## CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

## Westgrove 9.5 Apartments Project

## Unincorporated San Bernardino County, California

## Prepared for:

Westgrove 9.5, Inc. P.O. Box 9716 Redlands, California 92375

## Prepared by:

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA BCR Consulting LLC 505 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street Claremont, California 91711

Project No. WGR1801

## **National Archaeological Data Base Information:**

Type of Study: Reconnaissance Cultural Resources Assessment Resources Recorded: None Keywords: San Bernardino County USGS Quadrangle: 7.5-minute Redlands, California (1996)



## **MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Westgrove 9.5, Inc. to conduct a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Westgrove 9.5 Apartments Project (9.5 Acres; the project) located in unincorporated San Bernardino County (County), California. Tasks completed for the scope of work include a cultural resources records search, a reconnaissance-level pedestrian cultural resources survey, compilation of this technical report, and a paleontological resources overview. These tasks were performed in partial fulfillment of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. The records search revealed that 23 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 11 cultural resources (all historic-period) within one mile of the project site. None of the previous cultural resource studies have assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been recorded within its boundaries.

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists did not identify any cultural resources, including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic-period buildings, within the project site boundaries. As a result BCR Consulting recommends that no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is necessary for proposed project activities within the project site boundaries. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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#### INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Westgrove 9.5, Inc. to conduct a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Westgrove 9.5 Project (9.5 acres; the project) located in unincorporated San Bernardino County (County), California. A reconnaissance-level pedestrian cultural resources survey of the project site was completed in partial fulfillment of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements.

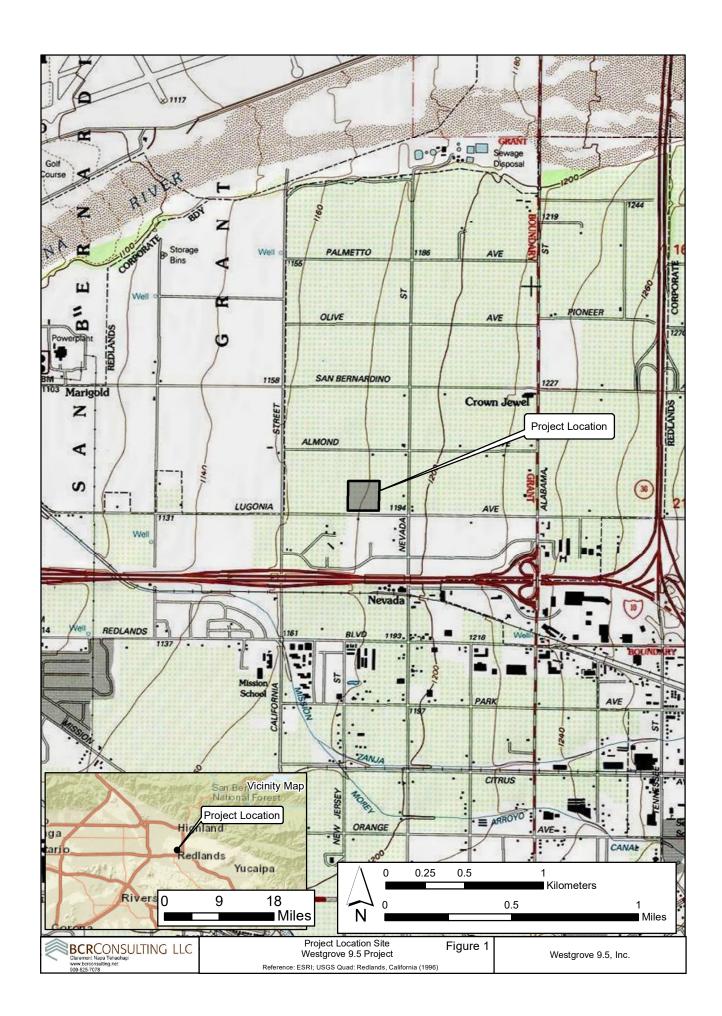
The project site is located in a non-sectioned portion of Township 1 South, Range 3 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Redlands, California* (1996) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). The proposed project will include an urban infill 282-unit market-rate apartment project comprising five three-story buildings, two two-story buildings and a clubhouse with multipurpose facilities.

#### **NATURAL SETTING**

The elevation of the project site is approximately 1180 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Geotechnical borings investigated soils to a depth of 41 feet below grade. Sediments within the project site include disturbed Holocene-aged alluvial sand and clay from stream channels (see Dibblee 2004; Gupta 2016:2; USGS 1996). Although periodic flooding of the Santa Ana River (approximately one mile to the north of the project site) has caused significant sediment movement across the local landscape, recent flood management has diminished its impact. The property has been subject to disturbances related to citrus farming, the subsequent removal of mature citrus trees followed by grading to stabilize the surface, and adjacent road development and maintenance. These disturbances have impacted soils from two to four feet beneath the surface. The current study has not yielded any evidence that local sediments have produced raw materials used in prehistoric tool manufacture within one mile of the project site. Local rainfall ranges from 5 to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37).

Although recent and historical impacts have decimated local vegetation, remnants of a formerly dominant coastal sage scrub vegetation community have been sporadically observed in the area. Signature plant species include black sage (Salvia mellifera), California brittlebush (Encelia californica), California buckwheat (Eriogonum fasciculatum), California sagebrush (Artemesia californica), deerweed (Lotus scoparius), golden yarrow (Eriophyllum confertiflorum), laurel sumac (Malosma laurina), lemonadeberry (Rhus integrifolia), poison oak (Toxicodendron diverilobum), purple sage (Salvia leucophyla), sticky monkeyflower (Mimulus aurantiacus), sugar bush (Rhus ovate), toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia), white sage (Salvia apiana), coastal century plant (Agave shawii), coastal cholla (Opuntia prolifera), Laguna Beach liveforever (Dudleya stolonifera), many-stemmed liveforever (Dudleya multicaulis), our Lord's candle (Yucca whipplei), prickly pear cactus (Opuntia sp.) (Williams et al. 2008:118-119).

Signature animal species within Coastal Sage Scrub habitat include the kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys sp.*), California horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum frontale*), orange throated whiptail (*Cnemidophorus hyperthrus*), San Diego horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii*), brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*), California quail (*Callipepla californica*), and San Diego cactus wren (*Campylorhynchus brunnecapillus sandiegensis*) (Williams et al. 2008:118-120). Local native groups made use of many of these species (see Lightfoot and Parrish 2008).



## **CULTURAL SETTING**

#### **Prehistoric Context**

The local prehistoric cultural setting has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for western San Bernardino County are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the area and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, local chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or resharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends review of Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

## **Ethnography**

Although no previously recorded prehistoric sites have established a local prehistoric ethnographic affiliation, the project site vicinity is situated at an ethnographic nexus peripherally occupied by the Gabrielino and Serrano. Each group consisted of semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers who spoke a variation of the Takic language subfamily. Individual ethnographic summaries are provided below.

Gabrielino. The Gabrielino probably first encountered Europeans when Spanish explorers reached California's southern coast during the 15th and 16th centuries (Bean and Smith 1978; Kroeber 1925). The first documented encounter, however, occurred in 1769 when Gaspar de Portola's expedition crossed Gabrielino territory (Bean and Smith 1978). Other brief encounters took place over the years, and are documented in McCawley 1996 (citing numerous sources). The Gabrielino name has been attributed by association with the Spanish mission of San Gabriel, and refers to a subset of people sharing speech and customs with other Cupan speakers (such as the Juaneño/Luiseño/Ajachemem) from the greater Takic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family (Bean and Smith 1978). Gabrielino villages occupied the watersheds of various rivers (locally including the Santa Ana) and intermittent streams. Chiefs were usually descended through the male line and often administered several villages. Gabrielino society was somewhat stratified and is thought to have contained three hierarchically ordered social classes which dictated ownership rights and social status and obligations (Bean and Smith 1978:540-546). Plants utilized for food were heavily relied upon and included acorn-producing oaks, as well as seed-producing grasses and sage. Animal protein was commonly derived from rabbits and deer in inland regions, while coastal populations supplemented their diets with fish, shellfish, and marine mammals (Boscana 1933, Heizer 1968, Johnston 1962, McCawley 1996). Dog, coyote, bear, tree squirrel, pigeon, dove, mud hen, eagle, buzzard, raven, lizards, frogs, and turtles were specifically not utilized as a food source (Kroeber 1925:652).

**Serrano.** The Uto-Aztecan "Serrano" people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term "Serrano" to four groups, each with distinct territories: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. "The Serrano resided in an area that extended east of the Cajon Pass, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, to Twenty-nine Palms, the north foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains and south to include portions of the Yucaipa Valley" (Bean and Smith 1978:570). Both the Serrano and Cahuilla utilized the western Mojave region seasonally. Evidence for longer term/permanent Serrano settlement in the western Mojave most notably includes the Serrano-named village of Guapiabit in Summit Valley (de Barros 2004). Access to water determined where the Serrano built their settlements/villages (Bean and Smith 1978). Most of the villages were located within the Sonoran life zone (Scrub Oak [Quercus sp.] and sagebrush [Salvia sp.]), or forest transition zone, (Ponderosa pine [Pinus ponderosa]) (Bean and Smith 1978; Kroeber 1925). Like many neighboring tribes, the Serrano and Cahuilla were Takic (Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009:341). Serrano traded with their neighbors and actively participated in a shell bead exchange economy with the Cahuilla, Luiseno, and Gabrielino (McCawley 1996). Occasionally, villages were located in the desert, adjacent to permanent water sources. Structures for families were usually circular domes, constructed of willow frames and tule thatching. Individual family homes were used primarily for sleeping and storage. Families conducted many of their daily routines outside of their house or under a ramada. A ramada consisted of a thatched roof supported by vertical poles in the ground, which provided a shaded work area (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009:344). Other village structures included a ceremonial house, granaries and sweathouses. Subsistence strategies focused on hunting and gathering, occasionally supplemented by fishing. Food preparation varied and included a variety of cooking techniques. These ranged from baking in earth ovens to parching. Food processing utilities included scrapers, bowls, baskets, mortars, and metates (Bean and Smith 1978). A lineage leader, or kika, administered laws and ceremonies from a large ceremonial house centrally located in most villages. The size of lineages is a matter of some dispute, but most probably numbered between 70 and 120 individuals (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009). Serrano people were organized into clans affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties. Clans were led by a hereditary chief who occupied the village "big house" where ceremonies took place and shamans were initiated (Bean and Smith 1978:572; Strong 1929).

#### History

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

**Spanish Period.** The first European to pass through the area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the region in 1772. Searching for

San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

**Mexican Period.** In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

American Period. The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought further diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

#### **PERSONNEL**

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study, and complied the technical report. BCR Consulting Archaeological Crew Chief Joseph Orozco, M.A. ABD completed the cultural resources records search using records from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), and BCR Consulting Staff Archaeologist Nicholas Shepetuk completed the pedestrian field survey.

### **METHODS**

#### **Records Search**

Prior to fieldwork, BCR Consulting conducted an archaeological records search at the SCCIC. This included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, as well as a review of known cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports generated from projects completed within one mile of the project site. In addition, a review was conducted of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and documents and inventories from the California Office of Historic Preservation including the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

## Field Survey

An archaeological pedestrian field survey of the project site was conducted on December 19, 2018. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the project site, where accessible. Soil exposures,

including natural and artificial clearings were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

#### RESULTS

#### **Records Search**

Data from the SCCIC revealed that 23 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 11 cultural resources (all historic-period) within one mile of the project site. None of the previous cultural resource studies have assessed the project site, and no cultural resources have been recorded within its boundaries. The records search is summarized as follows:

Table A. Cultural Resources and Reports Within One Mile of the Project Site

USGS 7.5 Min. Quad.	Cultural Resources Within One Mile of Project Site	Cultural Resource Studies Within One Mile of Project Site
Redlands, California (1996)	P-36-9990: historic-period structure (3/4 mile N) P-36-9991: historic-period palm alignment (1/2 mile N) P-36-12852: historic-period water dist. (1 mile NE) P-36-12853: historic-period water dist. (1 mile SE) P-36-12854: historic-period residence (1 mile S) P-36-13776: historic-period weir (1/2 mile NE) P-36-13783: historic-period stand pipes (3/4 mile NE) P-36-19923: historic-period building (3/4 mile SW) P-36-19925: historic-period building (3/4 mile SW) P-36-24295: historic-period orchard (Adjacent East)	SB- 106-0831, 2486, 2625, 2853, 3064, 3741, 3750, 3776, 3856, 4030, 4040, 4058, 4396, 4586, 4589, 4590, 4600, 4812, 5164, 5662, 6404, 7044, 7227

#### Field Survey

During the field survey, BCR Consulting staff carefully inspected the project site, and identified no cultural resources within its boundaries. Surface visibility was approximately 95 percent within the project site. Sediments included silty sandy alluvium. The property has been subject to disturbances related to citrus cultivation, the subsequent removal of the mature citrus trees and irrigation system followed by grading to stabilize the surface, and construction and maintenance of adjacent roads.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The records search and field survey did not identify any cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic-period archaeological sites or historic buildings) within the project site. Furthermore, records search results combined with surface conditions indicate that disturbances have occurred beyond depths at which cultural resources are likely. Based on these results, BCR Consulting recommends that no additional cultural resource work or monitoring is necessary for any earthmoving proposed within the project site. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has

made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

#### REFERENCES

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# APPENDIX A NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION Cultural and Environmental Department 1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95691

Phone: (916) 373-3710 Email: nahc@nahc.ca.gov Website: http://www.nahc.ca.gov

Twitter: @CA\_NAHC

January 8, 2019

Nicholas Shepetuk BCR Consulting

VIA Email to: nickshepetuk@gmail.com

RE: Proposed Westgrove 9.5 Acres Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Shepetuk:

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>positive</u>. Please contact the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians on the attached list for more information. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. 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.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: steven.quinn@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Steven Quinn

Stew Zuin

Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Attachment



#### Native American Heritage Commission Native American Contact List Los Angeles County 1/8/2019

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Rroad Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 849 - 8807

Cahuilla Serrano

Fax: (951) 922-8146 dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Denisa Torres, Cultural Resources

Manager

12700 Pumarra Rroad Cahuilla Banning, CA, 92220 Serrano

Phone: (951) 849 - 8807 Fax: (951) 922-8146 dtorres@morongo-nsn.gov

#### San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

Donna Yocum, Chairperson

P.O. Box 221838 Kitanemuk Newhall, CA, 91322 Serrano Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Tataviam

Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net

#### San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Lee Clauss, Director of Cultural Resources

26569 Community Center Drive

Highland, CA, 92346

Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Fax: (909) 864-3370

Iclauss@sanmanuel-nsn.gov

#### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Goldie Walker, Chairperson

P.O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369

Phone: (909) 528 - 9027

Serrano

Serrano

This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resource Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Westgrove 9.5 Acres Project, Los Angeles County.

PROJ-2018-006863

# APPENDIX B PALEONTOLOGICAL OVERVIEW



Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County 900 Exposition Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90007

tel 213.763.DINO www.nhm.org

Vertebrate Paleontology Section Telephone: (213) 763-3325

e-mail: smcleod@nhm.org

27 December 2018

BCR Consulting 505 West 8th Street Claremont, CA 91711

Attn: Nicholas Shepetuk, Staff Archaeologist

re: Paleontological resources for the Vertebrate Paleontology Records Search for the proposed Westgrove 9.5 Project, in the City of Redlands, San Bernardino County, project area

#### Dear Nicholas:

I have conducted a thorough check of our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed Westgrove 9.5 Project, in the City of Redlands, San Bernardino County, project area as outlined on the portion of the Redlands USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me via e-mail on 18 December 2018. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project area boundaries, but we do have localities at some distance from sedimentary deposits similar to those that may occur subsurface in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project area has surface deposits composed of soil and younger Quaternary Alluvium, derived predominately as alluvial fan deposits from the Crafton Hills and the San Bernardino Mountains to the east via the Santa Ana River that currently flows just to the north. Typically these types of deposits do not contain significant vertebrate fossils in the uppermost layers. At varying depths, however, these deposits always have the potential to contain significant fossil vertebrate remains. Our closest vertebrate fossil locality from somewhat similar deposits is LACM 4540, southeast of the proposed project area on the northeastern side of the San Jacinto Valley just west of Jack Rabbit Trail, that produced a specimen of fossil horse, *Equus*. Our next closest fossil vertebrate locality from similar deposits

is LACM 7811, west-southwest of the proposed project area in the Jurupa Valley north of Norco and west of Mira Loma, that produced a fossil specimen of coachwhip, *Masticophis flagellum*, at a depth of 9 to 11 feet below the surface.

Shallow excavations in the younger Quaternary Alluvium found at the surface throughout the proposed project area probably will not uncover any significant vertebrate fossils. Deeper excavations there that extend down into the older sedimentary deposits, however, may well encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Any substantial excavations in the proposed project area, therefore, should be closely monitored to quickly and professionally collect any fossils discovered without impeding development. Sediment samples should also be collected and processed to determine the small fossil potential in the proposed project area. Any fossils recovered during mitigation should be deposited in an accredited and permanent scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D. Vertebrate Paleontology

Summel a. M. Leod

enclosure: invoice

## APPENDIX C PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Project Site Overview from SE Corner (NW View)



Photo 2: Overview from SW Corner (NNW View)