



RT FACTFINDERS
Cultural Resources

REPORT

**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION
FOR TENTATIVE TRACT 70180
19.57 ACRES IN LANCASTER
LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Prepared For:

**Global Investment and Development LLC
3470 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1020
Los Angeles, California 90010**

Prepared By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R.H. Norwood', written in a cursive style.

**Richard H. Norwood
Archaeologist
RTFactfinders
630 Peridot Place
Fairfield, California 94534
(707) 439-3107 / Cell: (661) 265-5422**

**Job. No. 589A
March 2016**

APN: 3153-007-004, -005, -006 and -024

**Performed under: Private Contract
USGS Quadrangle: Lancaster West, Calif. 7.5'
Area covered: 19.57 acres
Location: Township 7 North, Range 13 West, Section 13
Keywords: Antelope Valley, Lancaster**



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- 2. South Central Coastal Information Center Data**
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SUMMARY

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as amended, and the requirements of the City of Lancaster, a phase I cultural resource investigation was completed for a 19.57-acre property in Lancaster. The subject property is situated near the intersection of 45th Street West and Lancaster Boulevard on the north side of Lancaster Boulevard. The property is recorded as APN 3153-007-004, -005, -006, and -024. The property is known as Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 70180. The property lies within the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 of section 13, Township 7 north, Range 13 West, SBBM. Plans for the property include construction of 109 residential lots and a 2.9 acre public park.

The purpose of the study was to identify and record the cultural resources within the subject property and recommend further measures, if warranted.

As a result of the investigation, no prehistoric or significant historic period sites were identified on the property. Since no significant cultural resources are present, no impacts to significant cultural resources are anticipated due to future use and development of the property. No further work is recommended.

I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as amended, and the requirements of the City of Lancaster, a phase I cultural resource investigation was completed for a 19.57-acre property in Lancaster. The subject property is situated near the intersection of 45th Street West and Lancaster Boulevard on the north side of Lancaster Boulevard. The property is recorded as APN 3153-007-004, -005, -006, and -024. The property is known as Tentative Tract Map (TTM) 70180. The subject property lies within the southwest 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Township 7 North, Range 13 West, San Bernardino meridian (Figures 1, 2). Plans for the property include construction of 109 residential lots and a 2.9 acre public park.

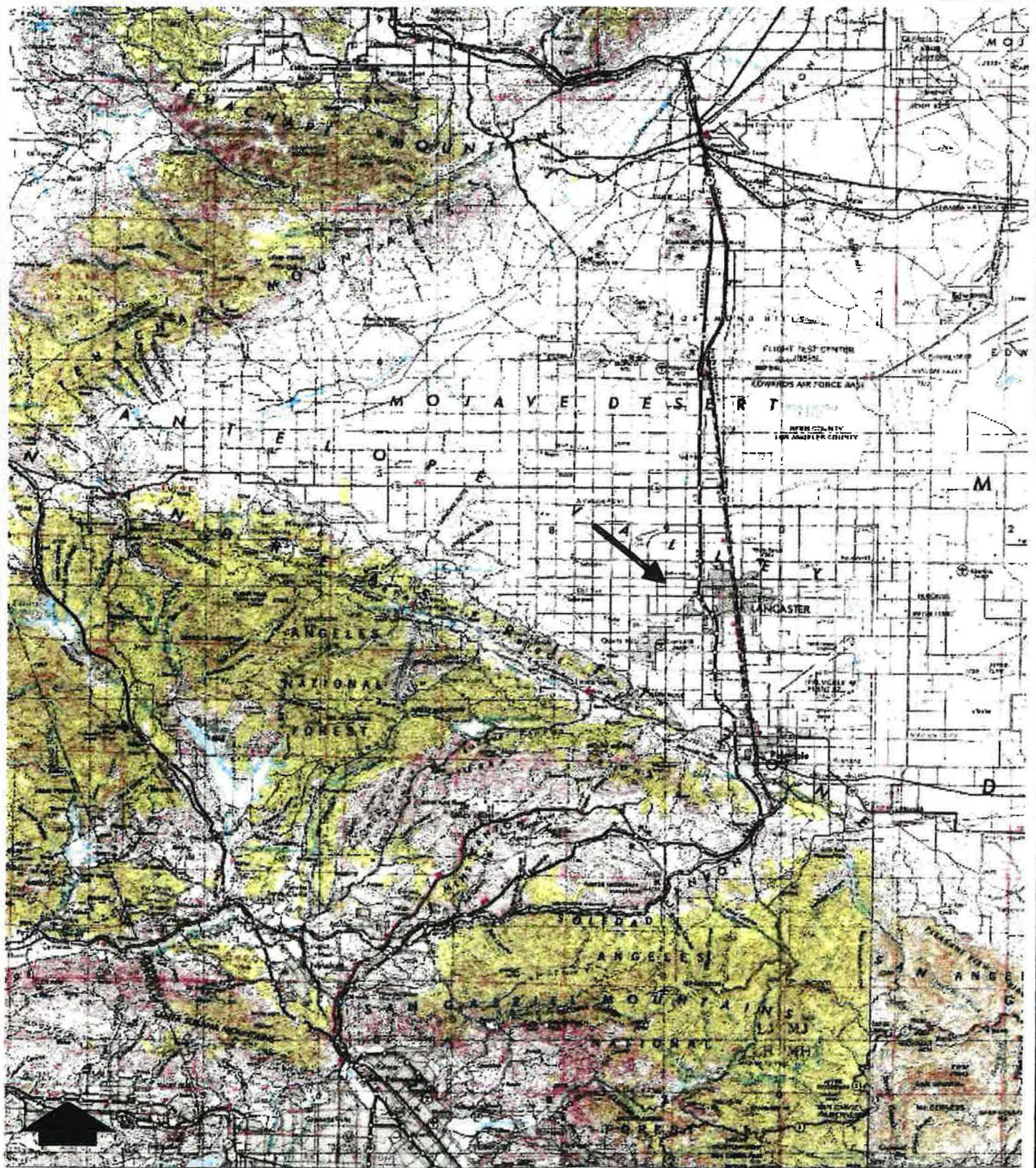
The City of Lancaster required this study because use or construction on the property has the potential to cause a "substantial adverse change" to any cultural resources that might be present. The purpose of the study was to identify the cultural resources within the subject property and recommend mitigation measures if warranted. CEQA defines cultural resources as including archaeological sites, historic buildings, structures or objects, and properties of unique ethnic cultural value or religious/sacred uses.

The scope of the investigation included an on-foot inspection of the property; a review of records, maps and literature; preparation and filing of any necessary record forms as specified by the Office of Historic Preservation Guidelines; and preparation of a phase I report.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The property is situated in a rural area. There are several homes surrounding the property, one of which probably dates to the 1950s period. The subject property is level and lies within the Amargosa Creek drainage basin. The entire property appears to have been cleared and leveled for farming at some time in the past. Traces of north/south trending furrows are evident. Vegetation consists of a mixture of shadscale scrub and introduced grasses and weeds.

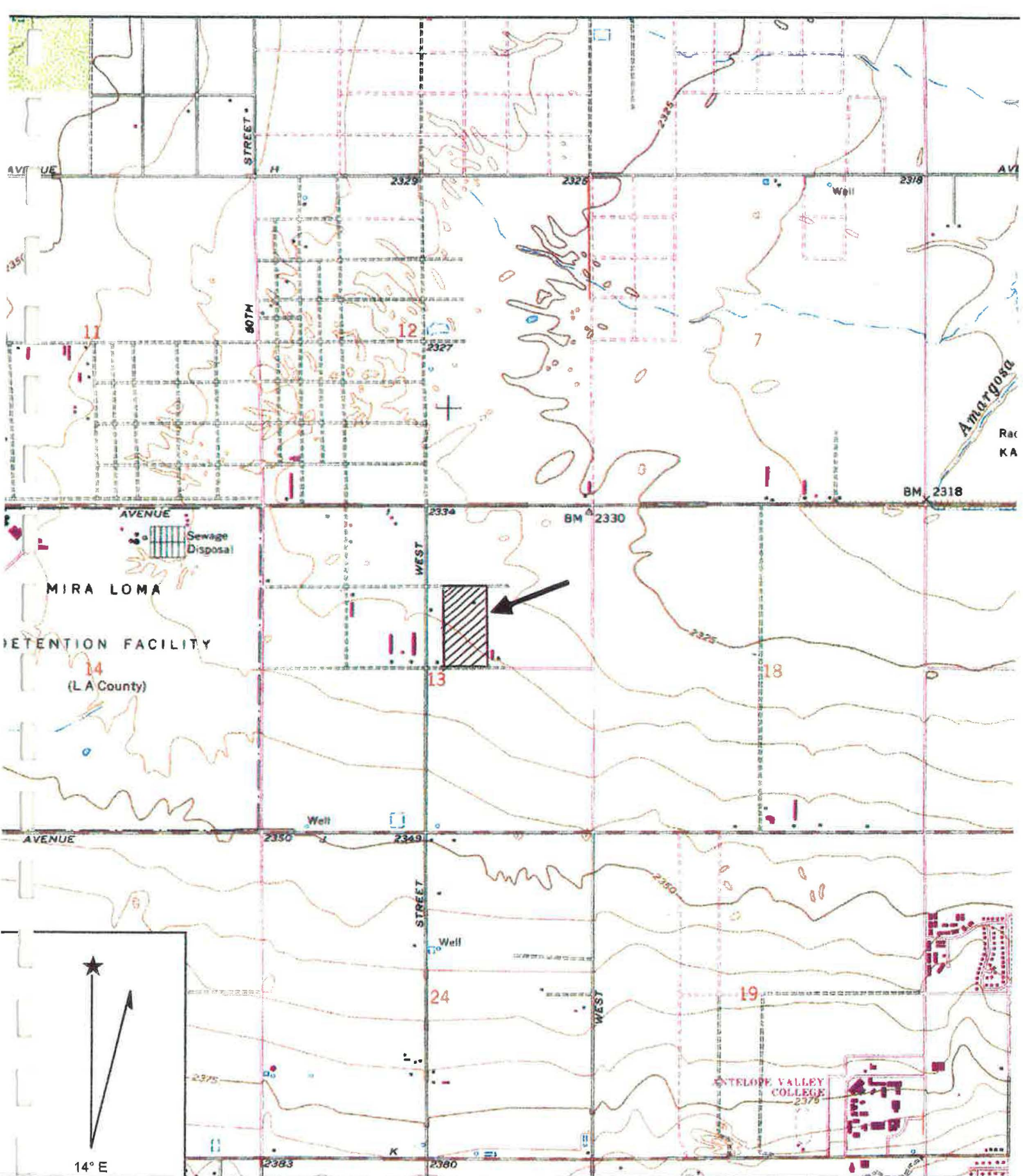
The property is situated on the Antelope Valley floor. The Antelope Valley is a broad, flat V-shaped basin in the Western Mojave Desert. The Valley is bounded on the north by the Tehachapi Mountains and on the south by the San Gabriel Mountains and extends eastward to the Mojave River Valley. Low points in the Antelope Valley are Rogers and Rosamond Dry Lakes with elevations of approximately 2275' above mean sea level. The subject property lies southwest of Rosamond Dry Lake and its elevation is approximately 2335' above mean sea level. Soil on the property is quaternary in age and is a mixture of coarse sand overlying clayey silt and clay. There are no notable physiographic features, rock outcrops, springs, or other permanent sources of water on or near the property.



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Figure 1: Project location depicted on Palmdale, California
USGS map of 01 July 1975 via Microsoft Terra Server

1" = about 7.5 miles



Name: LANCASTER WEST
 Date: 10/31/2005
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 11 0389655 E 3840214 N
 Caption: Figure 2: Project location

III. CULTURAL SETTING

The Antelope Valley likely has a prehistoric cultural history extending back over 10,000 years assuming it is like other Mojave Desert basins. Most of the prehistoric periods are known only in general outline. As would be expected, the later periods are the best known. General temporal and cultural sequences have been developed by a number of researchers for other areas of the Mojave Desert including Wallace (1962), Bettinger and Taylor (1974), Stickle and Weinman-Roberts (1980), Warren and Crabtree (1986), and Earle, et. al. (1997).

Local prehistoric cultural history can be classified into four periods: Early, Middle, Late and Post-Contact (Norwood 1987). These periods were created to recognize change in environmental variables, technological and stylistic change, and/or settlement pattern changes. The ethnography of the Antelope Valley floor is poorly known. Various Indian groups including the Kitanemuk, Kawaiisu and Serrano/Vanyume may have been present in the area. These people were hunters and gatherers with an intimate knowledge of local floral and faunal resources and were able to obtain and prepare them for food and other products. The ethnography of the Valley is discussed by Kroeber (1925), Bean and Smith (1978), Blackburn and Bean (1978), Sutton (1980), Zigmond (1986) and Earle (1996).

The historical context of the region is discussed in several publications including those by Starr (1988); Morris (1977); and Earle, et. al. (1997, 1998); and Earle (1998). Also a series of publications by the Kern-Antelope Historical Society and the West Antelope Valley Historical Society contain historical essays and interviews that are valuable for understanding the development of local historical context.

Prior to the last part of the 19th century the history of the Antelope Valley is characterized primarily by people's efforts to pass through the Valley. Activity within the Valley was largely limited to cattle grazing, minor prospecting, and hunting expeditions. Historic development of the Valley really began after the 1876 establishment of the Southern Pacific Railroad linking Los Angeles with the San Joaquin Valley. The mid-1880s brought the first actual land boom. This period saw establishment of a number of settlements in the Valley and many settlers began successful orchards and small farms. There was a great deal of speculation and a variety of questionable schemes were used to entice people into the Valley.

By the late 1800s the fortunes of the Valley were greatly altered by natural causes. In 1894, a 10-year drought began that devastated many settlers who had little practical knowledge or appreciation of the desert environment. These people lost crop after crop and eventually their homes and land. At the turn-of-the-century, much of the Valley was considered worthless and the ownership of many parcels reverted to the state. A reduced population of die-hards remained, some of whom were favored by high water tables and favorable and valuable agricultural soil. The history of the earlier periods of occupation are, as would be expected, less clear than later periods, because there was an exodus of people and records. There is still much to learn about the dynamics of local development

prior to 1920-1925.

Worldwide during the same period many technological innovations were being introduced. In 1904, a gasoline engine was first used in the Valley to pump well water. By 1908-1914 there was an influx of people into the Valley due to the construction of the Los Angeles aqueduct. By 1904 improved conditions after the drought, improved irrigation techniques and increasing subsistence diversity enhanced the potential for economic success. The World War I period brought another influx of people as homesteading reached a peak of popularity and agricultural prices were relatively high.

In 1914, electricity was introduced to the Valley and by 1917 the introduction of electric water pumps and improved dry farming techniques resulted in the substantial growth and success of agriculture. Increased prices for agricultural produce during World War I stimulated additional growth and agricultural expansion. Other economic endeavors, such as poultry ranching and, after 1919, moonshining, became important economic boosters. By the mid-1920s, Palmdale and Lancaster had achieved the basic elements and social institutions and structure of a small American rural town.

IV. SACRED LANDS, RECORD AND MAP SEARCH RESULTS

Native American sacred sites and resources: Information regarding Native American Cultural Resources and/or Sacred sites was requested from the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Their records indicate that no significant Native American resources have been previously identified within or near the property. They provided a list of four contacts that the jurisdiction may contact for any further information or concerns (Attachment 1). No Native American archaeological sites have been identified on the property.

Record search: A record search was performed by the South Central Coastal Information Center, CSU, Fullerton. Their records (Attachment 2) indicate that all of Section 13 was originally reviewed for cultural resource sensitivity in 1988, however, the investigation did not include intensive on-foot survey (Peak and Associates, 1988). A two person crew walked the property at 30-40 meter intervals and did not record refuse deposits or what were, at the time, recent period residential or other structures. They did not identify any cultural resources on the subject property.

Later, survey of property to the immediate north and east resulted in finding no significant cultural resources (Norwood 2004a, b). There have been a number of previous surveys and phase II evaluation projects along West Avenue J between 30th and 50th Streets West to the south. Two surveys for property to the southeast in Section 13 resulted in the discovery of a prehistoric archaeological site (Site 391-1/398-1) consisting of a highly disturbed, light density scatter of fire-affected rock (Norwood 2005a, b). A little over a half mile to the southwest a small prehistoric camp, an 1890s period homesite and a series of refuse deposits dating between 1910-1950 were discovered and investigated (Norwood 1998, 2002). To the east, a series of archaeological sites were recorded and investigated along the north side of West Avenue J between 35th Street

West and 39th Street West (Norwood 2003a, b, c, e).

Map search: Local historic period maps were reviewed to identify any potential historic sites or features on or near the property. Findings are discussed below:

1911: The earliest regional map of Lancaster is Johnson's (1911) Water Supply map showing well locations and many homes throughout Lancaster and the surrounding area. Data for this map is based on a 1909 field survey. Johnson's map reflects no historic period activity on the subject property or anywhere within Section 13.

1915: The 1915 Lake Elizabeth 15' USGS quad map shows no development on, or in the immediate area of the subject property. No structures are shown anywhere within Section 13.

1922: By 1920-1925 Lancaster had matured into a small town characteristic of the period. Carpenter and Cosby's Soil Survey map (1926), based on a 1922 field survey shows no structures on the subject property, or anywhere within Section 13. At this time, however, 45th Street West is in place. Other areas of Lancaster experienced a period of growth and development during this period.

1938: Walsh's real property map shows ownership, but no structures. No ownership is shown for any of the parcels within Section 13.

1958: This edition of the USGS showing the area indicates the presence of a structures in the northeaster portion of the property. This structure no longer exists at the plotted location.

GLO Records: The Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records were reviewed. Land which encompasses the subject property was granted to the Southern Pacific Railroad on 5/17/1917. As a railroad-owned section, land did not enter private ownership until relatively late times, so early period historic home sites would not be expected in Section 13.

V. SURVEY METHODS AND CONDITIONS

The original survey for this property was previously completed by RTFactfinders (Job Number 399). Fieldwork coverage is considered adequate as the methods used then are compliant with current standards. The property was field checked on March 13, 2016. The purpose of the field check was to evaluate current conditions, field verify earlier findings, gather additional data for any previously noted resources, and discover and record any newly identified cultural resources. The field was done by Melinda Walton, representing RTFactfinders.

At the time of the original survey the project encompassed 25 acres and included APN 3153-007-003. That parcel number is not included in the current project since it has since been re-designated as APN 3153-007-024 by the assessor's office. At the time of the

survey two parcels not included in the current project were covered. These were APN 3153-007-007 and -008.

The field survey was completed on April 2, 2005, by Richard Norwood (MA, Anthropology) assisted by David Balian, Evan Crabtree, Mark Campbell and Darlene Tefft Norwood. Fieldwork required 10 person hours. The property was examined by walking a series of parallel east/west trending transects, beginning at the southwest property corner. Transect spacing was at 15 meter intervals. Points of interest were recorded using a Garmin E-Trex GPS unit.

Soil surface visibility was fair to poor. Vegetation cover resulting from recent rains obscured visibility to some degree, however, sufficient bare spots remained for detection of artifacts in a little over half of the subject property. Within parcels 3153-007-003 (Now -024), and -005 soil surface visibility was poor due to dense vegetation. These parcels consist of severely disturbed previously plowed fields. Light conditions were excellent, with bright skies and minimal wind. In accordance with State Historic Preservation Office Guidelines, any sites or artifacts greater than 50 years of age were to be recorded and considered as potential cultural resources.

VI. SURVEY FINDINGS

As a result of the survey, no Native American or significant historic period sites were identified on the property. At the location of a structure indicated on the 1958 Lancaster West USGS map, only a scatter of construction debris remains. The structure indicated on the map has been almost entirely removed. Three finds were made and are discussed below. No addition finds were made during the March 13, 2016 resurvey.

Isolate 399-1: One clear glass bottle base was found. It is embossed "DES. PAT. 120,277/14 A 48/23 [OI] 48/DURAGLAS-IN-SCRIPT/951-G". The [OI] indicates the Owens-Illinois glass company. This bottle is a late period artifact probably dating to about 1948.

Site 399-1, Garage/work shed location, parcel 3153-007-024: The structure is also a small cement block structure with a low pitched roof and concrete slab floor (See photo, Attachment 3). There is a large garage door on the north side of the structure. According to Los Angeles County Tax Assessor records the structure dates to 1953 and is 720 square feet. It measures approximately 31 feet east/west and 24 feet north/south. This structure may be associated with property and a structure to the west on an adjacent parcel that was also constructed in 1953.

Site 399-2, Well Pump House location, parcel 3153-007-005 : The structure is a small cement block structure with a low pitched roof and slab floor. The structure is about 15 feet square. Los Angeles County Tax Assessor records indicate that the structure was built in 1951 and is 192 square feet. These type of structures are common in the Antelope Valley and are associated with agricultural water pumps and wells.

As with many areas in rural settings near homes, there is a scatter of recent period refuse on the margins of the property, particularly along Lancaster Boulevard. None of this scattered trash and debris is concentrated, specifically datable or of sufficient age to be considered as a significant cultural resource.

VII. MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has provisions to ensure that any cultural resources identified during the environmental review process need to be evaluated for significance, because unique or important resources require mitigation.

The three finds made on the subject property are either cultural resources 50 years of age or are on the threshold of becoming resources that need to be considered for significance. At the time of the original coverage 11 years ago the finds were not formally considered as potential cultural resources. These resources are now reconsidered under the criteria (A, B, C, D), for attaining eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. Eligible sites are those:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. That are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past.
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

Isolated finds, such as a single bottle base, are not considered significant cultural resources.

The structure location indicated on the 1958 map as well as sites 399-1 and 399-2 have no meaningful association with broad patterns of our history. These sites represent the remains of what was once a farm dating to a period between approximately 1951-1975. Such features are common throughout the Antelope Valley. The sites are not associated with any past historically significant persons. The deposits do not meet any characteristic stated in criterion C, which typically is applied to buildings and structures. The sites are of a common type and are in poor or destroyed condition. The features and scattered refuse/construction debris are not likely to yield information important in history because they are of a redundant type, are severely disturbed, and date to relatively late periods in Lancaster's history. Therefore, the sites and deposits are considered not eligible to the National Register, hence, for the purposes of CEQA, are considered not significant.

Since no Native American or significant or historic period cultural resources were identified on the property, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated when development occurs. No further measures are recommended for these resources.

Since no significant prehistoric or historic period resources were identified on the subject property, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated when development occurs. No further measures are recommended.

While unlikely, potentially significant buried material could exist somewhere on the property. Under CEQA "inadvertent finds" (unexpected buried sites found after completion of a phase I or II study as a result of construction exposure) are subject to evaluation and, if significant, appropriate impact mitigation. In the event unanticipated cultural materials (arrowheads, grinding stones, etc.) or features (old foundations, cellars, privy pits, etc.) are encountered, work must stop at the discovery site. A professional cultural resource consultant will need to evaluate the find.

In the event any bones of possible human origin are uncovered, during construction the Los Angeles County Coroner must be notified and permitted to investigate the find prior to any further disturbance at the location of discovery.

VIII. REFERENCES CITED

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Norwood, Richard H.

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Norwood, Richard H.

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Norwood, Richard H.

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Norwood, Richard H.

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Norwood, Richard H.

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Norwood, Richard H.

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ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT 1

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710
Fax (916) 373-5471



February 1, 2016

Richard Norwood
RTFactfinders/City of Lancaster

Sent by Email: artefact@gmail.com
Number of Pages: 1

RE: Proposed TTMs 70180, 70181, and 70182 in T7N, R12W Section 13 project, Lancaster
West Quadrangle, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Norwood:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) *Sacred Lands File* was completed for the area of potential project effect (APE) referenced above with negative results. Please note that the absence of specific site information in the *Sacred Lands File* does not indicate the absence of Native American cultural resources in any APE.

I suggest you contact all of the listed Tribes. If they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. The list should provide a starting place to locate areas of potential adverse impact within the APE. By contacting all those on the list, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the NAHC requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact via email: gayle.totton@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Gayle Totton
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

**Native American Contact List
Los Angeles County
February 2, 2016**

**San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Lynn Valbuena, Chairwoman
26569 Community Center Serrano
Highland , CA 92346
(909) 864-8933**

(909) 864-3370 Fax

**Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
Della Dominguez, Chairperson
115 Radio Street Yowlumne
Bakersfield , CA 93305 Kitanemuk
deedominguez@juno.com
(626) 339-6785**

**San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
John Valenzuela, Chairperson
P.O. Box 221838 Fernandefio
Newhall , CA 91322 Tataviam
tsen2u@hotmail.com Serrano
Vanyume
(760) 885-0955 Cell Kitanemuk**

**San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Daniel McCarthy, M.S., Director-CRM Dept.
26569 Community Center Drive Serrano
Highland , CA 92346
dmccarthy@sanmanuel-nsn.gov
(909) 864-8933 Ext 3248**

(909) 862-5152 Fax

ATTACHMENT 2

Report List

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
LA-00131		1988	Gerry, Robert	Cultural Resource Assessment of the Proposed California State Prison, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California		19-001412
LA-07991		2006	Tang, Bai "Tom", Michael Hogan, and Josh Smallwood	Cultural Resources Technical Report City of Lancaster General Plan Update	CRM Tech	19-186543
LA-08435		2004	McKenna, Jeanette A.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for APNs 3153-005-024, -025, -028, -078, -087, and -088 (approximately 30 Acres), in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	McKenna et al.	
LA-12237		2012	Mason, Roger	Historic Property Survey Report for the Avenue I Widening at 40th Street West Project City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California	ECORP Consulting	19-003679, 19-187946, 19-187947

Report Detail: LA-00131

Identifiers

Report No.: LA-00131

Other IDs:

Cross-refs:

Citation Information

Author(s): Gerry, Robert

Year: 1988

Title: Cultural Resource Assessment of the Proposed California State Prison, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Affiliation:

No. pages:

No. maps:

Attributes: Archaeological, Field study

Inventory size: 1240 ac

Disclosure:

Collections:

General notes

Associated resources

<i>Primary No.</i>	<i>Trinomial</i>	<i>Name</i>
P-19-001412	CA-LAN-001412	PA-88-10

No. resources: 1

Has informals:

Location Information

County(ies): Los Angeles

USGS quad(s): LANCASTER WEST

Address:

PLSS:

Database record metadata

<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>
-------------	-------------

<i>Entered:</i> 5/5/2008	jay
--------------------------	-----

Last modified:

<i>IC actions:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
	5/6/2008	jay	Appended records from old Surveys database.

Record status:

Report Detail: LA-07991

Identifiers

Report No.: LA-07991

Other IDs:

Cross-refs:

Citation Information

Author(s): Tang, Bai "Tom", Michael Hogan, and Josh Smallwood

Year: 2006

Title: Cultural Resources Technical Report City of Lancaster General Plan Update

Affiliation: CRM Tech

No. pages: 40

No. maps:

Attributes: Archaeological, Field study

Inventory size: ~171200 ac

Disclosure:

Collections:

General notes

Associated resources

<i>Primary No.</i>	<i>Trinomial</i>	<i>Name</i>
P-19-186543		VOID

No. resources: 1

Has informals:

Location Information

County(ies): Los Angeles

USGS quad(s): ALPINE BUTTE, DEL SUR, LANCASTER EAST, LANCASTER WEST, LITTLE BUTTES, REDMAN, ROSAMOND, ROSAMOND LAKE

Address:

PLSS:

Database record metadata

<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>
-------------	-------------

Entered: 5/5/2008 jay

Last modified: 8/7/2014 agarcia

<i>IC actions:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
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	5/6/2008	jay	Appended records from old Surveys database.
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Record status:

Report Detail: LA-08435

Identifiers

Report No.: LA-08435

Other IDs:

Cross-refs:

Citation Information

Author(s): McKenna, Jeanette A.

Year: 2004

Title: A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for APNs 3153-005-024, -025, -028, -078, -087, and -088 (approximately 30 Acres), in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Affiliation: McKenna et al.

No. pages:

No. maps:

Attributes: Archaeological, Field study

Inventory size: 30 ac

Disclosure:

Collections:

General notes

Associated resources

No. resources: 0

Has informals:

Location Information

County(ies): Los Angeles

USGS quad(s): LANCASTER WEST

Address:

PLSS:

Database record metadata

<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>
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<i>Entered:</i> 5/5/2008	jay
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Last modified:

<i>IC actions:</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>
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	5/6/2008	jay
--	----------	-----

Action taken

Appended records from old Surveys database.

Record status:

Report Detail: LA-12237

Identifiers

Report No.: LA-12237

Other IDs:

Cross-refs:

Citation Information

Author(s): Mason, Roger

Year: 2012

Title: Historic Property Survey Report for the Avenue I Widening at 40th Street West Project City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

Affiliation: ECORP Consulting

No. pages: 32

No. maps:

Attributes: Archaeological, Field study, Other research

Inventory size:

Disclosure:

Collections:

General notes

Associated resources

<i>Primary No.</i>	<i>Trinomial</i>	<i>Name</i>
P-19-003679	CA-LAN-003679H	R-8
P-19-187946		R-16
P-19-187947		R-15

No. resources: 3

Has informals:

Location Information

County(ies): Los Angeles

USGS quad(s): LANCASTER WEST

Address:

PLSS:

Database record metadata

<i>Date</i>	<i>User</i>
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<i>Entered:</i> 6/10/2013	Inoyes
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<i>Last modified:</i> 6/10/2013	Inoyes
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IC actions:

Record status:

ATTACHMENT 3



View northeast from southeast property corner



PHOTO 2: Site 399-1, garage structure.



PHOTO 3: Site 399-2, well pump house structure.

