis
SB-08165	В	2015	Martinez, Desiree	Lithic Analysis by Desiree Martinez
SB-08165	С	2015	Caltrans	REFLECTANCE TRANSFORMATION IMAGERY (RTI) ANALYSIS
SB-08165	D	2015	Caltrans	VARIABLE PRESSURE SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY (VPSEM) ANALYSIS

Report No.	Letter	Year	Author(s)	Title
SB-08165	Е	2015	Riches, Mark	Geophysical Investigation for the High Desert Corridor SR-138 Widening Project in Victorville, California
SB-08166	_	2014	Sikes, Nancy	HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY REPORT FOR THE HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR, LOS ANGELES & SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES, CALIFORNIA, 07-LA/ 08-SBD, SR-14 TO SR- 18, EA 116720 EFIS 07-1200-0035
SB-08167	-	2014	Furnis, C. Lynn, Victoria Harvey, Tadhg Kirwan, Christina Peterson, Sheri Gust, Andrea Galvin, Jenn Kachour, and Amanda Yoder	Historical Resources Evaluation Report for the High Desert Corridor, Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties, California, 07-LA/ 08-SBD, SR-14 to SR-18, EA 116720 EFIS 07-120000-35

4.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The review of the record search data indicates that 12 cultural resources have been previously documented within 0.5 mi of the Project area (Table 4-2). Of these, nine date to the historic period and three are prehistoric. The historic period resources include seven refuse scatter sites and two structures. The prehistoric resources include two isolated occurrences of flaked stone debitage and one lithic scatter site. None of the documented resources are within the proposed Project area. A map showing the locations of the resources is provided in Appendix A.

Table 4-2. Previously Documented Cultural Resources within 0.5 mi of the Project Area

Primary No.	Trinomial	Period	Туре	Description	Proximity to Project area
P-36-020981	CA-SBR-6834H	Historic	Site	Multiple concentrations of refuse scatter	2,500 ft southwest
P-36-006840	CA-SBR-6840H	Historic	Structure	Wood-lined depression	2,000 ft west
P-36-006841	CA-SBR-6841H	Historic	Site	Refuse scatter	2,000 ft southwest
P-36-006843	CA-SBR-6843H	Historic	Site	Refuse scatter	2,200 ft northeast
P-36-010860	CA-SBR-10860	Prehistoric	Site	Lithic scatter	2,500 ft northwest
P-36-020980	CA-SBR-13514H	Historic	Site	Multiple concentrations of refuse scatter	1,500 ft east
P-36-024894	CA-SBR-15932H	Historic	Site	Refuse scatter	1,500 ft west
P-36-024896	CA-SBR-15934H	Historic	Site	Refuse scatter	2,250 ft southwest

Primary No.	Trinomial	Period	Туре	Description	Proximity to Project area
P-36-024897	CA-SBR-15935H	Historic	Site	Refuse scatter	2,500 ft southwest
P-36-013314	-	Historic	Site	Foundation and refuse scatter	6,300 ft southwest
P-36-031810	-	Prehistoric	Isolate	Debitage	2,500 ft southwest
P-36-061207	-	Prehistoric	Isolate	Debitage	2,100 ft northwest

4.3 Additional Sources

Historical topographic maps and aerial photographs were reviewed as part of the background research. Maps that were examined as part of this effort include the Barstow, California 30-Minute (1932, 1934); San Bernardino, California 30-minute (1953, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1966); Apple Valley, California 15-Minute (1957); Apple Valley North, California 7.5-Minute (1970, 2012, 2015, 2018, 2021); and Victorville, California 30-Minute (1982) quadrangle (TopoView 2023). Historical aerial photographs available at NETROnline (2023) dated 1952, 1959, 1968, 1969, 1984, 1994, 1995, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020 were also reviewed. The earliest topographic map of the Project area dates to 1932, and the earliest aerial photograph of the Project area dates to 1952; both show the property as relatively undeveloped, except for a road that travels along the route of Fernandez Road that is evident in 1932 and no longer present by 1953. In 1970, a dirt road reappeared along this same alignment. There were no further developments within the Project area, aside from an additional road named Somis Avenue that first appears on the 2018 topographic map, and the airport to the east of the Project area constructed sometime before 1970 (NETROnline 2023; TopoView 2023).

A review of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) General Land Office (GLO) records indicate that the Project area is part of a serial patent for 85,890.32 acres issued to the SPRR in 1866 by the authority of the 1866 Railroad and Telegraph Line Lands Act (14 Stat. 292) (BLM 2023). This act authorized the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous railroad and telegraph lines from Missouri and Alaska to the Pacific coast through public lands. It does not appear that any railroad or telegraph-related features or structures related to the patent were constructed within the Project area.

4.4 Native American Outreach

Chronicle Heritage requested a search of the SLF from the Native American Heritage Committee (NAHC) on December 8, 2023. The Town provided Chronicle Heritage with a list of 20 Native American tribal representatives for the Project area. Chronicle Heritage sent outreach letters to the 20 individuals on this list on December 18, 2023. The NAHC responded on January 4, 2024, and noted that the SLF search results were negative. On January 4, 2024, outreach letters were sent to four additional individuals identified by the NAHC that were not on the Town's list. In total, Chronicle Heritage sent outreach letters to 24 individuals representing 13 local Native American tribal groups to elicit information on Native American cultural resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed Project (Appendix B). Follow-up phone calls to individuals who had not yet responded were conducted on January 4, and 5, 2024 and on February 5, 2024.

To date, Chronicle Heritage has received three responses:

- On December 19, 2023, Clarista Duarte, Cultural Resources Analyst for the Agua Caliente Band of Mission Indians, responded in email stating that the Project is not within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area, and therefore the Tribe defers to other tribes in the area.
- On December 29, 2023, Raylene Borrego, Cultural Resources Technician for San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, responded in email stating that based on their current knowledge, the proposed Project area is considered culturally sensitive by the Tribe due to the proximity to previously recorded sites. As the area is of concern to the Tribe, they wish to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to AB 52 with the Lead Agency for the Project.
- On February 6, 2024, Robert Robinson, Chairperson of Kern Valley Indian Community responded by saying he is concerned about inadvertent discoveries, as the area has been heavily used by Native American groups; additionally, Robinson is concerned about Native American burials in the area, and recommends the Project retain a culturally affiliated Native American monitor during ground disturbing activities. Robinson sent Chronicle Heritage a formal statement summarizing his concerns (see Appendix B).

5 Research Design

A research design is an explicit statement of the theoretical and methodological approaches to be followed in a cultural resources study (OHP 1990). Inventory studies, such as this one, rely on data from cultural resources visible on or above the ground surface with supplemental information provided by archival research and literature review (OHP 1991). In such studies, the focus of the research design is to ensure the adequacy of the identification effort. Should any identified resources within the Project area have sufficient age and integrity to warrant consideration for CRHR eligibility, then relevant research questions and data requirements may be posed to evaluate the significance of the resource and make recommendations regarding determinations of eligibility.

For the purposes of this study, one relevant research domain was identified: historic development and settlement of Sidewinder Valley within the larger contexts of the surrounding Apple Valley and Victor Valley regions. Use of the valley was, at first, associated primarily with mining activities. Following the construction of the railroad in the 1870s, Sidewinder Valley and the surrounding regions were slowly settled by ranchers and farmers. The following questions may be considered when examining the nature and extent of cultural resources within the Project area.

- What evidence of historic period mining, agriculture, ranching, and/or homesteading is present in the Project area?
- What specific activities were performed at these sites? If mining-related sites are identified, what was being mined? Did these activities change over time?
- What is the age of these sites? How long were these sites used or occupied and when or why were they abandoned?
- How do mining, agriculture, ranching, and homesteading sites in the Project area reflect or diverge from regional or national trends?

Data Requirements (among the data needed to address the research questions posed above):

- Chronological data from features and/or temporally diagnostic artifacts that can be used to assess the age of the sites.
- Artifact assemblages and features to identify the types of activities that were associated with each site.
- Artifacts (e.g., culinary artifacts, food preparation items, food containers and remains, clothing/grooming, personal hygiene, and medicinal items) that may be used to examine the social, ethnic, or economic background of the residents of the sites.
- Infrastructure elements such as roads, transmission lines, pipelines, and water lines.
- Documentary information in the form of historical USGS maps, BLM GLO township plat maps, BLM land patent records, master title plat maps, and county assessor records to address questions of land ownership.

6 Field Investigation

6.1 Field Methods

A cultural resources survey of the Project area was completed by Chronicle Heritage archaeologists Janelle Scarritt and Melanie Enciso from December 27 through December 29, 2023, and additional survey of the off-site areas was completed by Kimberly Luyties on November 18, 2024. The survey methods followed standard archaeological methods, consisting of parallel pedestrian transects spaced at 10–15-meter (m)(33–50-ft) intervals when allowed by terrain and vegetation. Crew members also opportunistically examined any subsurface exposures, including rodent burrows and cut banks. Survey crews navigated the transects using georeferenced maps on iPad tablets and handheld global position system (GPS) units. Field iPads included all Project maps and relevant site forms. Field iPads with the ArcGIS FieldMaps web application were used to record and document resources.

The Project area was documented with digital photographs that included general views of the topography, vegetation density, and other images. A photograph log was maintained to include photograph number, date, orientation, photograph description, and comments. The surveyors carefully inspected all areas likely to contain or exhibit sensitive cultural resources to ensure discovery and documentation of any visible, potentially significant cultural resources within the Project area. Materials and features that could not be accurately dated in the field were also recorded. Historic period indicators include standing buildings, objects, structures such as sheds, or concentrations of materials at least 45 years in age, such as domestic refuse (e.g., glass bottles, ceramics, toys, buttons, and leather shoes), refuse from other pursuits such as agriculture (e.g., metal tanks, farm machinery parts, and horseshoes), or structural materials (e.g., nails, glass windowpanes, corrugated metal, wood posts or planks, metal pipes and fittings, and railroad spurs). Prehistoric site indicators include areas of darker soil with concentrations of ash, charcoal, animal bone (burned or unburned), shell, flaked stone, ground stone, pottery, or even human bone.

When artifacts were found during the surveys, site boundaries were defined by surveying out in widening concentric circles until artifacts were no longer encountered. Artifacts or features that were within 30 m of each other, or that were clearly related, were combined into the same isolate or site. All resources were digitally recorded in the field directly into ArcGIS FieldMaps web application on an iPad.

6.1.1 Site and Isolate Occurrences

The OHP's Instructions for Recording Historical Resources (OHP 1995) defines a site as the location of a prehistoric or historic era occupation or activity. A district is defined as possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. The term "structure" is used to distinguish from buildings those functional constructions usually made for purposes other than creating human shelter.

For the purpose of this study, a "site" was defined as a location that has material evidence of past life, activities, and culture. The California standard is to record any cultural resources over 45 years of age, despite the National Register of Historic Places threshold of 50 years of age. In general, an archaeological site should exhibit at least one of the following:

One or more features

- Five or more artifacts in clear association with a $25 \text{ m}^2 (5 \times 5 \text{ m})$ area
- Fewer than five artifacts that have data potential or are "diagnostic" (i.e. fluted points)

Examples of archaeological sites found during this survey include historic-period refuse scatters. Resources separated by more than 30 m or located on different landforms were recorded as distinct sites or as isolates, unless other indicators suggested a close association. Isolates were defined as fewer than five artifacts that are greater than 45 years old. Examples of isolates found during this survey include ceramic sherds, cans, and glass bottle fragments. Maps showing the locations of all identified cultural resources within the Project area are included in Appendix C. Site forms for these sites have also been submitted in conjunction with this report (See Appendix D).

6.1.2 Documentation Methods

All sites and isolates were recorded on California's Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523-series record forms. At a minimum, a completed site record consisted of a primary record form, a location map (a GPS location plotted on a USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle map), a scaled site sketch map, color site overview photographs, and photographs of diagnostic artifacts and features where appropriate. Field crews entered site information (e.g., in-field artifact analyses, features data, and narrative description) into ESRI FieldMaps application on an iPad. Site sketch maps and location maps were created using the ArcGIS Pro application. Digital photographs were taken using iPads. These included general views of the topography, vegetation density, and other relevant images. A photograph log was maintained to include, at a minimum, photo number, date, orientation, photo description, and comments. Isolate records include an isolate description and photograph, and a GPS location.

6.2 Results

6.2.1 Field Conditions

During the survey, weather conditions were characteristic of this region; daily temperatures ranged from 61 to 67°F with little cloud cover and no precipitation. Vegetation within the Project area consists of moderately distributed creosote bush scrub, with the distribution of a micro-grass covering most of the Project area and a sparse distribution of small to medium cactus throughout (Figure 6-1). Ground visibility across the Project area was good to excellent (~90%). The Project area is relatively flat, sloping approximately one to two degrees to the southeast across the entire property. The Project area is characterized by intermittent stream drainages created by pluvial activity on the nearby foothills and mountains to the east of the Project area.

The Project area is bisected by two north-south trending roads, Fernandez Road and Somis Avenue. A review of historical aerial imagery indicates that the Fernandez Road route was in use sometime between 1932 and 1950 and then again sometime after 1970; Somis Avenue was in use sometime after 2018. Two additional unofficial roads also run through the Project area. One appears to follow an existing wash and the other is near the shoulder of Central Road. Disturbances in addition to the two roads include sheet wash and wind erosion, as well as off roading activities (Figure 6-2 and Figure 6-3). There are modern diffuse scatters throughout the Project area, with concentrations noted along the entire length of Gustine Road to the east, and within the northeastern corner of the property. Chronicle Heritage conducted a supplementary pedestrian survey of the off-site improvement areas for the Project. As the off-site improvements follow the alignment of existing roads in most areas, survey consisted of a single pedestrian transect along each side of the road; no transects were walked within roadways. A small portion of the survey

area fell within the Apple Valley Airport. No cultural resources were identified as part of this supplemental survey.



Figure 6-1. Project area overview, facing north; note off-road tracks, washes, and vegetation.



Figure 6-2. Project area from Gustine Street and Central Road intersection, facing southwest.



Figure 6-3. Somis Avenue from southern Project area limits, facing north.

6.2.2 Cultural Resource Documentation

During the survey, Chronicle Heritage archaeologists observed secondary deposits of historic-period artifacts (some mixed with modern refuse) distributed across much of the Project area. The deposits extend from the northeastern boundary to the southwestern boundary. The secondary deposits generally consist of Church Key-opened beverage cans. Active alluvial and aeolian processes are evident throughout the Project area, which, over time, have caused intact cultural deposits to be redistributed from their primary depositional location. Due to their secondary nature, these resources often retain little more than generalized temporal information. Among the scattered refuse, nine concentrations of such historic-period refuse and one isolated prehistoric hammerstone were identified and documented (see Table 6-1). Most of the artifacts encountered are secondary deposits dating to the middle of the twentieth century and reflect domestic activities and discharged beverage cans associated with off-site settlement and motorist road use.

The secondary surface scatter of isolates covering most of the landscape has not been formally recorded; these isolates are recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR because of their gross lack of integrity. The location of these isolates is detailed in Appendix C. A description and significance evaluation of the 10 documented resources are provided below, with copies of DPR 523 forms included in Appendix D. A map showing the distribution of the resources is also included in Appendix C.

Table 6-1. Cultural Resources Survey Results

Resource No.	Description	Period	Туре
23-PC-01357-IS0-430	Hammerstone with possible polishing on one side	Prehistoric	Isolate

Resource No.	Description	Period	Туре
23-PC-01357-001	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-002/003	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-005	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-006	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-007/008	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-009	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-010	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-011	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site
23-PC-01357-012	Secondary debris scatter	Historic	Site

23-PC-01357-IS0-430

This resource consists of an isolated prehistoric quartzite hammerstone with possible polishing on one side (Figure 6-4). There was no evidence of cultural soils nearby. The isolate was observed within an erosional gully and has been determined to be within a secondary context.



Figure 6-4. Close-up of isolated quartzite hammerstone.

CRHR Evaluation

Although ground stone artifacts are broadly associated with Native American use of the Sidewinder Valley area during the prehistoric period, the isolate does not have a clear association or connection with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific

association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. Consequently, the resource does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The isolate also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource does not hold significance under Criterion 3. Because the isolate is a single hammerstone observed on the surface within an active alluvial and aeolian environment with no associated cultural soils, there is a low probability for subsurface deposits. As a result, the isolate is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The data potential of the isolate appears to have been exhausted by recording; therefore, the isolate also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Isolate 23-PC-01357-ISO-430 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-001

This resource consists of historic period site containing domestic refuse that is 37 ft (north-south) by 20 ft (east-west). The scatter includes two concentrations of refuse; Feature 1 includes approximately eight sparsely-distributed crushed sanitary cans, some with Church Key openings (Figure 6-5), and Feature 2 is a sparsely-distributed can scatter composed of approximately five crushed cans. The presence of sanitary and Church Key-opened cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1920 to present, though Church Key-opened cans became uncommon after 1970 (Fontana et al. 1962; Memmott 2015). The site is in a secondary context and was observed within an active alluvial and aeolian environment, with the majority of the cans observed within an erosional gully. Disturbances to the site appear include offroad vehicle activity and sheet wash erosion and gullying across the site.

CRHR Evaluation

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-era occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus contextually considered displaced litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-001 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resources are not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-001 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

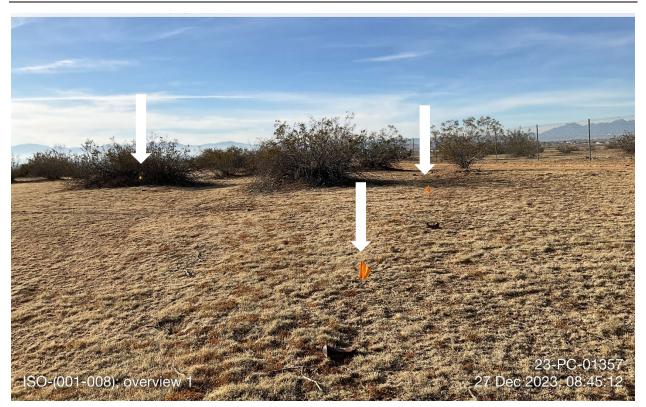


Figure 6-5. Overview of 23-PC-01357-001, Feature 1, facing east; pin flags mark cans.

23-PC-01357-002/003

This resource is a historic period site with scattered domestic refuse that is 145 ft (north-south) by 95 ft (east-west), and bisected by an erosional wash. The refuse scatter contains three features of concentrated artifacts. Feature 1 includes approximately six sparsely-distributed crushed beverage cans, some with Church Key openings (Figure 6-6). Feature 2 is also a sparsely-distributed can scatter composed of more than 10 crushed beverage cans, approximately 14 sherds of turquoise and yellow Fiestaware, and colorless windowpane glass (Figure 6-7). Feature 3 contains colorless windowpane glass and broken colorless glass bottles. The presence of Church Key-opened cans and Fiestaware sherds indicate that the site dates from approximately the 1930s to 1960s (Memmott 2015). The site is in a secondary context and was observed within an active alluvial and aeolian environment, with the majority of the refuse observed within an erosional wash. Disturbances to the site appear to include offroad vehicle activity and abundant sheet wash erosion from the wash that bisects the resource.

CRHR Evaluation

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-002/003 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under

Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-002/003 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.



Figure 6-6. Overview of 23-PC-01357-002/003, Feature 1, facing south.



Figure 6-7. Plan view of 23-PC-01357 002/003, Feature 2.

23-PC-01357-005

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 25 ft (north-south) by 35 ft (east-west). The scatter includes five sanitary cans, a corner pipe widget, three segments of wire, and six ceramic sherds (Figure 6-8). The presence of sanitary cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1920 to present (Fontana et al. 1962). The refuse appears to be displaced refuse scattered into a secondary context from sheet wash erosion that is active across the landscape.



Figure 6-8. Overview of 23-PC-01357-005, facing west.

CRHR Evaluation

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-005 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-005 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-006

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 316 ft (north-south) by 142 ft (east-west). The scatter includes two features composed of more than 500 sanitary and beverage cans. Feature 1 includes more than 150 crushed sanitary and beverage cans (Figure 6-9), and Feature 2 includes more than 350 sanitary and beverage cans. The presence of sanitary cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1920 to present (Fontana et al. 1962). The refuse scatter appears to have been disturbed by sheet wash erosion from the northeast to southwest running along washes that bisect the resource.



Figure 6-9. Overview of 23-PC-01357-006, Feature 1, facing southwest.

CRHR Evaluation

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-006 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-006 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-007/008

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site along the roadside, and is approximately 46 ft (north-south) by 29 ft (east-west). The scatter includes two features. Feature 1 consists of 11 cans, mostly beverage cans with Church Key openings (Figure 6-10). Feature 2 includes more than 40 sanitary and beverage cans, 20 ceramic sherds, and more than 100 glass shards of blue, green, colorless, and frosted glass (Figure 6-11). The presence of sanitary and Church Key-opened cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1920 to present, though Church Key-opened cans became uncommon after 1970 (Fontana et al. 1962; Memmott 2015). The refuse scatter is just west of an access road and between two washes running north-south; both occurrences appear to have caused disturbances to the resource.

CRHR Evaluation

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-007/008 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-007/008 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.



Figure 6-10. Overview of 23-PC-01357-007/008, Feature 1, facing east.



Figure 6-11. Overview of 23-PC-01357-007/008, Feature 2, facing west.

23-PC-01357-009

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 38 ft (north-south) by 38 ft (east-west) and bisected by an erosional wash. The scatter includes approximately 100 sanitary and oil cans, ceramic dinnerware sherds, and brown glass shards (Figure 6-12). The presence of sanitary cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1920 (Fontana et al. 1962). There is a historic-period refuse site to the north and another to the south along the same wash. It appears that the refuse within this resource and those to the north and the south are displaced secondary scatters that have been distributed by seasonal rains and carried along the wash.



Figure 6-12. Overview of 23-PC-01357-009, facing north.

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-009 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-009 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-010

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 80.5 ft (north-south) by 78 ft (east-west) and bisected by an erosional wash. The scatter of domestic refuse includes more than 200 sanitary and utility cans, glass bottle fragments, glass shards, wire, wire fencing, and ceramic tiles. One fragmented glass mason jar with the label for "Cheney Choice Cheese Salad Dressing Mixing Bottle," a colorless decorative glass sherd, and a brown or amber glass bottle base with possible Glenshaw Glass Company maker's mark were observed and photographed (Figure 6-13). The maker's mark indicates that the site dates from 1952 or 1953 (Lindsey 2020a). There are historic-period refuse resources just north and south of this site, also along the same wash. It appears that the refuse within this resource is displaced secondary scatter that has been distributed by seasonal rains and carried north and south along the wash.



Figure 6-13. Overview of 23-PC-01357-010, facing south.

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-010 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site has been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-010 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-011

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 48 ft (north–south) by 70.5 ft (east–west). The scatter consists of domestic refuse including over 10 crushed Church Keyopened cans and at least 60 shards of broken glass (Figure 6-14). The presence of Church Keyopened cans indicates that the site dates from sometime after 1934 to present, though Church Keyopened cans became uncommon after 1970 (Memmott 2015). The refuse scatter is just south of Gustine Street and between two erosional washes and appears to be an example of disturbed roadside dumping.



Figure 6-14. Overview of 23-PC-01357-011, facing east.

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-011 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site appears to have been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-011 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

23-PC-01357-012

This resource is a historical refuse scatter site that is approximately 71 ft (north–south) by 62 ft (east–west) and is bisected by an erosional wash. The domestic refuse scatter includes sanitary and utility cans, glass shards, a colorless glass milk bottle finish, a colorless glass liquor bottle with base stippling, a scallop-edge white glazed ceramic plate sherd, and a "White Magic" amber glass bottle base with a Glass Container Company maker's mark (Figure 6-15). The artifacts indicate that the site dates from sometime after 1934 to 1970 (Lindsey 2020a, 2020b; Memmott 2015). It appears that some of the scatter's components have been burnt, though there is no evidence of associated burnt soils or charcoal. Krotovina has also disturbed the resource.



Figure 6-15. Overview of 23-PC-01357-012, facing north.

Although historic period domestic refuse is broadly associated with the historic-period occupation of the Sidewinder Valley area, the refuse was observed within a secondary context and is thus considered secondary litter. Such unassociated cultural resources retain little more than generalized temporal information and do not offer chronological data, information on types of activities, or social or economic background of the historical occupants at the location of the site. Site 23-PC-01357-012 thus does not have a clear association with significant events, nor does it contain any attributes that convey specific association with an important person of national, statewide, or local significance. As such, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criteria 1 or 2. The site also does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, or possess artistic value; therefore, the resource is not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 3. Furthermore, due to the secondary nature, the site is unlikely to fulfill the data requirements to address research questions or to provide any other information valuable to our understanding of the past. The potential of the site appears to have been exhausted by recording; therefore, the site also appears not eligible for listing in the CRHR under Criterion 4. Site 23-PC-01357-012 is recommended not eligible for listing in the CRHR under any criteria.

7 Management Recommendations

This cultural resource assessment included a records search, background research, and a survey of the Project area. As a result of these efforts, 10 cultural resources were identified in the Project area. All 10 resources were observed within secondary contexts resulting from active alluvial and aeolian processes moving resources across the landscape. An off-site impact area was added to the Project at a later date, and supplemental records search and survey efforts were undertaken for a complete evaluation of Project impacts. No new cultural resources were identified during the supplemental efforts, which have been integrated into the report results. Based on the paucity of prehistoric archaeological remains documented in the vicinity, the level of existing disturbance of the Project site, and the result of the survey, the Project area appears to have a low sensitivity for encountering intact buried prehistoric archaeological resources. The presence of historic period cultural resources in the vicinity suggests that episodic refuse dumping, including off-site, took place in the mid-twentieth century. These remains are limited to surface manifestations, suggesting there is a relatively low likelihood of encountering buried historic period archaeological remains in the Project area.

Chronicle Heritage does not recommend any additional cultural resource management for the proposed Project. In the unlikely event that potentially, significant cultural materials are encountered during Project-related ground-disturbing activities, all work should be halted in the vicinity of the discovery until a qualified archaeologist can visit the site of discovery and assess the significance of the archaeological resource. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery. Finally, should additional actions be proposed outside the currently defined Project area that have the potential for additional subsurface disturbance, further cultural resource assessment and management may be required.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this archaeological and built-environment resources report, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DATE: January 30, 2025

SIGNED:

PRINTED NAME: Name: Richard Guttenberg
Title: Principal Investigator

Cultural Resources Assessment for the Lake Creek Logistics Center, Town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California

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Cultural Resources Assessment for the Lake Creek Logistics Center, Town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California

Gan Bernardino County, Camornia
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Appendix A. Records Search Results (Redacted)

Appendix B. Native American Outreach



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

January 4, 2024

Tiffany Clark Paleo West

CHAIRPERSON

Reginald Pagaling

Chumash

Via Email to: tclark@chronicleheritage.com

VICE-CHAIRPERSON Buffy McQuillen Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomlaki Re: 23-PC-01357 Apple Valley Logistics Project, San Bernardino County

SECRETARY

Sara Dutschke

Miwok

Dear Ms. Clark:

Parliamentarian **Wayne Nelson** *Luiseño*

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were <u>negative</u>. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

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. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might 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.

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

COMMISSIONER Laurena Bolden Serrano

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

COMMISSIONER
Reid Milanovich
Cahuilla

Sincerely,

Cameron Vela

COMMISSIONER **Vacant**

Cameron Vela Cultural Resources Analyst

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY **Raymond C.**

Attachment

Raymond C. Hitchcock Miwok, Nisenan

NAHC HEADQUARTERS

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

	Native	American Contact/Respo	onse Matrix	
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	Contact Info	Initial Contact	Follow up Attempts (~January 4)	Comments/Notes
Reid Milanovich, Chairperson Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	Phone: (760) 699 - 6800 Fax: (760) 699-6919 laviles@aguacaliente.net	12/18/2023 email sent		Clarista Duarte, Cultural Resources Analyst, responded via email 12/19/2023 stating the project is not located within the Tribe's Tradtional Use Area, therefore the Tribe defers to the other tribes in the area.
Patricia Garcia-Plotkin, Director Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians 5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	Phone: (760) 699 - 6907 Fax: (760) 699-6924 ACBCI- THPO@aguacaliente.net	12/18/2023 email sent		Clarista Duarte, Cultural Resources Analyst, responded via email 12/19/2023 stating the project is not located within the Tribe's Tradtional Use Area, therefore the Tribe defers to the other tribes in the area.
Anthony Morales, Chairperson Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, CA, 91778	Phone: (626) 483 - 3564 Fax: (626) 286-1262 GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent	
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson Gabrielino /Tongva Nation 106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 Los Angeles, CA, 90012	Phone: (951) 807 - 0479 sgoad@gabrielino- tongva.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent	
Robert Dorame, Chairperson Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, CA, 90707	Phone: (562) 761 - 6417 Fax: (562) 761-6417 gtongva@gmail.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent	
Christina Conley, Tribal Consultant and Administrator Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, CA, 93094	Phone: (626) 407 - 8761 christina.marsden@alumni.u sc.ed u	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent; 1/4/2024 Christina called me (Lindsay Porras) and requested comment be deferred to Ms. Goad; she also recommended texting her (Christina) if she hasn't responded during future follow ups.	
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe Charles Alvarez, 23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, CA, 91307	Phone: (310) 403 - 6048 roadkingcharles@aol.com	12/18/2023 email sent; email returned undeliverable; attempt mail 12/19/2023	1/5/2024 Phone call attempt; no answer; number not in service.	

Native American Contact/Response Matrix					
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	Contact Info	Initial Contact	Follow up Attempts (~January 4)	Comments/Notes	
Robert Robinson, Chairperson Kern Valley Indian Community P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240	Phone: (760) 378 - 2915 bbutterbredt@gmail.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent. 2/6/2024 follow up email sent after phone call attepmpts made in response to voice message left by Mr. Robinson.	2/6/2024 Mr. Robinson called and left a voice message stating he would like to discuss cultural resource issues and provided his contact info. 2/6/2024 follow up phone call made. Mr Robinson stated he is concerned about inadverdent discoveries as the area has been heavily used by Native American groups; he is concerned about Native American burials in the area and he recommends the project retain a culturally affiliated Native American monitor during ground distrubing activities. Mr. Robinson said he would send CH an email with a formal statement summarizing his concerns.	
Julie Turner, Secretary Kern Valley Indian Community P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240	Phone: (661) 340 - 0032 No Email	Letter sent via mail 12/19/2023	1/5/2024 Phone call attempt; left voicemail for Julie Turner summarizing our outreach effort and project location.		
Brandy Kendricks Kern Valley Indian Community 30741 Foxridge Court Tehachapi, CA, 93561	Phone: (661) 821 - 1733 krazykendricks@hotmail.co m	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Ann Brierty, THPO, Morongo Band of Mission Indians 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Robert Martin, Chairperson Morongo Band of Mission Indians 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com NAHC provided email: culturalcommittee@quechan tribe.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	Phone: (760) 572 - 2423 historicpreservation@quech antrib e.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		

Native American Contact/Response Matrix					
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	Contact Info	Initial Contact	Follow up Attempts (~January 4)	Comments/Notes	
Donna Yocum, Chairperson San Fernando Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322	Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net NAHC provided list with updated email: dvocum@sfbmi.ora	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent to updated email		
Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources San Manuel Band of Mission Indians 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346 ***Contact Update provided by SMBMI: Alexandra McCleary, Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management. Additionally, you can contact her via email Alexandra.mccleary@sanmaunel- nsn.gov or by phone (909) 864- 8933 ext. 2023.NAHC provided #: (909) 633-0054	Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuel nsn.gov NAHC provided number for Ms. McCleary: (909) 633-0054 Alexandra.mccleary@sanma unel-nsn.gov	12/18/2023 email sent	12/29/2023 Email response received from Raylene Borrego Raylene Borrego Cultural Resources Technician Raylene.Borrego@sanmanuelnsn.gov: "Based on our current knowledge, the proposed project area is considered culturally sensitive by the Tribe due to its proximity to previously recorded sites. As the area is of concern, the Tribe will wish to engage in government-to-government consultation pursuant to AB 52 with the Lead Agency for the project. Also, I'd like to update the Tribe's principal point of contact for matters pertaining to Cultural Resources, as Ms. Mauck is no longer working for SMBMI. For all CRM matters please address Alexandra McCleary, Senior Manager of Cultural Resources Management. Additionally, you can contact her via email Alexandra.mccleary@sanmaune l-nsn.gov or by phone (909) 864-8933 ext. 2023." 12/29/2023 This email response forwared to project manager.		
Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson Serrano Nation of Mission Indians P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	Phone: (253) 370 - 0167 serranonation1@gmail.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson Serrano Nation of Mission Indians P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369	Phone: (909) 528 - 9032 serranonation1@gmail.com	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		
Darrell Mike, Chairperson Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians 46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	Phone: (760) 863 - 2444 Fax: (760) 863-2449 29chairman@29palmsbomi- nsn. Gov	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent		

Native American Contact/Response Matrix				
Recommended Contacts (Name and Tribal Affiliation)	Contact Info	Initial Contact	Follow up Attempts (~January 4)	Comments/Notes
Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians 46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236 Contstopner Nicosia, Cultural	Phone: (760) 775 - 3259 amadrigal@29palmsbomi- nsn.gov	12/18/2023 email sent	1/4/2024 follow up email sent; 1/4/2024 Anthony responding via email: "For all issues pertaining to cultural resources/THPO, please reach out to Christopher Nicosia as he is the Manager of the THPO. I have also cc'd Eric Jordan who is the Director of the Department. Respectfully "	
Resources Manager/THPO Manager Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236 Jordan Joaquin, President,	(760) 863-3972 christopher.nicosia@29palm sbomi-nsn.gov	1/4/2024 email sent	Follow up email sent 2/5/2024	
Jordan Joaquin, President, Quechan Tribal Council Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation P.O.Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366	(760) 919-3600 executivesecretary@quecha ntribe.com	1/4/2024 email sent	Follow up email sent 2/5/2024	
Nicolas Garza, Cultural Resources Specialist Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians 46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2486 nicolas.garza@29palmsbomi- nsn.gov	1/4/2024 email sent	Follow up email sent 2/5/2024	
Sarah O'Brien, Tribal Archivist Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians 46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2460 sobrien@29palmsbomi- nsn.gov	1/4/2024 email sent	Follow up email sent 2/5/2024	



December 18, 2023

RE: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Apple Valley Logistics Center Project, San Bernardino County, California

PaleoWest, LLC (dba Chronicle Heritage) is conducting a cultural resource assessment for the Apple Valley Logistics Center Project (Project) in the town of Apple Valley, San Bernardino County, California. The Project involves the construction of three warehouse buildings totaling approximately 3.48 million square feet in addition to the construction of full street classifications of Central Road, Gustine Road, and Corwin Road. The Project is located within the southeastern quarter and a portion of the southwestern quarter of Section 27 of Township 6 North, Range 3 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the *Apple Valley North*, *CA* 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle (see attached map). The Project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act with the Town of Apple Valley acting as the lead agency.

A cultural resource records search and literature review was conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center of the California Historical Resource Information System housed at California State University, Fullerton on December 11, 2023. The results of the records search indicate 10 cultural resources have been previously documented within 0.5 mile of the Project area. Of these resources, seven date to the historic period and three are prehistoric. The prehistoric resources include a sparse artifact scatter and two isolated pieces of flaked stone debitage. None of the documented resources are in the proposed Project area. Chronicle Heritage also requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) *Sacred Lands File* on December 8, 2023. As of December 18, 2023, Chronicle Heritage has not yet received a response from the NAHC. Therefore, I am writing as part of the cultural resources assessment to find out if you have any knowledge of cultural resources that may be impacted by the proposed Project.

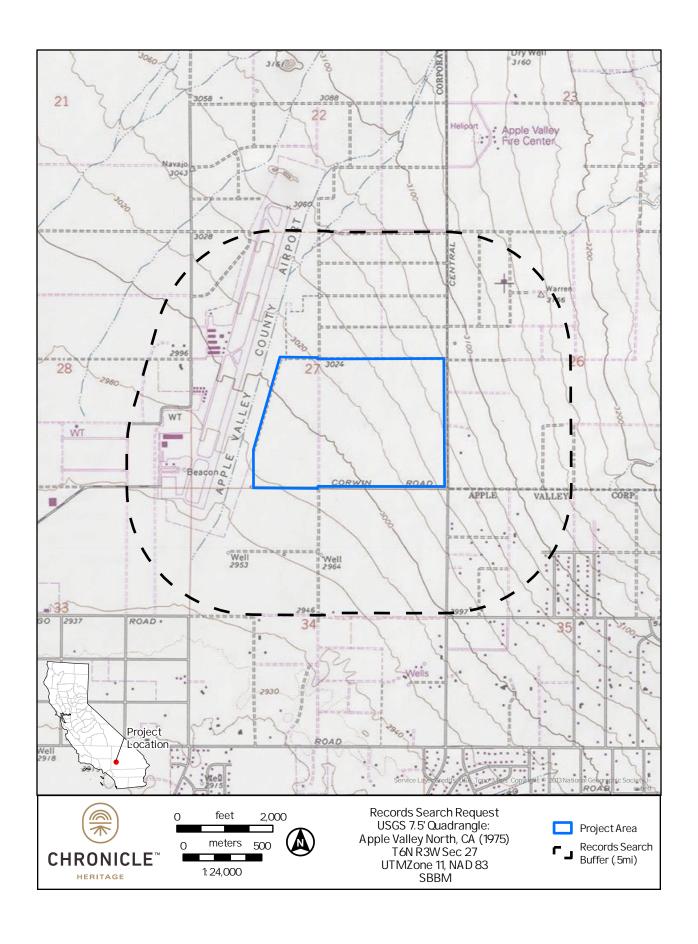
This letter *does not* constitute government-to-government consultation pursuant to Assembly Bill 52. If you would like to share any information pertaining to the proposed Project, please contact me at 909-362-3706 or lporras@chronicleheritage.com.

Sincerely,

Lindsay A. Porras, M.A., RPA

Listal Pina

Redlands Associate Archaeologist



From: Robert Robinson
To: Lindsay Porras

Subject: Apple Valley Logistics Center/Warehouses, Concerns, Prehistoric Cultural Resources

Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 12:56:05 PM

You don't often get email from bbutterbredt@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

External sender - Think before you click

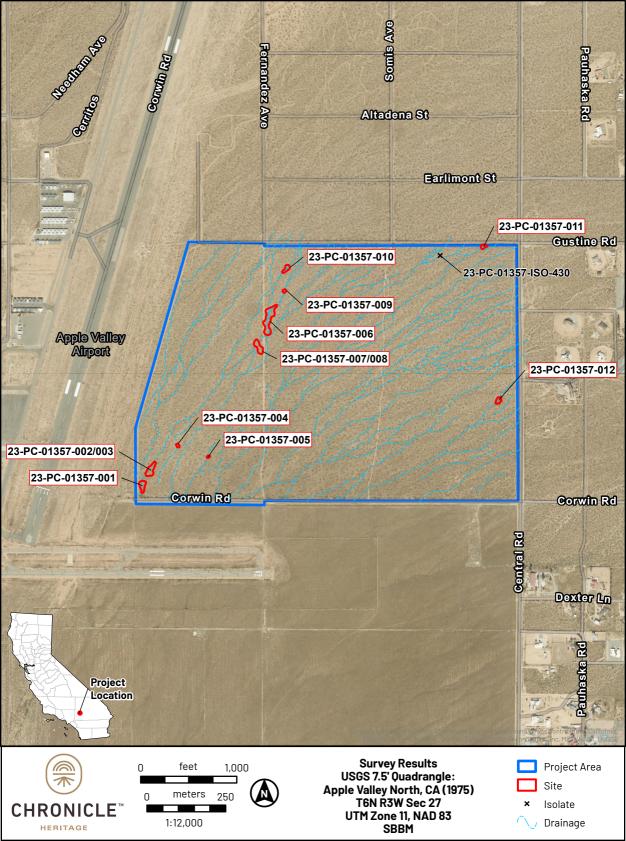
Ms. Porras,

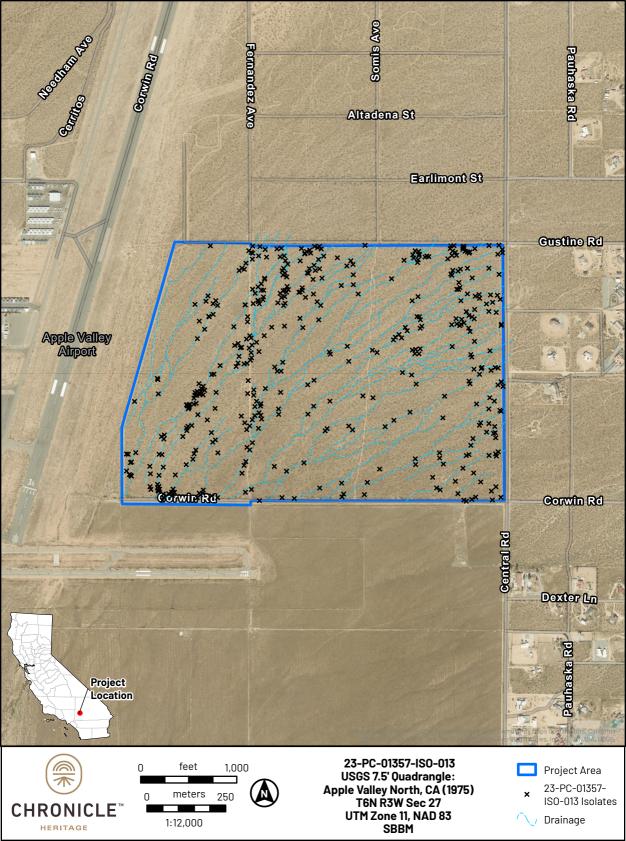
Kern Valley Indian Community (KVIC) is addressing concerns regarding identification, protection and preservation of prehistoric cultural resources inadvertently discovered during ground disturbing activities associated with the development of this project. KVIC requests culturally affiliated native american monitors be present for all ground disturbing activities associated with this project. KVIC has qualified culturally affiliated native american monitors available to monitor this project. We also request any cultural resources that are required to be collected be reinterned onto the property in a place safe from further disturbance.

Robert Robinson

KVIC Chairman, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Appendix C. Map of Cultural Resources





Appendix D. DPR 523 Forms (Redacted)



For General Inquiries:

T: (886) 563-2536 T: (602) 254-6280 info@chronicleheritage.com

