CULTURAL RESOURCES STUDY FOR THE HIGH DESERT GAS STATION PROJECT

YUCCA GROVE, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

APN 0570-061-26

Lead Agency:

County of San Bernardino
385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, California 92415

Preparer:

BFSA Environmental Services,
a Perennial Company
14010 Poway Road, Suite A
Poway, California 92064

Project Proponent:

Lilburn Corporation
1905 Business Center Drive
San Bernardino, California 92408

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BFSA Environmental Services
A Perennial Company

Archaeological Database Information

Authors:	Kathleen Krogh, B.A., and Andrew J. Garrison, M.A., RPA
Consulting Firm:	BFSA Environmental Services, a Perennial Company 14010 Poway Road, Suite A Poway, California 92064 (858) 484-0915
Client/Project Proponent:	Lilburn Corporation 1905 Business Center Drive San Bernardino, California 92408
Lead Agency:	County of San Bernardino 385 North Arrowhead Avenue San Bernardino, California 92408
Report Date:	July 24, 2024
Report Title:	Cultural Resources Study for the High Desert Gas Station Project, Yucca Grove, San Bernardino County, California
Type of Study:	Phase I Cultural Resources Study
USGS Quadrangle:	Sections 10 and 11, Township 15 North, Range 11 East of the *Solomons Knob, California* (7.5-minute) USGS Quadrangle
Acreage:	8.2 acres
Key Words:	Survey; *Solomons Knob, California* USGS Quadrangle; 1961gas and service station (Temp-1) evaluated not eligible for the CRHR; no archaeological resources identified; no further archaeological study or monitoring recommended.

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT

At the direction of Lilburn Corporation, a cultural resources study was conducted by BFSA Environmental Services, a Perennial Company (BFSA), for the proposed High Desert Gas Station Project. The proposed project consists of the development of a gas station and convenience store within the subject property. The 8.2-acre project (Assessor's Parcel Number [APN] 0570-061-26) is located southeast of the intersection of Halloran Summit Road and Interstate 15 in the community of Yucca Grove in unincorporated San Bernardino County, California (Figure 1.1–1). The project is situated within Sections 10 and 11, Township 15 North, Range 11 East on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Solomons Knob, California* (7.5-minute) Quadrangle.

The purpose of this investigation was to locate and record any cultural resources within the project and subsequently evaluate any resources as part of the County of San Bernardino environmental review process conducted in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The archaeological investigation of the project includes an archaeological records search conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton (CSU Fullerton) in order to assess previous archaeological studies and identify any previously recorded archaeological sites within the project or in the immediate vicinity. The records search identified 13 previously recorded resources recorded within a one-mile radius of the project. Of the previously recorded resources, one (Site P2271-2H) intersects the subject property. Site P2271-2H consists of the 1930s Yucca Grove townsite and ore processing center for the Telegraph Mine. One previous study which included a portion of the subject property (Billat 2002) did not identify any remnants of Site P2271-2H within the project area. A review of historic aerial photographs did not show any remnants of the townsite within or adjacent to the proposed project. The Sacred Lands File (SLF) search requested from the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for the project was returned with negative results.

Ground visibility during the survey was characterized as moderate to good. No remnants of Site P2271-2H within the current project area were identified during the survey. Furthermore, no archaeological sites or artifacts were identified during the survey of the subject property. Remnants of the existing gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, an ancillary storage structure, and a residence, all constructed in 1961, were identified within the property. Collectively, these structures were recorded in the field as Site Temp-1 and evaluated as ineligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR).

As Site Temp-1 within the project is evaluated as not CRHR-eligible, potential project-related impacts to the remnants of the resource within the property are not considered significant. Therefore, no site-specific mitigation measures are recommended. In addition, the current study did not identify any archaeological resources and, based on the records search results, sites, including prehistoric resources, within a one-mile radius of the project area are concentrated north of Interstate 15 and are not within the vicinity of the subject property. Further, neither the previously conducted archaeological survey (Billat 2002) nor the BFSA survey identified any archaeological resources within the property. As such, the potential for previously unidentified

archaeological resources or deposits is very low and no further archaeological study or monitoring is recommended. A copy of this report will be permanently filed with the SCCIC at CSU Fullerton. All notes, photographs, and other materials related to this project will be curated at the archaeological laboratory of BFSA in Poway, California.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The archaeological survey program for the High Desert Gas Station Project was conducted in order to comply with CEQA and County of San Bernardino environmental requirements. The 8.2-acre proposed project (APN 0570-061-26) is located southeast of the intersection of Halloran Summit Road and Interstate 15 in the region of Yucca Grove in unincorporated San Bernardino County, California (Figure 1.1–1). The project is situated within Sections 10 and 11, Township 15 North, Range 11 East on the USGS *Solomons Knob, California* (7.5-minute) Quadrangle (Figure 1.1–2). The proposed project consists of the development of a gas station and convenience store within the subject property (Figure 1.1–3).

The decision to request this investigation was based upon the cultural resource sensitivity of the locality as suggested by known site density and predictive modeling. Sensitivity for cultural resources in a given area is usually indicated by known settlement patterns which, in northeastern San Bernardino County, were focused around freshwater resources and a food supply.

1.2 Environmental Setting

The project is located south of the Shadow Mountains and west of Clark Mountain in the northern area of the Mojave Desert. The eastern Clark Mountains reach an elevation of 7,929 feet (Jessey et al. 1990). The project resides at the northern boundary of the Mojave National Preserve and the adjacent Halloran Summit Road constitutes one of the northern entrances into the preserve. The path of the intermittent Halloran Wash lies to the west of the project and the Kingston Wash lies to the east. Lake Mohave and the Colorado River in Nevada are approximately 64 miles from the project area. Geologically, the property is situated on an intermediate alluvial fan deposit composed of grus from the late to middle Pleistocene (Qiag) (Miller 2012). The specific soil types found within the property are mapped as Randsburg-Gravesumit association, 2 to 15 percent slopes (307) (NRCS 2023).

The subject property is relatively flat with elevations ranging between approximately 4,116 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) to approximately 4,138 feet AMSL. The project is characterized primarily as vacant desert terrain with vegetation consisting of Mojave and Creosote Bush scrub community plants including creosote bushes, yucca, and Joshua Trees. In the Mojave Desert, ephemeral springs and seeps are critical natural water resources for desert wildlife that includes several species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects (National Park Service 2015). Favorable conditions in these high desert landscapes allow certain annual plants to flower seasonally such as the globemallow, bladderpod, desert aster, Prince's Plume, Woolly-Desert-marigold, and tufted evening primrose (Jessey et al. 1990; National Park Service 2015).

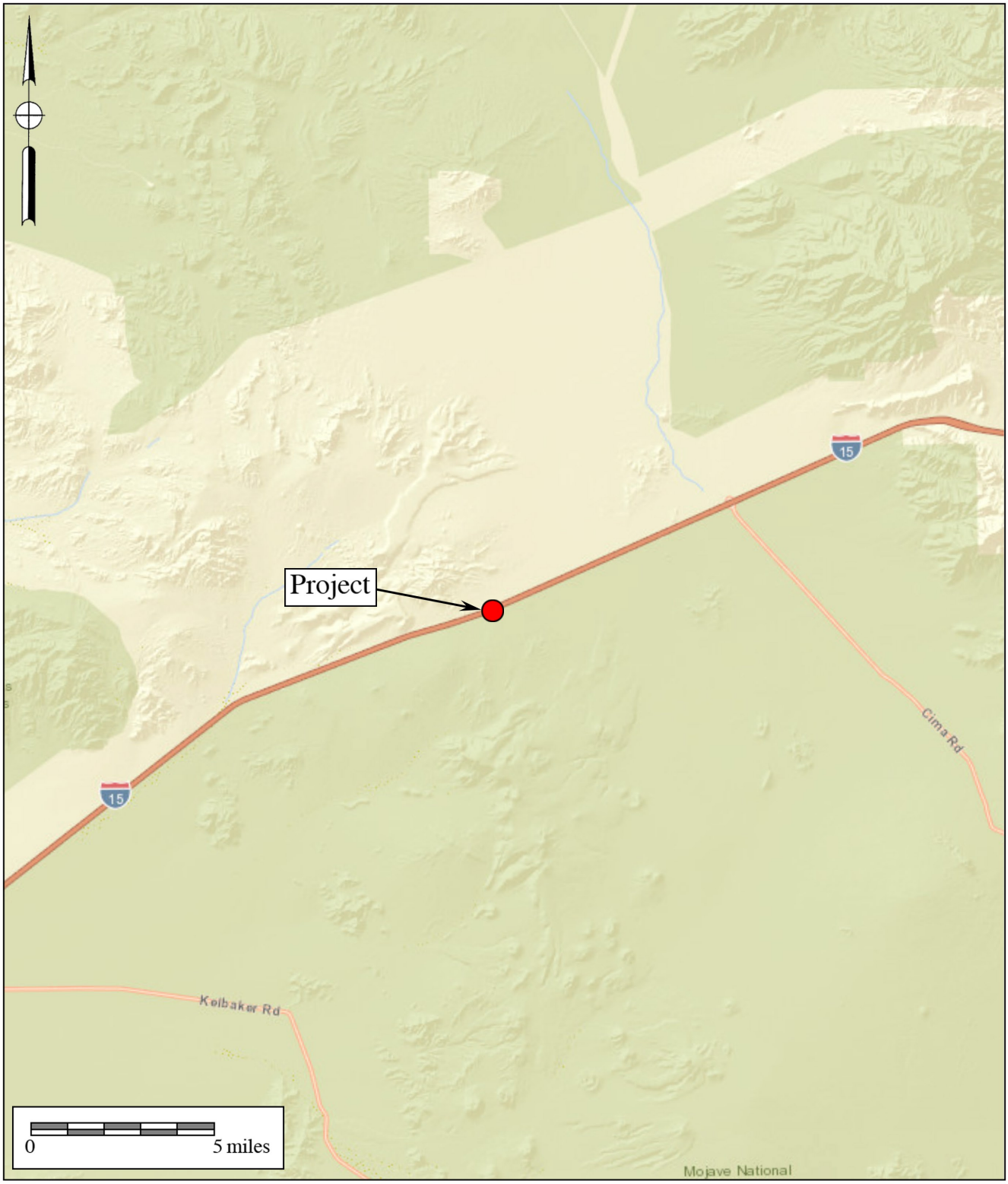

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Figure 1.1–1
General Location Map
The High Desert Gas Station Project
ESRI Streets Map

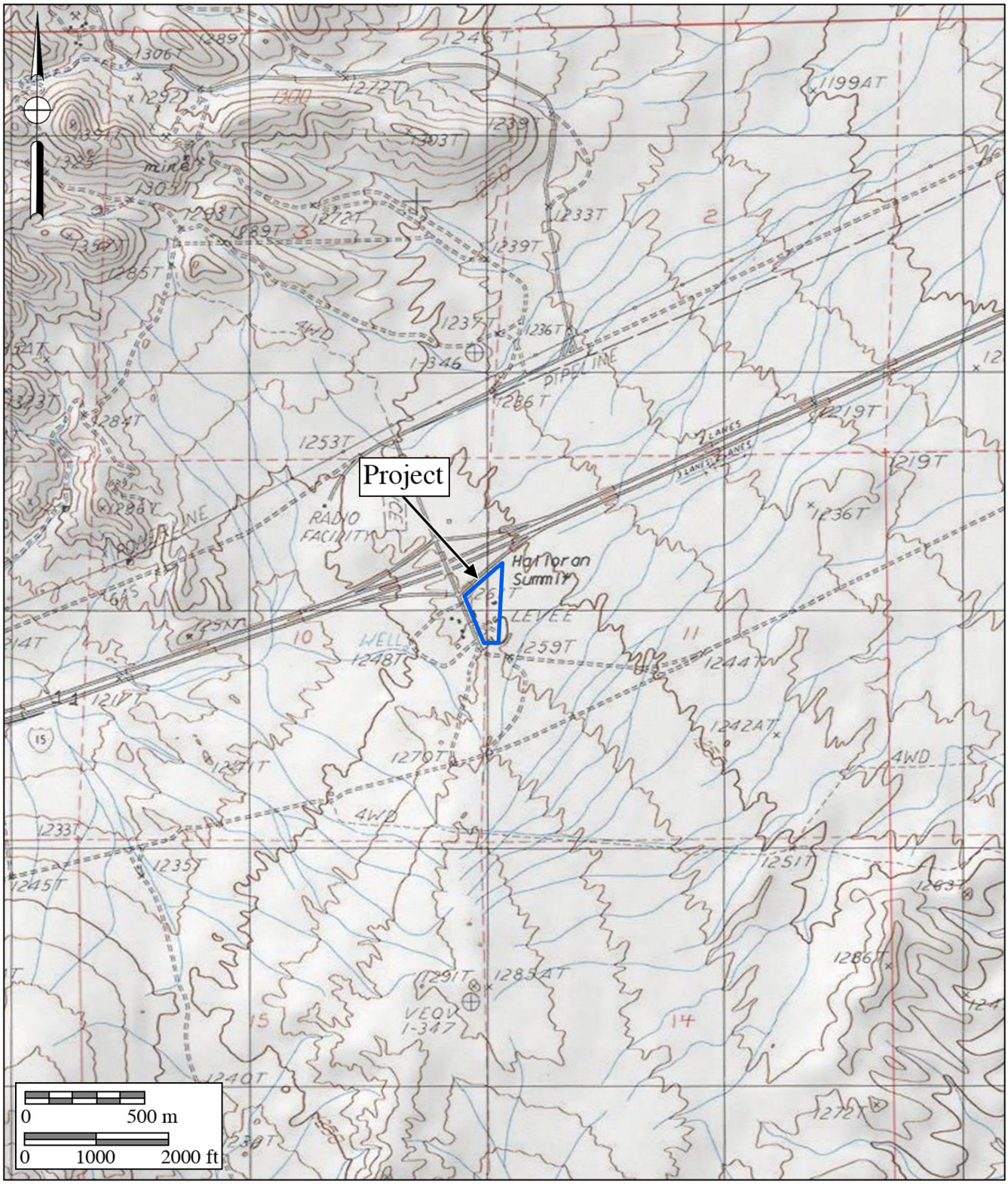

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Figure 1.1–2

Project Location Map

The High Desert Gas Station Project

USGS *Solomons Knob* Quadrangle (7.5-minute series)

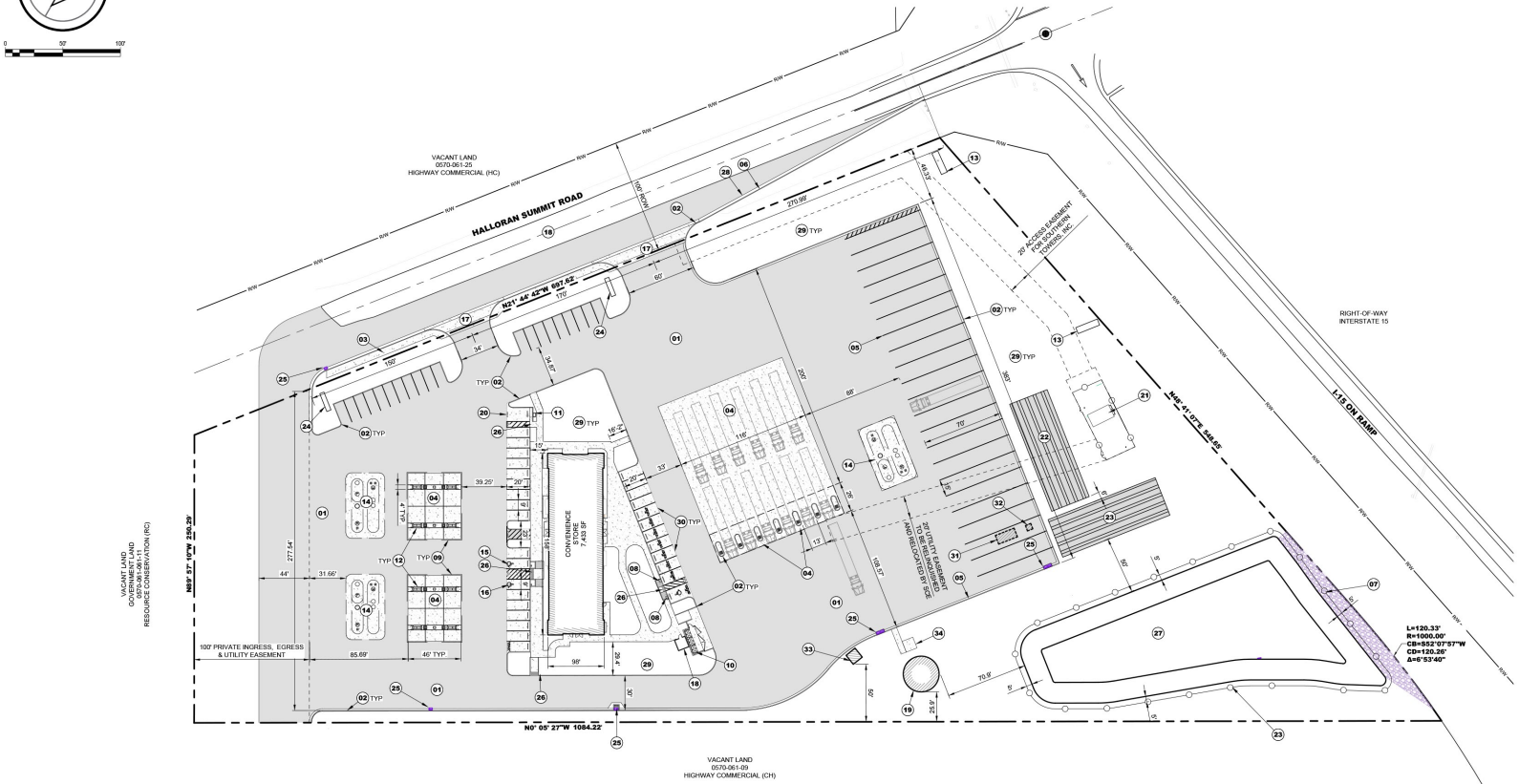

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Figure 1.1–3
Site Plan
The High Desert Gas Station Project

1.3 Cultural Setting

1.3.1 Prehistoric Period

The subject property resides in the traditional territory of the Southern Paiute, more specifically, the territory of the Las Vegas sub-group. The Southern Paiute tribes are a part of the Southern Numic branch of the Uto-Aztecan linguistic family. Although the Mojave Desert is an area believed to have had limited prehistoric subsistence resources, it has historically supported a long and occasionally dense population. Evidence of villages and camps, burials, quarries, rock features, and bedrock mortars has been documented at archaeological sites across the desert, some of which contain evidence of a lengthy prehistoric time span. Although early archaeological remains are not frequently found, when they are found they are generally located along the margins of former pluvial lakes or in areas of dune deflation. In contrast, artifacts on the desert floor may be sparse, widely scattered, and mixed with the desert pavements. For the region, archaeologists have reached a broad consensus regarding the general cultural chronology. The identified sequence includes the Paleo Indian Period, the Lake Mojave Period, the Pinto Period, the Gypsum Period, the Saratoga Springs Period, and the Ethnohistoric Period.

Paleo Indian Period (12,000 to circa 10,000 YBP)

Archaeologically, the Paleo Indian Period is associated with the terminus of the late Pleistocene (12,000 to 10,000 years before the present [YBP]). The environment during the late Pleistocene was cool and moist, which allowed for glaciation in the mountains and the formation of deep, pluvial lakes in the deserts and basin lands (Moratto 1984). However, by the terminus of the late Pleistocene, the climate became warmer, which caused the glaciers to melt, sea levels to rise, greater coastal erosion, large lakes to recede and evaporate, extinction of Pleistocene megafauna, and major vegetation changes (Moratto 1984; Martin 1967, 1973; Fagan 1991). The coastal shoreline at 10,000 YBP, depending upon the particular area of the coast, was near the 30-meter isobath, or two to six kilometers further west than its present location (Masters 1983).

Paleo Indians were likely attracted to multiple habitat types, including mountains, marshlands, estuaries, and lakeshores. These people likely subsisted using a more generalized hunting, gathering, and collecting adaptation utilizing a variety of resources including birds, mollusks, and both large and small mammals (Erlandson and Colten 1991; Moratto 1984; Moss and Erlandson 1995).

Lake Mojave Period (Late Pleistocene: 10,000 to 7,000 YBP)

The earliest documented evidence of human occupation in the Mojave Desert and surrounding areas comes from the Paleo Indian Period, a cultural expression referred to as the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (WPLT). The WPLT occurred in the western Great Basin and covered an area that stretched from the now arid lands of southern California to Oregon. A cultural adaptation to pluvial conditions (e.g., lakes, marshes, and grasslands) flourished for thousands of years after approximately 9000 B.C., but disappeared in response to the warming and drying trends of the Altithermal climatic period (Moratto 1984). One of the most well known expressions of the

WPLT is the Lake Mojave Complex, which is thought to have covered a vast area including parts of the southwestern Great Basin and the Mojave Desert, and may have reached as far south as the San Diego area. Artifacts indicative of the Lake Mojave Complex include foliated points and knives, Lake Mojave points, Silver Lake points, and flaked-stone crescents. Similar artifacts have been subsequently recorded along the shoreline of many other pluvial lakes in the Mojave Desert. Archaeological studies by Mark Sutton (1988) suggested that, at the time of the Lake Mojave Complex, much of Antelope and Fremont valleys may have been covered by Pleistocene Lake Thompson. In her 1978 work, Davis (1978) argues that the wetlands generated as a result of such Pleistocene lakes would have been a great attraction to the region's early occupants. This would result in an adaptive strategy that was more generalized, focusing on hunting and the overall exploitation of wetland resources. In general, it is clear that cultures across California adapted to wetland environments generated by pluvial lake ecological systems (Moratto 1984).

Pinto Period (7,000 to 4,000 YBP)

The Pinto Period dates to the end of the Pleistocene, when the severe and dramatic environmental change from pluvial to arid conditions began (Moratto 1984). Pinto Period sites are found mostly near ephemeral lakes and now dry streams and springs, suggesting that as the region began to dry, new subsistence adaptations were necessary. Projectile points associated with the Pinto Period are characterized as larger atlatl dart points, as opposed to arrowhead points, which were introduced later. This period has been described as a highly mobile desert economy, with an emphasis on hunting, supplemented by the use of processed seeds (Moratto 1984). However, the collections believed to represent the Pinto Period are largely lacking in well-developed milling technologies according to Moratto (1984). Pinto Period artifacts have been interpreted as indications of temporary or seasonal occupations by small groups of people. Sites of this period are generally small in scale and are typically absent of a developed midden. More recent studies (Sutton et al. 2007) suggest that the Pinto Period may have actually started in the early Holocene, overlapping the Lake Mojave Period. A series of radiocarbon dates from Little Lake, Pinto Basin, Twentynine Palms, and Fort Irwin suggests Pinto sites with antiquity of upwards of 9,000 years (Sutton et al. 2007), indicating these sites may be of greater antiquity than previously suggested.

Gypsum Period (4,000 to 1,500 YBP)

The presence of Humboldt Concave Base, Gypsum Cave, Elko Eared, or Elko corner-notched points are believed to be indicative of the Gypsum Period (radiocarbon dated from 4,000 to 1,500 YBP). The Gypsum Period reflects a more intensive desert occupation as temperatures began to regulate during the First Neoglacial episode at the beginning of the late Holocene (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). During this time, indications of trade with coastal populations are evidenced by the presence of shell beads in the archaeological record. An increase in milling stones and manos has been found in association with this period, which indicates an increased use of hard seeds (Moratto 1984; Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). In comparison to sites from the

preceding periods, Gypsum Period sites are generally smaller, higher in frequency, and distributed across a range of environments. Further, Gypsum Period sites also display evidence of exploitation of artiodactyls, rabbits, and rodents, as well as a wide range of seeds. Adaptations resulting from better adapted technologies combined with what was likely more complex social organization likely facilitated the ease of adaptation to the warming and drying conditions that initiated circa 2,000 years ago. The continued use of the region during the Gypsum Period indicates an overall more successful adaptation to the warm and dry conditions during this period (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007).

Several scholars associate this period with the division of the Uto-Aztecan language, approximately 3,000 to 2,500 years ago (Moratto 1984; Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). The major language groups that emerged from this division are Numic, spoken by the Kawaiisu and Paiute; Takic, spoken by the Kitanemuk, Serrano, Gabrielino, and other southern California Shoshonean speakers; Hopic, spoken in the southwest; and Tubatulabalic, spoken by the Tubatulabal in the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. A shift in settlement patterns toward a more sedentary lifestyle occurred during this period, characterized by the emergence of large permanent or semi-permanent village sites and associated cemeteries.

Saratoga Springs Period (1,500 to 800 YBP)

The Saratoga Springs Period is characterized by a transition from larger dart points to smaller arrow points. The presence of arrow points suggest that the bow and arrow were introduced to the Mojave Desert during the Saratoga Springs Period. This, combined with evidence from rock art motifs, leads scholars to argue for a shift from atlatls to use of the bow and arrow either during the end of the Gypsum Period or the beginning of the Saratoga Springs Period. This technological advancement likely improved overall hunting efficiency and possibly the carrying capacity for local population (Warren 1984). This in turn may have resulted in a significant increase in population as suggested by archaeological data. During this period, the development of large village sites with cemeteries and well-developed middens indicates long-term occupations in comparison to previous periods. This period saw an increase in trade with Arizona and other areas of the southwest. Evidence in the archaeological record shows that Brown and Buff wares (pottery styles), characteristic of Arizona, made their way to the California desert by 900 A.D. It is also believed that the Anasazi mined turquoise in the eastern California desert about this time. In 1929, Malcolm Rogers documented several open pit prehistoric turquoise mines and associated tools within the Halloran Springs District (Leonard and Drover 1980). Several factors suggest that prehistoric turquoise mining within Halloran Springs was performed by non-local populations including the presence of Southwestern ceramics such as Lino Gray and Pyramid Gray, the absence of Mohave ceramics, and the lack of turquoise products and lapping tools throughout the mining district and within prehistoric California sites (Leonard and Drover 1980). During the second half of the Saratoga Springs Period, the rise in temperatures and return to xeric conditions around A.D. 700 likely led to population decline and eventually the terminus of the Saratoga Springs complex circa A.D. 1100 (Sutton et al. 2007).

Ethnohistoric Period (800 YPB to the Time of European Contact)

During the Ethnographic Period, the Southern Paiute occupied the project area. The territory of the Southern Paiute was covered by 16 groups focused primarily along the northern and western sides of the Colorado River that included areas in southern Utah, southern Nevada, northern Arizona, and eastern California. The project area is included in the territory of the Southern Paiute's Las Vegas group. Kelly and Fowler (1986) explain that while there was no tribal organization, each Southern Paiute group had their own definite territory that was economically self-sufficient. The Las Vegas group occupied the region along the California and Nevada border and were noted to have traveled great distances and have amicable relations with the Shoshone, Kawaiisu, Serrano, Vanyume, Cahuilla, and Kumeyaay. The Chemehuevi to the south of the Las Vegas group is considered a closely related group to the Southern Paiute and at some point separated from the Las Vegas people to develop a distinct identity. While initial Spanish presence in Southern California did not directly impact the Chemehuevi and Southern Paiute, by the early nineteenth century, the Southern Paiute began to be more directly impacted by slave trade within the Spanish colonies in New Mexico and southern California and were noted to be absent from certain areas in the 1840s and 1850s to possibly avoid slave raids. Furthermore, as more settlers moved into the region, Southern Paiutes were displaced from their lands by burgeoning settlements in areas such as southern Utah (Kelly and Fowler 1986).

The territory of the Southern Paiute includes the landscapes of the Mojave Desert, the canyons in the Basin and Range, and the western and southwestern Colorado Plateaus. These landscapes vary in vegetation and indicate differences in local resources depending on the region. The Southern Paiute were primarily hunters and gatherers, but a few decades prior to European occupation began implementing agricultural practices (Kelly and Fowler 1986). Most winter dwellings were conical and included a smoke hole and east-facing doorway. The majority of the protein consumed consisted of small game and included rabbits, birds, gophers, mice, squirrels, and sometimes certain reptiles. In the Mojave Desert, tortoise and chuckwalla were consumed as well. Larger game included deer, antelope (if available), and mountain sheep. In general, manufactured goods included baskets, basketry cradles, rope, netting, pottery, awls, bows, arrows, arrow straighteners, quivers, sandals, clay figurines, and objects for hand games. 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 (Kelly and Fowler 1986).

1.3.2 Historic Period

Traditionally, the history of the state of California has been divided into three general periods: the Spanish Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican Period (1822 to 1846), and the American Period (1848 to present) (Caughey 1970). The American Period is often further subdivided into additional phases: the nineteenth century (1848 to 1900), the early twentieth century (1900 to 1950), and the Modern Period (1950 to present). From an archaeological standpoint, all of these phases can be referred to together as the Ethnohistoric Period. This provides a valuable tool for archaeologists, as ethnohistory is directly concerned with the study of indigenous or non-Western

peoples from a combined historical/anthropological viewpoint, which employs written documents, oral narrative, material culture, and ethnographic data for analysis.

European exploration along the California coast began in 1542 with the landing of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo and his men at San Diego Bay. Sixty years after the Cabrillo expeditions, an expedition under Sebastián Vizcaíno made an extensive and thorough exploration of the Pacific coast. Although the voyage did not extend beyond the northern limits of the Cabrillo track, Vizcaíno had the most lasting effect upon the nomenclature of the coast. Many of his place names have survived, whereas practically every one of the names created by Cabrillo have faded from use. For instance, Cabrillo named the first (now) United States port he stopped at "San Miguel"; 60 years later, Vizcaíno changed it to "San Diego" (Rolle 1969). The early European voyages observed Native Americans living in villages along the coast but did not make any substantial, long-lasting impact. At the time of contact, the Luiseño population was estimated to have ranged from 4,000 to as many as 10,000 individuals (Bean and Shipek 1978; Kroeber 1976).

The historic background of the project area began with the Spanish colonization of Alta California. The first Spanish colonizing expedition reached southern California in 1769 with the intention of converting and civilizing the indigenous populations, as well as expanding the knowledge of and access to new resources in the region (Brigandi 1998). As a result, by the late eighteenth century, a large portion of southern California was overseen by Mission San Luis Rey (San Diego County), Mission San Juan Capistrano (Orange County), and Mission San Gabriel (Los Angeles County), which began colonizing the region and surrounding areas (Chapman 1921).

Native Californians may have first coalesced with Europeans around 1769 when the first Spanish mission was established in San Diego. In 1771, Father Francisco Garcés first searched the Californian desert for potential mission sites. Interactions between local tribes and Franciscan priests occurred by 1774 when Juan Bautista de Anza made an exploration of Alta California. Southern Paiute contact with the Europeans was first documented by Father Francisco Garcés in 1776, but it was not until the late 1700s that the Spanish directly influenced the culture. Spanish colonies in southern California and northern New Mexico had institutionalized slavery and archival research suggests that Southern Paiutes were slaves in and around Santa Fe by the late 1700s (Kelly and Fowler 1986). This is further corroborated by baptismal records from Spanish settlements on the upper Rio Grande specifically identifying Paiutes by 1810 (Kelly and Fowler 1986). The slave trade in the region affected agricultural expansion amongst the Southern Paiutes and their ability to access the extent of their territory (Kelly and Fowler 1986). The Spanish also established asistencias in San Bernardino, Pala, and Santa Ysabel affecting nearby Native American groups as well. Between the founding of the asistencia and secularization in 1834, most of the Serranos in the San Bernardino Mountains were removed to the nearby missions (Beattie and Beattie 1951:366) while the Cahuilla maintained a high level of autonomy from Spain (Bean 1978).

Each mission gained power through the support of a large, subjugated Native American workforce. As the missions grew, livestock holdings increased and became increasingly vulnerable to theft. To protect their interests, the southern California missions began to expand

inland to try and provide additional security (Beattie and Beattie 1951; Caughey 1970). In order to meet their needs, the Spaniards embarked upon a formal expedition in 1806 to find potential locations within what is now the San Bernardino Valley. As a result, by 1810, Father Francisco Dumetz of Mission San Gabriel had succeeded in establishing a religious site, or capilla, at a Cahuilla rancheria called Guachama (Beattie and Beattie 1951). San Bernardino Valley received its name from this site, which was dedicated to San Bernardino de Siena by Father Dumetz. The Guachama rancheria was located in present-day Bryn Mawr in San Bernardino County.

These early colonization efforts were followed by the establishment of estancias at Puente (circa 1816) and San Bernardino (circa 1819) near Guachama (Beattie and Beattie 1951). These efforts were soon mirrored by the Spaniards from Mission San Luis Rey who, in turn, established a presence in what is now Lake Elsinore, Temecula, and Murrieta (Chapman 1921). The indigenous groups who occupied these lands were recruited by missionaries, converted, and put to work in the missions (Pourade 1961). Throughout this period, the Native American populations were decimated by introduced diseases, a drastic shift in diet resulting in poor nutrition, and social conflicts due to the introduction of an entirely new social order (Cook 1976).

Mexico achieved independence from Spain in 1822 and became a federal republic in 1824. As a result, both Baja and Alta California became classified as territories (Rolle 1969). Shortly thereafter, the Mexican Republic sought to grant large tracts of private land to its citizens to begin to encourage immigration to California and to establish its presence in the region. Part of the establishment of power and control included the desecularization of the missions circa 1832. These same missions were also located on some of the most fertile land in California and, as a result, were considered highly valuable. The resulting land grants, known as "ranchos," covered expansive portions of California and, by 1846, more than 600 land grants had been issued by the Mexican government. Rancho Jurupa was the first rancho to be established and was issued to Juan Bandini in 1838. Although Bandini primarily resided in San Diego, Rancho Jurupa was located in what is now Riverside County (Pourade 1963). A review of Riverside County place names quickly illustrates that many of the ranchos in Riverside County lent their names to present-day locations, including Jurupa, El Rincon, La Sierra, El Sobrante de San Jacinto, La Laguna (Lake Elsinore), Santa Rosa, Temecula, Pauba, San Jacinto Nuevo y Potrero, and San Jacinto Viejo (Gunther 1984). As was typical of many ranchos, these were all located in the valley environments within western Riverside County.

The treatment of Native Americans grew worse during the Rancho Period. Most of the Native Americans were forced off their land or put to work on the now privately-owned ranchos, most often as slave labor. Considering the brutality of the ranchos, the degree to which Native Americans had become dependent upon the mission system is evident when, in 1838, a group of Native Americans from Mission San Luis Rey petitioned government officials in San Diego to relieve suffering at the hands of the rancheros:

> We have suffered incalculable losses, for some of which we are in part to be blamed for because many of us have abandoned the Mission … We plead and beseech you

> … to grant us a Rev. Father for this place. We have been accustomed to the Rev. Fathers and to their manner of managing the duties. We labored under their intelligent directions, and we were obedient to the Fathers according to the regulations, because we considered it as good for us. (Brigandi 1998:21)

Native American culture had been disrupted to the point where they could no longer rely upon prehistoric subsistence and social patterns. Not only does this illustrate how dependent the Native Americans had become upon the missionaries, but it also indicates a marked contrast in the way the Spanish treated the Native Americans as compared to the Mexican and United States ranchers. Spanish colonialism (missions) is based upon utilizing human resources while integrating them into their society. The ranchers, both Mexican and American, did not accept Native Americans into their social order and used them specifically for the extraction of labor, resources, and profit. Rather than being incorporated, they were either subjugated or exterminated (Cook 1976).

In 1846, war erupted between Mexico and the United States. In 1848, with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the region was annexed as a territory of the United States and, in 1850, California became a state. These events generated a steady flow of settlers into the area, including gold miners, entrepreneurs, health-seekers, speculators, politicians, adventurers, seekers of religious freedom, and individuals desiring to create utopian colonies. As the non-native population increased through immigration, the indigenous population rapidly declined from the high morbidity of European diseases, low birth rates, and conflict and violence. Southern Paiute populations were displaced by Mormon settlements in southern Utah and adjacent territories and, by the 1860s, the Utah and Nevada governments began attempts to relocate Southern Paiutes to reservations (Kelly and Fowler 1986). In California, the dwindling native populations were eventually displaced into reservations after the transition to statehood.

By the late 1880s and early 1890s, there was growing discontent between San Bernardino and Riverside, its neighbor 10 miles to the south, due to differences in opinion concerning religion, morality, the Civil War, and politics, and there was fierce competition to attract settlers. After a series of instances in which charges were claimed about unfair use of tax monies to the benefit of only the city of San Bernardino, several people from Riverside decided to investigate the possibility of a new county. In May 1893, voters living within portions of San Bernardino County (to the north) and San Diego County (to the south) approved the formation of Riverside County. Early business opportunities were linked to the agriculture industry, but commerce, construction, manufacturing, transportation, and tourism also provided a healthy local economy.

A Brief History of the Project Vicinity

The High Desert Gas Station Project vicinity is tied to the history of the Mojave Desert and the city of Baker. Scholars often attribute Father Francisco Garcés as the first known European to travel through Mojave in the late 1770s. However, it has been proposed that Pedro Fages, the first governor of Alta California, actually traversed the Mojave nearly 10 years before Garcés in pursuit

of military deserters (Stickel et al. 1980). Nevertheless, little is actually known about Fages's expedition across the desert, and Garcés, a Jesuit priest, is the first European visitor to have documented visiting the area (Stickel et al. 1980). Garcés acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza in 1774 on an expedition to establish shorter and quicker routes from the Colorado River to the coastal Spanish missions. Garcés further explored the Mojave Desert in 1775 on his own expedition under the orders of Anza to better acquaint himself with the Mojave Desert (Stickel et al. 1980). Garcés traveled from present-day Needles through the Mojave with Native Americans from the Colorado River regions as his guides, eventually reaching Mission San Gabriel in March of 1776 (Stickel et al. 1980). Garcés documented the first European contact with the Southern Paiutes in 1776 (Kelley and Fowler 1986).

Jedediah Strong Smith, a trapper, was selected to investigate trapping possibilities west of the Mississippi. In 1826, he crossed the Colorado River into California. He is believed to have been the "first white man to travel from the Mississippi to the Pacific on a transcontinental route" (Stickel et al. 1980). Smith's route extended through present-day Needles and the Cajon Pass. He followed already established portions of old Indian trading routes, later known as the Mojave River Trail, which is recorded with the SCCIC as SBR-330/H. The path Smith traveled became known as the Old Spanish Trail. Smith was killed on the trail in 1831 (Stickel et al. 1980).

The Old Spanish Trail split where the Mojave River forks in the Mojave Desert. The southern fork followed the route established by Smith and extended to Santa Fe, New Mexico, while the northern fork extended to Salt Lake City, Utah (Stickel et al. 1980). Although both forks of the trail were initially known as the Old Spanish Trail, the northern route later became known as the Mormon Road because of its use by Mormon converts and freighting companies traveling to and from Salt Lake City in the middle of the nineteenth century (Warren and Roske 1981). In addition, the northern portion of the trail was used by John C. Fremont and Kit Carson on an expedition to explore the west; during this expedition, Fremont named the Mojave River the "Mohahave River" (Stickel et al. 1980).

In the early 1860s, as gold mining in the Sierra Nevada mountains began to decline, many miners looked to the Mojave Desert. The Halloran Hills, Shadow Mountains, and Silurian Hills to the northwest of Yucca Grove constitute regions utilized for mining purposes within the Mojave Desert. In the Silurian Hills, Frank Riggs discovered silver at the Alta Mine shortly after 1875 and shipped ore from Daggett until construction of the California Eastern Railroad allowed him to place shipments from the railhead at Manvel (Vredenburgh 1996). Frank Riggs and his wife Sarah were known for maintaining complete ownership of the mine and, in 1914, Riggs leased the mine to Riggs Mining Company (Vredenburgh 1996). In 1894, within the nearby Shadow Mountains, a small gold rush occurred that created the Shadow Mountain Mining District by the following year (Vredenburgh 1996). However, as noted by the California Mining Bureau, the remoteness of the location, the lack of freshwater resources, and small gold veins inhibited the development of the mining district (Vredenburgh 1996). Similarly, the Halloran Springs region experienced gold mining such as James Hyten's Wanderer Mine established by 1902 and the subsequent Telegraph Mine created in 1930 (Vredenburgh 1996).

In addition to metal ores, Malcolm Rogers in 1929 noted that turquoise was mined in Halloran Springs prehistorically possibly by Southwestern groups (Leonard and Drover 1980). In the late nineteenth century, T.C. Bassett rediscovered turquoise veins in the Halloran Spring area forming the Stone Hammer mine around 1896 (Vredenburgh 1996). Continued discoveries and claims within the area eventually created the Halloran Springs turquoise mining district (Leonard and Drover 1980). Other mining hot spots near Yucca Grove also included the Ivanpah mining district in the eastern Clark Mountain region such as the Colosseum Mine, the Copper World Mine, and the Mohawk Mine (Jessey et al. 1990). The 1956 topographic map highlights the many mines that were established throughout the Mojave Desert region.

However, it was the discovery of silver in Calico and calcium borate in Death Valley that made the region a mining center and led to the construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad from Mojave to Daggett in 1882. The rich silver deposits gave birth to Calico Mines, Waterman Mines, and Daggett Mills (Kyle 1990). Likewise, the discovery of calcium borate spurned the beginning of the region's borax industry. In 1872, Francis M. "Borax" Smith established a borax mine in Teel's Marsh, Nevada, and created the Pacific Coast Borax Company (U.S. Borax Inc. 2024). Similarly, William T. Coleman established a borax mine in 1881 founding Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley. The increasing demand for borax led Coleman's superintendent J.W.S. Perry and muleskinner Ed Stiles to develop the now-famous 20-mule teams to haul borax from Death Valley to the closest Mojave railroad junction (U.S. Borax Inc. 2024). Ten teams were hitched together with two wagons and a water wagon to transport the ore, running from 1884 until 1889 when borax mines were discovered more locally in Barstow (California State Parks 2024). Harmony Borax Mining Company was eventually acquired by the Pacific Coast Borax Company and, in 1899, company president Francis Smith and Richard C. Baker joined to create Borax Consolidated Ltd. in order to expand the mining operations globally (Orr 2023). In response to the difficulty of transporting ore through the desert, Smith began developing the Tonopah and Tidewater (T&T) Railroad that operated between 1905 and 1938 from Ludlow, California, to Goldfield, Nevada (Mulqueen 2024).

The expansion of railways such as the T&T Railroad throughout the Mojave region was a major factor in stimulating the development of desert communities. The community of Baker, located approximately 19 miles west of Yucca Grove, was founded as a rail station in 1908 for the T&T Railroad and was named after Smith's partner Richard C. Baker who became president of the company in 1913 (DesertUSA 2024). The town of Baker was established in 1929 by Ralph Jacobus Fairbanks and is situated at the intersection of Interstate 15 and State Route 127 that runs north to Death Valley National Park (Orr 2023). Today, Baker serves as a northern entry point for the Mojave National Preserve, a 1.6-million-acre park created in 1994, and as a stop for travelers on the road between Los Vegas and Los Angeles (National Park Service 2004; Desert USA 2024).

During the early to mid-twentieth century, the development of national infrastructure for the efficient movement of goods and people transformed travel within the Mojave Desert and the surrounding desert communities such as Baker. In 1924, the American Association of State Highway Officials suggested the Department of Agriculture and state governments develop an

Interstate Highway system that became known as the Unites States (U.S.) Highways (Gribblenation.org 2019). By 1925, plans for various highways throughout the nation were developed including U.S. Highway 91 (US 91) that ran from Great Falls, Montana, to the Mojave Desert. The Arrowhead Trail, a detour of the former Los Angeles-Salt Lake Road, that connected Las Vegas directly to Dagget, was chosen as the pathway for US 91 through California. In 1930, the southern terminus of US 91 was changed from Dagget to Barstow creating the Barstow Overhead. U.S. Route 466 (US 466) joined US 91 between Barstow and the Nevada State Line. Nevertheless, the routes were not legislatively approved as a chargeable Interstate until 1947, and it was the 1956 Federal Highway Aid Act that officially planned US 91/466 as an Interstate. As Interstate 15 expanded from San Diego, California, to the state line, Interstate 15 subsumed US 91 and US 466 and became the prominent highway used for crossing the Mojave Desert (Gribblenation.org 2019). The landscape between Baker and Yucca Grove remains relatively undeveloped but, as aerial photographs demonstrate, small gas stations have been constructed and abandoned in Yucca Grove and Halloran Springs, such as the Hilltop Market within the project area, throughout the past several decades. The San Bernardino County Property Information Management System (PIMS) indicates that the Hilltop Market was constructed in 1961; however, a review of historic newspapers did not identify any information linking the property to significant individuals or events.

1.4 Results of the Archaeological Records Search

1.4.1 SCCIC Records Search

The results of the SCCIC records search (Appendix C) identified 13 resources recorded within a one-mile radius of the subject property (Table 1.3−1). Of the previously recorded resources, three are multicomponent, eight are historic, and two have no associated temporal period. One of the historic sites (P2271-2H) is mapped as intersecting the subject property.

- Site P2271-2H consists of the 1930s Yucca Grove townsite and ore processing center for the nearby Telegraph Mine. As indicated by Dice (2003) and the resource information for P2271-2H, the center of the townsite was the southwestern portion of the Halloran Summit exit and possibly includes the subject property.

The remaining seven historic resources include the 132kV Hoover Dam transmission line, a rock cairn, a historic dirt road, two can isolates, and two trash scatters. All three multicomponent sites include historic trash scatters and prehistoric lithic scatters, with one also including the historic Arrowhead Trail. The other two sites include a possible prehistoric rock cairn and a possible gravesite with no listed temporal period.

Table 1.4–1
Cultural Resources Located Within
One Mile of the High Desert Gas Station Project

Site(s)	Description
SBR-4702	Possible gravesite
SBR-7359	Possible prehistoric rock cairn
SBR-7360/H	Multicomponent site with prehistoric lithic scatter and historic trash scatter
SBR-7689/H	Multicomponent site with historic Arrowhead Trail, historic trash scatter, and prehistoric lithic scatter
SBR-13831/H	Multicomponent site with prehistoric lithic isolates and historic trash scatter
SBR-10315H	132kV Hoover Dam Transmission Line
SBR-9747H	Historic rock cairn
P-36-026727	Historic dirt road
P-36-026735 and P-36-026736	Historic trash scatter
P-36-062866 and P-36-062867	Historic can isolates
P-2271-2H*	Historic 1930s Yucca Grove townsite and ore processing center for the Telegraph Mine

**Mapped intersecting the current project*

The SCCIC records search results also identified 30 previous studies, two of which are mapped by the SCCIC within portions of the subject property (Billat 2002; Dice 2003). The Billat (2002) and Dice (2003) studies consisted of archaeological surveys and records searches for modifications to cellular telecommunications facilities. Although the 2003 Dice study indicates that the archaeological survey was conducted at Halloran Summit Road, within the current property, and is mapped as so by the SCCIC, the archaeological report includes survey photographs from an abandoned gas station on Halloran Springs Road located approximately six miles from the subject property. Therefore, it is not clear if the Dice (2003) survey actually was performed within the subject property. Regardless, neither the Billat (2002) nor Dice (2003) study recorded any resources within the subject property or located any remnants of Site P-2271-2H.

BFSA also reviewed the following sources to help facilitate a better understanding of the historic use of the property:

- The National Register of Historic Places Index
- The Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility

- The OHP Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File
- The 1983 *Solomons Knob, California* and 1956 *Halloran Spring, California* (15-minute) USGS topographic quadrangle maps
- 1953 to 2023 aerial photographs

These sources did not indicate the presence of any archaeological resources within the project. The 1953 aerial photograph depicts the property as vacant. On the northern side of Interstate 15, there appears to be clearing and development that possibly reflect remnants of the Yucca Grove townsite (Site P2271-2H). By 1978, the subject property contains a steel gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, an ancillary storage structure, and a residence. These structures all appear to be associated with the use of the property as a gas and service station and are focused in the northern half of the project parcel. Assessor's information for the property obtained from the County of San Bernardino PIMS indicates the steel gas station and service station structure within the property was constructed in 1961. Further, Billat noted in the 2002 study within the property that research at that time showed a permit was issued for the gas and service station development on July 28, 1961. The San Bernardino PIMS information also lists one residential structure constructed in 1991 within the property. It is unlikely this listing is for the residence visible on the 1978 aerial photograph. However, between 1983 and 1994, one additional ancillary structure, possibly another residence, was added to the eastern portion of the property and was later removed between 2016 and 2020. Between 1994 and 2005, a cellphone tower and associated infrastructure were added to the northern portion of the project. This addition is likely the result of the Billat (2002) study of the subject property. Based on the latest available aerial photograph from 2023 and the June 26, 2024, survey, the property still contains the contains the steel gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, the ancillary storage structure, the residence, and the cellphone tower and associated infrastructure.

1.4.2 Sacred Lands File Search

BFSA also requested a SLF search from the NAHC to search for the presence of any recorded Native American sacred sites or locations of religious or ceremonial importance within the project vicinity. This request is not part of any Assembly Bill 52 Native American consultation. The SLF search was returned with negative results. All correspondence is provided in Appendix D.

1.5 Applicable Regulations

Resource importance is assigned to districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess exceptional value or quality illustrating or interpreting the heritage of San Bernardino County in history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. A number of criteria are used in demonstrating resource importance. Specifically, the criteria outlined in CEQA provide the guidance for making such a determination. The following sections detail the criteria that a resource must meet in order to be determined important.

1.5.1 California Environmental Quality Act

According to CEQA (§ 15064.5a), the term "historical resource" includes the following:

1) A resource listed in or determined to be eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission for listing in the CRHR (Public Resources Code SS5024.1, Title 14 CCR [California Code of Regulations]. Section 4850 et seq.).
2) A resource included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code or identified as significant in an historical resource survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code, shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant. Public agencies must treat any such resource as significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates that it is not historically or culturally significant.
3) Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript, which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California may be considered to be an historical resource, provided the lead agency's determination is supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record. Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the CRHR (Public Resources Code SS5024.1, Title 14, Section 4852) including the following:

    a) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
    b) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
    c) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or
    d) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

4) The fact that a resource is not listed in, or determined eligible for listing in the CRHR, not included in a local register of historical resources (pursuant to Section 5020.1[k] of the Public Resources Code), or identified in an historical resources survey (meeting the criteria in Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code) does not preclude a lead agency from determining that the resource may be an historical resource as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(j) or 5024.1.

According to CEQA (§ 15064.5b), a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. CEQA defines a substantial adverse change as:

1) Substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource means physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired.
2) The significance of an historical resource is materially impaired when a project:

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

Section 15064.5(c) of CEQA applies to effects on archaeological sites and contains the following additional provisions regarding archaeological sites:

1) When a project will impact an archaeological site, a lead agency shall first determine whether the site is an historical resource, as defined in subsection (a).
2) If a lead agency determines that the archaeological site is an historical resource, it shall refer to the provisions of Section 21084.1 of the Public Resources Code, Section 15126.4 of the guidelines, and the limits contained in Section 21083.2 of the Public Resources Code do not apply.
3) If an archaeological site does not meet the criteria defined in subsection (a), but does meet the definition of a unique archaeological resource in Section 21083.2 of the Public Resources Code, the site shall be treated in accordance with the provisions of Section 21083.2. The time and cost limitations described in Public Resources Code Section 21083.2 (c-f) do not apply to surveys and site evaluation activities intended to determine whether the project location contains unique archaeological resources.
4) If an archaeological resource is neither a unique archaeological nor historical resource, the effects of the project on those resources shall not be considered a significant effect on the environment. It shall be sufficient that both the resource and the effect on it are noted in the Initial Study or Environmental Impact Report, if one is prepared to address

impacts on other resources, but they need not be considered further in the CEQA process.

Section 15064.5(d) and (e) contain additional provisions regarding human remains. Regarding Native American human remains, paragraph (d) states:

(d) When an Initial Study identifies the existence of, or the probable likelihood of, Native American human remains within the project, a lead agency shall work with the appropriate Native Americans as identified by the NAHC as provided in Public Resources Code SS5097.98. The applicant may develop an agreement for treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any items associated with Native American burials with the appropriate Native Americans as identified by the NAHC. Action implementing such an agreement is exempt from:

1) The general prohibition on disinterring, disturbing, or removing human remains from any location other than a dedicated cemetery (Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5).
2) The requirements of CEQA and the Coastal Act.

2.0 RESEARCH DESIGN

The primary goal of the research design is to attempt to understand the way in which humans have used the land and resources within the project through time, as well as to aid in the determination of resource significance. For the current project, the study area under investigation is the Mojave Desert region of San Bernardino County. The scope of work for the cultural resources study conducted for the High Desert Gas Station Project included the survey of an 8.2-acre study area. Given the area involved and the presence of nearby archaeological sites, the research design for this project was focused upon realistic study options. Since the main objective of the investigation was to identify the presence of and potential impacts to cultural resources, the goal here is not necessarily to answer wide-reaching theories regarding the development of early southern California, but to investigate the role and importance of identified resources. Nevertheless, the assessment of the significance of a resource must take into consideration a variety of factors, as well as the ability of a resource to address regional research topics and issues.

Although elementary resource evaluation programs are limited in terms of the amount of information available, several specific research questions were developed that could be used to guide the initial investigations of any observed cultural resources. The following research questions consider the small size and location of the project discussed above.

Research Questions:

- Can located cultural resources be associated with a specific time period, population, or individual?
- Do the types of any located cultural resources allow a site activity/function to be determined from a preliminary investigation? What are the site activities? What is the site function? What resources were exploited?
- How do located sites compare to others reported from different surveys conducted in the area?
- How do located sites fit existing models of settlement and subsistence for mountainous environments of the region?

Data Needs

At the survey level, the principal research objective is a generalized investigation of changing settlement patterns in both the prehistoric and historic periods within the study area. The overall goal is to understand settlement and resource procurement patterns of the project occupants. Therefore, adequate information on site function, context, and chronology from an archaeological perspective is essential for the investigation. The fieldwork and archival research were undertaken with the following primary research goals in mind:

1) To identify cultural resources occurring within the project;

2) To determine, if possible, site type and function, context of the resource(s), and chronological placement of each cultural resource identified;
3) To place each cultural resource identified within a regional perspective; and
4) To provide recommendations for the treatment of each cultural resources identified.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF PROJECT EFFECTS

The cultural resources study of the High Desert Gas Station Project consisted of an institutional records search, archival research, an intensive cultural resource survey of the entire 8.2-acre study area, and the preparation of this technical report. This study was conducted in conformance with Section 21083.2 of the California Public Resources Code (PRC) and CEQA. Statutory requirements of CEQA (Section 15064.5) were followed for the identification and evaluation of resources. Specific definitions for archaeological resource type(s) used in this report are those established by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO 1995).

3.1 Survey Methods

The survey methodology employed during the current investigation followed standard archaeological field procedures and was sufficient to accomplish a thorough assessment of the project. The field methodology employed for the project included walking evenly spaced survey transects set approximately five to 10 meters apart while visually inspecting the ground surface. All potentially sensitive areas where cultural resources might be located were closely inspected. Photographs documenting survey areas and overall survey conditions were taken frequently.

3.2 Results of the Field Survey

Staff archaeologist David K. Grabski conducted the archaeological survey for the project on June 26, 2024. The archaeological study included an intensive reconnaissance survey consisting of a series of transects conducted across the project alignment. The project is characterized primarily as vacant desert terrain with vegetation consisting of Mojave and Creosote Bush scrub community plants including creosote bushes, yucca, and Joshua Trees (Plates 3.2–1 and 3.2–2). Within the northern half of the property, the dilapidated and abandoned remnants of the gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, ancillary storage structure, and residence, visible on the 1978 aerial photograph, were located. In addition, the northern half of the property contains the more recent cellular tower and associated infrastructure constructed between 1994 and 2005 along with some remnant footings for the now removed ancillary structure built between 1983 and 1994 (Plates 3.2–3 through 3.2–7). Although the area surrounding the structures has been cleared of vegetation, the ground visibility in this area was limited due to the presence of gravel and hardscape. However, visibility throughouth the property was characterized as moderate to good.

Plate 3.2–1: Overview of the subject property, facing northeast.

Plate 3.2–2: Overview of the subject property, facing southwest.

Plate 3.2–3: Overview of the subject property and former gas and service station, facing south.

Plate 3.2–4: North façade of ancillary storage structure with north and east façade of the former gas and service station building in background, facing south/southwest.

Plate 3.2–5: South façade of the residence, facing north.

Plate 3.2–6: Overview of cell tower area and associated infrastructure, facing northeast.

Plate 3.2–7: Overview of remnant foundation associated with the now demolished residence built between 1983 and 1994, facing south.

No archaeological sites or artifacts were identified during the survey of the subject property. However, the remnants of the gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, ancillary storage structure, and residence all visible on the 1978 aerial photograph and appear to date to 1961, the listed gas station construction date. As such, the buildings and remnants of the gas and service station are older than 50 years and meet the threshold to be evaluated for CRHR eligibility. The buildings were collectively noted in the field as Site Temp-1 (Figure 3.2–1). Further, Site Temp-1 has been recorded on the appropriate Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) forms (Appendix B).

Figure 3.2–1
Cultural Resource Location Map

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

3.2.2 Temp-1

Site Temp-1 consists of the gas and service station building, the ancillary storage structure, the former residence, and associated infrastructures including a neon sign for the Hilltop Mart and a covered fuel pump (see Plates 3.2–3 through 3.2–6 above). Collectively, Site Temp-1 measures approximately 205 by 400 feet (Figure 3.2–2). The gas and service station building measures approximately 35 by 90 feet and primarily consists of a large steel structure with metal tilt-up garage doors along the western façade. The northern façade appears to have originally contained a small convenience store or shop constructed of cinderblocks and exhibiting horizontal ribbons of window openings now devoid of any glass. It appears that the steel structure was constructed as an addition to the smaller cinderblock building which occupies the northwest corner of the building. This addition has impacted the architectural integrity of the gas and service station building. The ancillary storage structure is constructed of cinder block with a low-pitched gabled roof and measures approximately 13 by 22 feet. A flat roof extension protrudes from the northern façade. The residence measures approximately 25 by 85 feet and is a vernacular, rectangular, stucco-clad, low-pitched side-gabled roofed building with aluminum framed windows. The residence has little architectural style displaying elements of both Ranch and Contemporary styles with no definitive character-defining features.

A review of individuals listed as owners of the property from the San Bernardino PIMS and a historic newspaper search of the Hilltop Mart did not identify any information linking the property to significant individuals or events. Further, none of the structures associated with Site Temp-1 embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represent the work of an important creative individual, or possess high artistic values. Finally, vandalism and years of neglect have left all the building in a state of disrepair. As such, Site Temp-1 does not possess integrity and is, therefore, not eligible for the CRHR.

Figure 3.2–2
Site Temp-1 Shown on Current Aerial Photograph

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of the current analysis, the proposed development of the property will not adversely impact any significant cultural resources. According to the records search, the Yucca Grove townsite, Site P2271-2H, is mapped overlapping the subject property. However, this resource was not located within the project boundaries in the archaeological survey and aerial photographs indicate the property was vacant until a gas and service station was constructed in 1961. The remnants of the gas and service station building along with associated infrastructure, an ancillary storage structure, and a residence within the property were collectively noted in the field as Site Temp-1. However, Site Temp-1 is evaluated as not eligible for the CRHR and, therefore, is not considered a Historical Resource under CEQA criteria.

As Site Temp-1 within the project is evaluated as not CRHR-eligible, potential project-related impacts to the remnants of the resource within the property are not considered significant. Therefore, no site-specific mitigation measures are recommended. In addition, the current study did not identify any archaeological resources and, based on the records search results, sites including prehistoric resources within a one-mile radius of the project area are concentrated north of Interstate 15 and are not adjacent to the subject property. Further, neither the previously conducted archaeological survey (Billat 2002) nor the BFSA survey identified any archaeological resources within the property. As such, the potential for previously unidentified archaeological resources or deposits is considered low. Since there is little to no potential to encounter any significant cultural sites during the development of this property, archaeological monitoring of grading is not recommended. However, if any archaeological resources are inadvertently discovered, all construction work in the immediate vicinity of the discovery shall stop and a qualified archaeologist shall be consulted to determine if further mitigation measures are warranted. Should human remains be discovered, treatment of these remains shall follow the California Public Resources Code.

5.0 LIST OF PREPARERS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

The archaeological survey program for the High Desert Gas Station Project was directed by Principal Investigator Tracy A. Stropes, M.A., RPA. The archaeological fieldwork was conducted by staff archaeologist David K. Grabski. The report text was prepared by Kathleen Krogh, B.A., and Andrew J. Garrison, M.A., RPA. Graphics were produced by Emily T. Soong, and technical editing and report production was conducted by Shawna M. Krystek. The archaeological records search was requested from the SCCIC at CSU Fullerton.

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APPENDIX A

Qualifications of Key Personnel

Andrew J. Garrison, M.A., RPA

Project Archaeologist

BFSA Environmental Services, a Perennial Company
14010 Poway Road • Suite A •
Phone: (858) 679-8218 • Fax: (858) 679-9896 • E-Mail: agarrison@bfsa.perennialenv.com

Education

Master of Arts, Public History, University of California, Riverside **2009**

Bachelor of Science, Anthropology, University of California, Riverside **2005**

Bachelor of Arts, History, University of California, Riverside **2005**

Professional Memberships

Register of Professional Archaeologists
Society for California Archaeology
Society for American Archaeology
California Council for the Promotion of History
Society of Primitive Technology
Lithic Studies Society
California Preservation Foundation
Pacific Coast Archaeological Society

Experience

Project Archaeologist **June 2017–Present**
BFSA Environmental Services, A Perennial Company **Poway, California**

Project management of all phases of archaeological investigations for local, state, and federal agencies including National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) level projects interacting with clients, sub-consultants, and lead agencies. Supervise and perform fieldwork including archaeological survey, monitoring, site testing, comprehensive site records checks, and historic building assessments. Perform and oversee technological analysis of prehistoric lithic assemblages. Author or co-author cultural resource management reports submitted to private clients and lead agencies.

Senior Archaeologist and GIS Specialist **2009–2017**
Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. **Orange, California**

Served as Project Archaeologist or Principal Investigator on multiple projects, including archaeological monitoring, cultural resource surveys, test excavations, and historic building assessments. Directed projects from start to finish, including budget and personnel hours proposals, field and laboratory direction, report writing, technical editing, Native American consultation, and final report submittal. Oversaw all GIS projects including data collection, spatial analysis, and map creation.

Preservation Researcher **2009**
City of Riverside Modernism Survey **Riverside, California**

Completed DPR Primary, District, and Building, Structure and Object Forms for five sites for a grant-funded project to survey designated modern architectural resources within the City of Riverside.

Information Officer **2005, 2008–2009**
Eastern Information Center (EIC), University of California, Riverside **Riverside, California**

Processed and catalogued restricted and unrestricted archaeological and historical site record forms. Conducted research projects and records searches for government agencies and private cultural resource firms.

Reports/Papers

2019 A Class III Archaeological Study for the Tuscany Valley (TM 33725) Project National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance, Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California. Contributing author. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2019 A Phase I and II Cultural Resources Assessment for the Jack Rabbit Trail Logistics Center Project, City of Beaumont, Riverside County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2019 A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the 10575 Foothill Boulevard Project, Rancho Cucamonga, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2019 Cultural Resources Study for the County Road and East End Avenue Project, City of Chino, San Bernardino County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2019 Phase II Cultural Resource Study for the McElwain Project, City of Murrieta, California. Contributing author. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2019 A Section 106 (NHPA) Historic Resources Study for the McElwain Project, City of Murrieta, Riverside County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2018 Cultural Resource Monitoring Report for the Sewer Group 818 Project, City of San Diego. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2018 Phase I Cultural Resource Survey for the Stone Residence Project, 1525 Buckingham Drive, La Jolla, California 92037. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2018 A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Seaton Commerce Center Project, Riverside County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2017 A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Marbella Villa Project, City of Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2017 Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for TTM 37109, City of Jurupa Valley, County of Riverside. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2017 A Phase I Cultural Resources Assessment for the Winchester Dollar General Store Project, Riverside County, California. Brian F. Smith and Associates, Inc.

2016 John Wayne Airport Jet Fuel Pipeline and Tank Farm Archaeological Monitoring Plan. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. On file at the County of Orange, California.

2016 Historic Resource Assessment for 220 South Batavia Street, Orange, CA 92868 Assessor's Parcel Number 041-064-4. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. Submitted to the City of Orange as part of Mills Act application.

2015 Historic Resource Report: 807-813 Harvard Boulevard, Los Angeles. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. On file at the South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton.

2015 Exploring a Traditional Rock Cairn: Test Excavation at CA-SDI-13/RBLI-26: The Rincon Indian Reservation, San Diego County, California. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.

2014 Archaeological Monitoring Results: The New Los Angeles Federal Courthouse. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc. On file at the South Central Coastal Information Center, California State University, Fullerton.

2012 Bolsa Chica Archaeological Project Volume 7, Technological Analysis of Stone Tools, Lithic Technology at Bolsa Chica: Reduction Maintenance and Experimentation. Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.

Presentations

2017 "Repair and Replace: Lithic Production Behavior as Indicated by the Debitage Assemblage from CA-MRP-283 the Hackney Site." Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Fish Camp, California.

2016 "Bones, Stones, and Shell at Bolsa Chica: A Ceremonial Relationship?" Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Ontario, California.

2016 "Markers of Time: Exploring Transitions in the Bolsa Chica Assemblage." Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Ontario, California.

2016 "Dating Duress: Understanding Prehistoric Climate Change at Bolsa Chica." Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Ontario, California.

2014 "New Discoveries from an Old Collection: Comparing Recently Identified OGR Beads to Those Previously Analyzed from the Encino Village Site." Presented at the Society for California Archaeology Annual Meeting, Visalia, California.

2012 Bolsa Chica Archaeology: Part Seven: Culture and Chronology. Lithic demonstration of experimental manufacturing techniques at the April meeting of The Pacific Coast Archaeological Society, Irvine, California.

APPENDIX B

Site Record Forms

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

APPENDIX C

Archaeological Records Search Results

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

APPENDIX D

NAHC Sacred Lands File Search Results

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)

APPENDIX E

Confidential Maps

(Deleted for Public Review; Bound Separately)