

TM 701821 CLP15-LU



RT FACTFINDERS
Cultural Resources

REPORT

**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION
FOR TENTATIVE TRACT 70182
28.1 ACRES IN LANCASTER
LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

Prepared For:

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Prepared By:

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Job. No. 589C

March 2016

APN: 3153-008-006, -007, -010, -011, -012, -013, -014 and -017

**Performed under: Private Contract
USGS Quadrangle: Lancaster West, Calif. 7.5'
Area covered: 28.1 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 28.1-acre property in Lancaster. The undeveloped property, Tentative Tract 70182, is situated at the southwest corner of the intersection of 40th Street West and West Avenue I. The property is recorded as APN 3153-008-006, 007, -010, 011, -012, -013, -014 and 017. The property is located in the northeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Township 7 north, Range 13 west. Plans for the property include development of 154 single-family residential lots.

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 Native American or significant historic period sites were identified on the property. One isolated bottle and a late-period refuse deposit were identified but were determined not significant. Since no significant cultural resources are present, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated due to any 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 28.1-acre property in Lancaster. The undeveloped property, Tentative Tract 70182, is situated at the southwest corner of the intersection of 40th Street West and West Avenue I. The property is recorded as APN 3153-008-006, 007, -010, 011, -012, -013, -014 and 017. The property is located in the northeast 1/4 of the northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Township 7 north, Range 13 west. Plans for the property include development of 154 single-family residential lots.

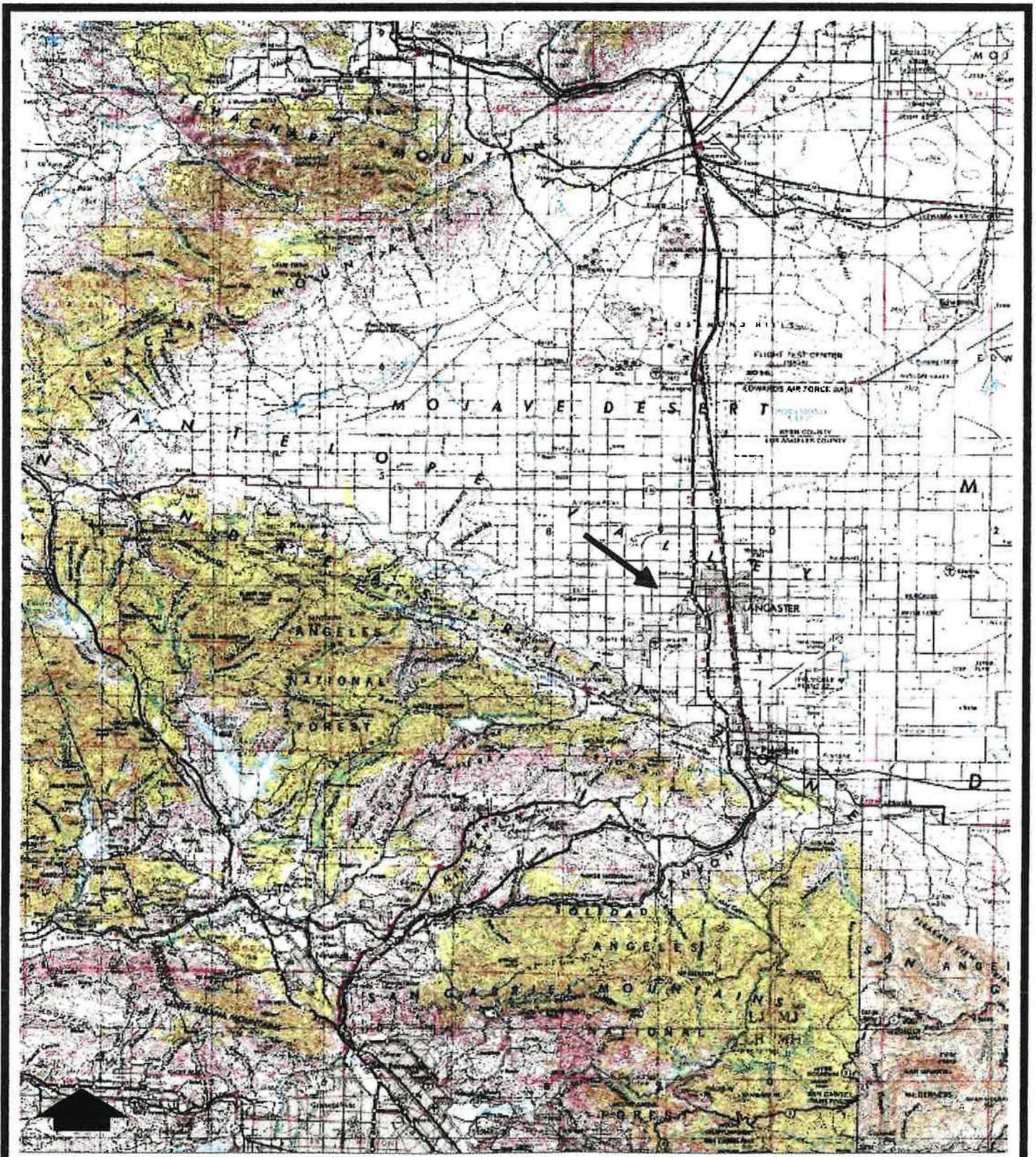
The City of Lancaster required this study because use or construction on the property has the potential to cause a "substantial adverse change" to any cultural resources that might be present. The purpose of the study was to identify the cultural resources within the subject property and recommend mitigation 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 an sparsely developed, generally rural area. There is a recent single-family home development immediately west of the property. Undeveloped or previously farmed land lies to the immediate north, south and east of the subject property. The property is level and lies within the Amargosa Creek drainage area. Natural contours remain intact. The property has apparently not been farmed in the past. There is a mixture of shadscale scrub vegetation and introduced grasses and weeds. There are no standing buildings or structures on the subject property.

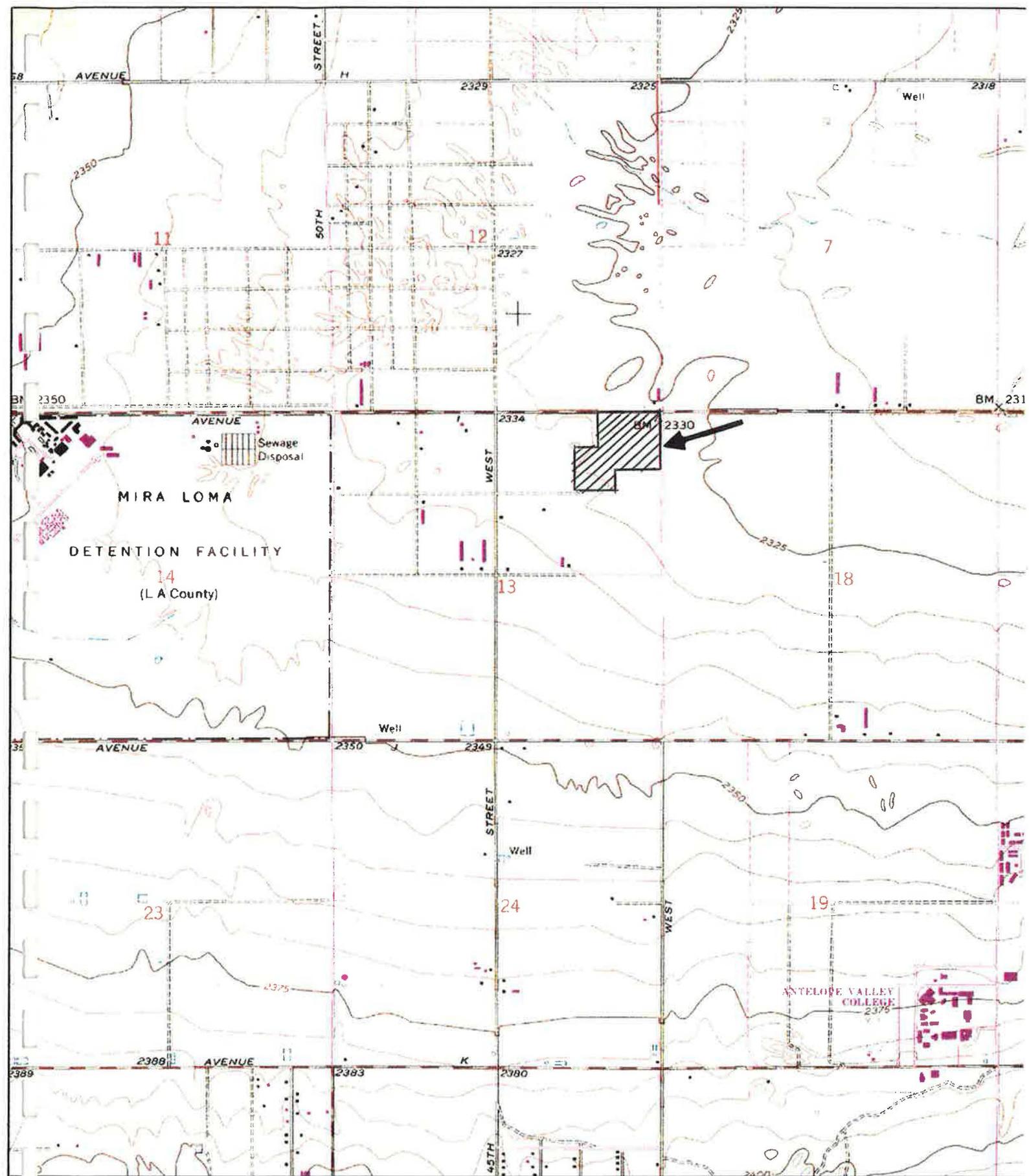
The property is situated on the Antelope Valley floor. The Antelope Valley is a broad, flat V-shaped basin in the Western Mojave Desert. The Valley is bounded on the north by the Tehachapi Mountains and on the south by the San Gabriel Mountains and extends eastward to the Mojave River Valley. Low points 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 2330 to 2335 feet above mean sea level. Soil on the property is quaternary in age and is a mixture of dark-colored expansive clay and clayey silt. 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: 2/26/2016
 Scale: 1 inch equals 2000 feet

Location: 11 0389264 E 3839985 N
 Caption: Figure 2: Project location on the Lancaster West 7.5' USGS map

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 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.

There have been a number of previous surveys and phase II evaluation projects south of the property in and around the area of 40th Street West and West Avenue J. To the immediate south a seven-acre survey was completed just south of Avenue J with negative results (Norwood 1999). A little over a half-mile to the southwest a small prehistoric period camp, an 1890's period homesite and a series of refuse deposits dating between 1910-1950 were discovered and investigated (Norwood 1998, 2002). Land to the west and south was surveyed with negative results (Norwood 2003d, 2004a, b). 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 enjoyed 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 Lancaster West 7.5" USGS map shows no structures on the subject property.

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 section, land did not enter private ownership until relatively late times, so early historic resources would not be expected in Section 13.

V. SURVEY METHODS AND CONDITIONS

All of the parcels have been surveyed previously by RTFactfinders (Norwood 2004b, 2005, 2006). The fieldwork for all parcels done at that time was accomplished in accordance 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 fieldwork was done by Melinda Walton, representing RTFactfinders.

APN-3153-008-011, -012, -013, -014: This field survey encompassed 15.47 acres of the subject property and was completed on November 20, 2004, by Richard Norwood (MA, Anthropology) assisted by David Balian, Mark Campbell, Shannon Clark, Darlene Tefft Norwood and Melinda Walton. Fieldwork required 6 person hours. The acreage was examined by walking a series of north/south trending parallel transects, beginning at the southeast 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 excellent in most areas due to minimal vegetation cover. Light conditions were good, with bright skies and minimal wind (Norwood 2004b).

APN 3153-008-006, -007, -017: This 10-acre field survey was completed on November 2, 2005, by Mark Campbell and Evan Crabtree representing RTFactfinders and field checked by Richard Norwood (MA, Anthropology). What is now parcel 3153-008-017 was designated as parcel 3153-008-008 at the time of the survey. Fieldwork required 2 person hours. The property was examined by walking a series of parallel north/south trending transects beginning at the northwest property corner. Transect spacing was at 15 meter intervals. Points of interest were recorded using a Garmin E-Trex GPS unit (Norwood 2005).

APN 3153-008-010: The field survey for 7.5 acres was completed on March 22, 2006, by Shannon Clark and Melinda Walton representing RTFactfinders of Lancaster under the supervision of Richard Norwood (MA, Anthropology). This survey included parcel 3153-008-015 which is not included in the current Tentative Tract Map. Fieldwork required 2 person hours. The property was examined by walking a series of parallel transects, beginning at the southeast property corner. Transect spacing was at 15 meter intervals (Norwood 2006).

Throughout the current property, soil surface visibility was excellent in most areas due to minimal vegetation cover. Grasses and weeds obscured visibility in graded and disturbed areas along 40th Street West. Light conditions were good, with bright skies and minimal wind. There were no inhibiting conditions that would have impaired the ability to identify potentially significant cultural resources.

VI. SURVEY FINDINGS

APN-3153-008-011, -012, -013, -014: As a result of the survey, no Native American or historic period sites were identified on the property. A single historic period bottle was found.

Isolate 374-1: The find consists of a small rectangular brown screw top bottle with a side panel embossed "BRONCHI-LYPTUS/FOR COUGHS". It has the Owen-Illinois maker's mark showing manufacture between 1929-1954. The base is embossed "21 [OI] 6". This product is still being made today, however, this bottle was probably made in the late 1940s-early 1950s period (Norwood 2004b).

APN 3153-008-006, -007, -017: As a result of the survey, no Native American period sites were identified on the property. One historic period refuse deposit was found. It was not considered as a cultural resource at the time of the survey because it was not yet definitively 50 years of age then.

Site 440-1. The deposit is approximately 8 meters in diameter, and contains typical late 1950s or early 1960s era household refuse including sanitary cans, clear, green and brown bottle glass, ceramics and building debris. Currently, it is probable the deposit was

create prior to 1966 thus making it 50 years of age. Some evidence of vandalism was noted. There are approximately 300 items present. Some bottle bases have the I-in-oval maker's mark that indicates manufacture after 1957 (Toulouse 1972). The presence of plastics (caps and fragments) and a few bimetal cans could date the site to the early 1960s.

APN 3153-008-010: As a result of the survey and 2016 field check, no Native American or historic period sites or artifacts were identified on the parcel.

As with many areas along well traveled roads, there is a scatter of recent period, non-diagnostic and non-concentrated refuse on the margins of the property, particularly along 40th Street and West Avenue I. None of this scattered, non-concentrated trash and debris is considered historic, and is not considered as a 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 isolated bottle 374-1 is not considered a significant cultural resource.

Site 440-1, the refuse deposit, is a cultural resource 50 years of age that needs to be considered for significance. At the time of the original survey coverage 12 years ago the find was not formally considered as a cultural resource. This resource is 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.

The refuse deposit designated Site 440-1 has no meaningful association with the broad patterns of our history. This deposit represents an isolated household refuse dumping event during a period between approximately 1957-1970 which was common throughout the Antelope Valley. The deposits can not be associated with any specific household or the lives of past significant persons. The deposits do not meet any characteristic stated in

criterion C, which typically is applied to buildings and structures. The refuse deposit is not likely to yield information important in history because it can not associated with any specific persons or residence. Therefore, the deposit is considered not eligible to the National Register, hence, for the purposes of CEQA, is considered not significant.

Since no Native American or significant 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 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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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: artefct@gmail.com
Number of Pages: 1

RE: Proposed TTM's 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
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(909) 864-8933**

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**Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians
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Vanyume
(760) 885-0955 Cell Kitanemuk**

**San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
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(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

Primary No.	Trinomial	Name
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

Date	User
------	------

Entered: 5/5/2008 jay

Last modified:

IC actions:	Date	User	Action taken
	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>
--------------------	-------------	-------------	---------------------

5/6/2008 jay Appended records from old Surveys database.

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>
-------------	-------------

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

Last modified:

<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.
--	----------	-----	---

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>
-------------	-------------

Entered: 6/10/2013 Inoyes

Last modified: 6/10/2013 Inoyes

IC actions:

Record status:

ATTACHMENT 3



View southwest from northeast property corner

