

# CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION IN SUPPORT OF THE PALMDALE 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET PROJECT, CITY OF PALMDALE, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

May 10, 2022

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#### Prepared by:

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Gena Granger, M.A., RPA

#### Prepared for:

T&B Planning, Inc. On behalf of Covington Development Partners, LLC.

#### **Technical Report No. 22-164**

#### PaleoWest, LLC

517 South Ivy Avenue Monrovia, California 91016 (626) 408-8006

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# MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning, Inc. to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed Palmdale 8<sup>th</sup> Street Project (Project). The Project involves the development of approximately 18 acres of undeveloped land on Assessor's Parcel Number 3022-0014-027 and is bounded by 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the east and Sierra Highway to the west. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the City of Palmdale (City) is the lead CEQA agency.

This report summarizes the methods and results of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area. The investigation included background research, communication with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) and interested Native American tribal groups, an archaeological survey of the Project area, and resource documentation and evaluation. The purpose of the investigation was to determine the potential for the Project to impact archaeological and historical resources.

A cultural resource records search and literature review was completed at the South-Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) of the California Historical Resource Information System housed at California State University, Fullerton. The records search indicated that 38 previous cultural resource studies have been conducted within 0.5-mile of the Project area resulting in the identification of 28 cultural resources. Of the 28 resources, 27 are historic period resources comprised of historic period refuse scatters and single-family residences, while one prehistoric resource consists of an isolated projectile point. None of the cultural resources were previously documented within the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource assessment of the Project area, PaleoWest also requested a search of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) from the NAHC. Results of the SLF search indicate that there are no known Native American cultural resources within the immediate Project area. The NAHC suggested contacting nine individuals representing six Native American tribal groups to find out if they have additional information about the Project area. PaleoWest conducted outreach to those individuals named on the NAHC contact list via email on March 25, 2022. Follow up phone calls were made on April 1, 2022. Five responses were received in response to PaleoWest's outreach.

PaleoWest completed a pedestrian survey of the Project area on March 28, 2022. The Project Area consists of an undeveloped lot that has been heavily disturbed by grading. No prehistoric or historic period archaeological resources were identified during the survey.

In the event that potentially significant cultural resources are encountered during construction activities associated with the Project, a qualified archaeologist shall be obtained to assess the significance of the find in accordance with the criteria set forth in the CRHR. In addition, Health and Safety Code 7050.5, CEQA 15064.5(e), and Public Resources Code 5097.98 mandate the process to be followed in the unlikely event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

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# **1 INTRODUCTION**

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) was contracted by T&B Planning, Inc. to conduct a Phase I cultural resource assessment for the proposed 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project), in the city of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. The Project requires compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); the City of Palmdale (City) is the lead agency for CEQA.

### 1.1 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Project area consists of approximately 18 acres of undeveloped land on Assessor's Parcel Number 3022-0014-027 and is bounded by 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the east and Sierra Highway to the west (Figure 1-1). The Project area is within Section 23, Township 6 North, Range 12 West, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as depicted on the Ritter Ridge and Palmdale, CA 7.5' U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps (Figure 1-2). The elevation of the Project area is approximately 2600 feet above mean sea level (amsl). While the Project is still in the planning phases, it will consist of the development of the parcel for industrial warehouse purposes.

### **1.2 REPORT ORGANIZATION**

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

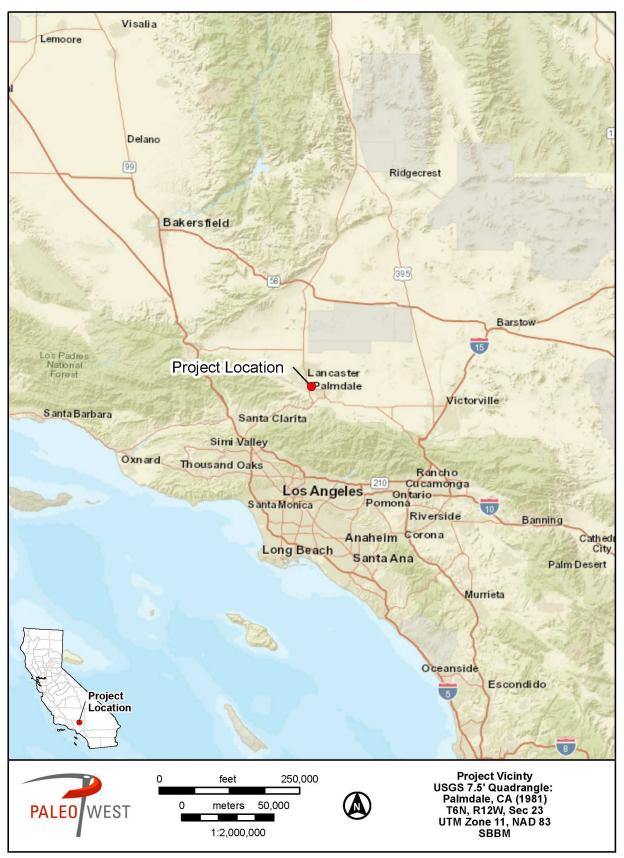


Figure 1-1. Project vicinity map.

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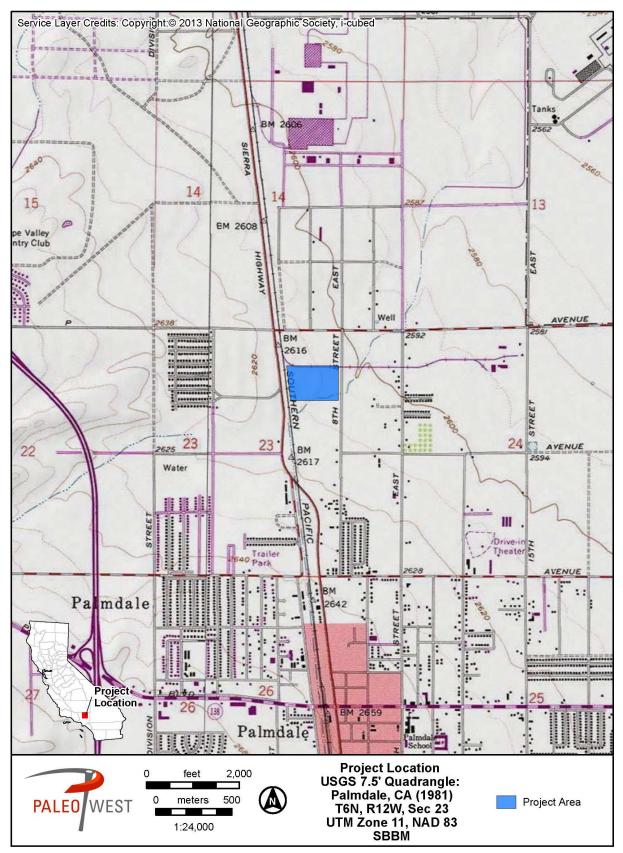


Figure 1-2. Project location map.

# 2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

## 2.1 STATE

### 2.1.1 California Environmental Quality Act

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

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

- 1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- 2. Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- 3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values; or,
- 4. Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1).

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

### 2.1.2 California Assembly Bill 52

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

a substantial adverse change to a tribal cultural resource constitutes a significant effect on the environment unless mitigation reduces such effects to a less than significant level.

### 2.2 LOCAL

### 2.2.1 City of Palmdale General Plan

The General Plan's Environmental Resources Element includes measures to protect cultural resources, as follows:

GOAL ER7: Protect historical and culturally significant resources which contribute to the community's sense of history.

Objective ER7.1: Promote the identification and preservation of historic structures, historic sites, archaeological sites, and paleontological resources in the City.

- Policy ER7.1.1: Identify and recognize historic landmarks from Palmdale's past.
- Policy ER7.1.2: Promote maintenance, rehabilitation, and appropriate reuse of identified landmarks where feasible.
- Policy ER7.1.3: Require that new development protect significant historic, paleontological, or archaeological resources, or provide for other appropriate mitigation.
- Policy ER7.1.4: Develop and maintain a cultural sensitivity map. Require special studies/surveys to be prepared for any development proposals in areas reasonably suspected of containing cultural resources, or as indicated on the sensitivity map. Policy
- ER7.1.5: When human remains, suspected to be of Native American origin are discovered, cooperate with the Native American Heritage Commission and any local Native American groups to determine the most appropriate disposition of the human remains and any associated grave goods.
- Policy ER7.1.6: Cooperate with private and public entities whose goals are to protect and preserve historic landmarks and important cultural resources.

# 3 SETTING

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

### 3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project area lies within the Antelope Valley in the western Mojave Desert. The Mojave Desert is bounded on the west by the Sierra Nevada Mountains, on the south by the

Transverse and Peninsular ranges, on the southeast and east by the Yuma and Colorado deserts, and on the north by the Great Basin. The western Mojave Desert comprises a number of valleys, including the Antelope Valley, Fremont Valley, Victor Valley, Lucerne Valley, along with the Mojave River and the Barstow area.

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

The Mojave is a warm-temperature desert situated between the subtropical Sonoran Desert to the south and the cold-temperature Great Basin to the north. The arid Mojave Desert is characterized by sparse rainfall, generally ranging from 5 to 25 centimeters (cm) (2–10 inches [in]) per year. Some areas receive as little as 2.5 cm (1 in) of annual precipitation, while others receive more than 25 cm (10 in) (Warren 1984:342). The Littlerock area receives approximately 8 in of precipitation annually. The present-day climate and concomitant vegetation within the Mojave Desert was substantially different during the so-called Wisconsin Glacial Stage (60,000 to 10,500 Before Present [B.P.]), where the climate was influenced by the massive continental ice sheets that resulted in cooler summer and warmer winter temperatures than at present (Bupp et al. 1998, as cited in Basgall and Overly 2004).

The Joshua tree is often used as the common vegetative marker of the Mojave Desert (Sutton 1996:223), although the creosote bush is considered to be the dominant plant of both the Mojave and Colorado deserts (Grayson 1993; Warren 1984:342). Lower elevations of the Mojave Desert are dominated by creosote bush with higher elevations giving way to yuccas and agaves and piñon-juniper habitats. Other vegetation may include catclaw acacia, white brittlebush, white bursage, barrel and hedgehog cactus, littleleaf krameria, ocotillo, desert sand verbena, branched pencil and teddybear cholla, coastal bladderpod, desert agave, Douglas and rubber rabbit brush, Mojave yucca, beavertail, prickly pear, jojoba, desert senna, and Anderson's wolfberry. Various forbs and grasses also vary but can be found throughout desert scrub habitats (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988:88).

Large game animals are rare in the Mojave Desert, deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and black bear (*Ursus americanus*) make infrequent treks from the nearby Sierra Nevada slopes. More common to the desert floor are various reptiles and rodents, such as Couch's spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus couchil*), desert tortoise (*Xerobates [Goperus] agassizil*), chuckwalla (*Sauromalus obesus*), leopard lizard (*Crotaphytus wislizenil*), horned lizard (*Prynosoma platyrhinos*), Mojave rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*), whitetail antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*), and kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys spp.*). Other species found in the Mojave include blacktail jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), desert cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonil*), kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) coyote (*Canis latrans*), and bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) (Laudenslayer and Boggs 1988:114; Martyn and Moore 1996). More than 300 species of birds are known to inhabit the northern Mojave Desert.

### 3.2 PREHISTORIC SETTING

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

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

### 3.2.1 Late Pleistocene (ca. 10,000 to 8,000 cal B.P.)

The earliest cultural complex recognized in the Mojave Desert is Clovis, aptly named for the fluted projectiles often associated with Pleistocene megafaunal remains. Arguments for pre-Clovis Paleoindian human occupation in the Mojave Desert rely on relatively sparse evidence and unpublished data, although in light of the growing body of evidence suggesting a pre-Clovis occupation of the Americas, the argument cannot simply be ruled out. Paleoindian culture is poorly understood in the region due to a relative dearth of evidence stemming from a handful of isolated fluted projectile point discoveries and one presumed occupation site on the shore of China Lake. Archaeologists tend to interpret the available data as evidence of a highly mobile, sparsely populated hunting society that occupied temporary camps near permanent Pleistocene water sources.

### 3.2.2 Early Holocene (ca. 8,000 to 6,000 cal B.P.)

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

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

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

### 3.2.3 Middle Holocene (ca. 7,000 to 3,000 cal B.P.)

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

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

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

### 3.2.4 Late Holocene (ca. 2,000 cal B.P. to Contact)

The Late Holocene in the greater Southern California region is characterized by increases in population, higher degrees of sedentism, expanding spheres of influence, and greater degrees of cultural complexity. In the Mojave Desert, the Late Holocene is divided into several cultural complexes: the Gypsum Complex (2000 cal B.C. to cal A.D. 200), the Rose Spring Complex (cal A.D. 200 to 1100), and the Late Prehistoric Complexes (cal A.D. 1100 to contact).

The Gypsum Complex is defined by the presence of side-notched (Elko series), concave-based (Humboldt series), and well-shouldered contracting stem (Gypsum series) projectile points. Other indicative artifacts include quartz crystals, painted ceramics, rock art, and twig figures, which are generally associated with ritual activities. Warren (1984) considers the appearance of these artifact types at Gypsum Complex sites as evidence of the Southwest's expanding influence in the region. Conversely, Sutton et al. (2007) opt to associate Gypsum sites, which

tend to cluster in the northern Mojave Desert, with temporal sequences modeled for the adjacent Great Basin. It is most likely, however, that the Gypsum Complex was exposed to various cultural influences stemming from long-distance exchange and social interaction networks that linked groups occupying the Mojave Desert to those on the Pacific Coast, and in the American Southwest and the Great Basin.

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

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

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

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

### 3.3 ETHNOHISTORIC SETTING

Four groups consider the Antelope Valley to be part of their traditional use area – the Serrano, Vanyume, Tataviam and Kitanemuk. Ethnographic information on each of these groups is provided below.

#### 3.3.1 Serrano

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 3.3.2 Vanyume

The Vanyume inhabited the Mojave River. Unlike their neighbors, the Serrano, the Vanyume maintained friendly relations with the Chemehuevi and Mojave peoples. The Vanyume had a small population, which dwindled rapidly following Spanish settlement of California. No Vanyume speaking members survived into the twentieth century, so there is not much known about this group (Bean and Smith 1978:570; Kroeber 1970:614).

### 3.3.3 Tataviam

The Tataviam are a Native American group that resided in and around the region encompassing the Project area. They belong to the family of Serrano people who migrated down into the Antelope, Santa Clarita, and San Fernando valleys some time before 1550 B.P. They settled into the Santa Clara River drainage system, east of Piru Creek, but also marginally inhabited the upper San Fernando Valley. Their territory also may have extended over the Sawmill Mountains to include at least the southwestern fringes of the Antelope Valley, which they apparently shared with the Kitanemuk, who occupied the greater portion of the Antelope Valley.

The Tataviam were hunters and gatherers who prepared their foodstuffs in much the same way as their neighbors. Their primary foods included yucca, acorns, juniper berries, sage seeds, deer, the occasional antelope, and smaller game such as rabbits and ground squirrels. There is no information regarding Tataviam social organization, though information from neighboring groups shows similarities among Tataviam, Chumash, and Gabrielino ritual practices. At first contact with the Spanish in the late eighteenth century, the population of this group was estimated at less than 1,000 people. However, this ethnographic estimate of the entire population is unlikely to be accurate, since it is based only on one small village complex and cannot necessarily be indicative of the entire population of Tataviam. Given the archaeological evidence at various Tataviam sites, as well as the numbers incorporated into the Spanish Missions, pre-contact population and early contact population easily exceeded 1,000 people (Blackburn 1962; Johnston 1962).

The Tataviam people lived in small villages and were semi-nomadic when food was scarce. Labor was divided between the sexes. Men carried out most of the heavy but short-term labor, such as hunting and fishing, conducted most trading ventures, and had as their central concerns the well-being of the village and the family. Women were involved in collecting and processing most of the plant materials and basket production. The elderly of both sexes taught children and cared for the young (Blackburn 1962; Johnston 1962).

#### 3.3.4 Kitanemuk

The Kitanemuk belonged to the northern section of the people known as the "Serrano." The name, "Serrano," however, is only a generic term meaning "mountaineers" or "those of the

Sierras." Ethnographers group the Kitanemuk with the Serrano based on linguistic similarities though the Kitanemuk did not identify themselves as Serrano. They lived on the upper Tejon and Paso creeks and also held the streams on the rear side of the Tehachapi Mountains, the small creeks draining the rear slope of the Liebre and Sawmill Range, with Antelope Valley and the westernmost part of the Mojave Desert. The extent of their territorial claims in the desert region is not certain.

The Kitanemuk lived in permanent winter villages of 50 to 80 people or more. During the late spring, summer, and fall months they dispersed into smaller, highly mobile gathering groups. They followed a seasonal round, visiting different environmental regions as the important food producing plants became ready for harvest. Some staple foods important to the Kitanemuk include acorns, piñon pine nuts, yucca, elderberries, and mesquite beans were available as well (Duff 2004).

The Kitanemuk shared some elements of culture with the rest of the Serrano groups, who lived to the east in parts of the Antelope Valley, the upper Mojave River area, and the San Bernardino Mountains (Blackburn and Bean 1978). Some customs, however, such as rituals and practices to honor the dead, may have been different. The Kitanemuk appear to have buried their dead, while the Serrano cremated them. The population of the Kitanemuk has been placed in the 500 to 1000 range at the time of arrival of the Spanish (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

There were no permanent communities on the valley floor. Instead, the Antelope Valley provided a Native American trade route from Arizona and New Mexico to the California coast. The Native American population of California was estimated to be 133,000 in 1770, just before the mission era. But by 1910, they numbered about 16,350. The Native American population of the Antelope Valley consisted of just a few families in 1910 (Antelope Valley Indian Museum 2006).

### 3.4 HISTORICAL SETTING

### 3.4.1 Mojave Desert Region

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

The European settlement in the Mojave Desert began when Spanish missionaries and explorers entered the area in the eighteenth century. Among the first Europeans in the area was Pedro Fages, who led an expedition into the western Mojave in 1772 in pursuit of Spanish soldiers who had deserted (Pourade 1960). Later forays into the Mojave were undertaken in 1776 by Franciscan missionary, Francisco Garces. Garces was tasked with exploring overland routes between Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Southern California. During his expedition, he stayed in what is today the town of Mojave (Coues 1900; Sutton 1991). The establishment of trade routes between Santa Fe and Los Angeles and the establishment of missions in the Mojave Desert were difficult in the eighteenth century because the native Mohave people

hindered Spanish expansion beyond the coastal areas of California (Bean and Bourgeault 1989). The Old Spanish Trail, which passes through the Mojave Desert, was not firmly established as a travel route until the 1830s (Norris and Carrico 1978).

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

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

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

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

In the Mojave, scientific exploration was being undertaken in conjunction with investigations into proposed railroads from the east (Sherer 1994). An expedition led by Lt. Amiel Weeks Whipple in 1854 sought to survey a railroad route leading from Arkansas to Los Angeles along the 35th parallel, passing near Fremont Valley. The proposed railroad was meant to tie into lines that originated in both the north and the south (Barnard 1977). Whipple's expedition included scientists who recorded information about the geology, climatology, and biology of the region (Sherer 1994). A later expedition undertaken by Edward Beale in 1857 tested the feasibility of using camels for transport across the desert and established an early wagon road through the area (Norris and Carrico 1978; Sherer 1994).

Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR), linking San Francisco to Los Angeles via the Mojave Desert, was completed in 1876. Large numbers of Chinese workers were employed in the construction of the railroad, and following its completion, many became

involved in placer mining in the upper Santa Clarita River area (Earle 2003). The SPRR Mojave line also included a 20-day (round trip) rail route that extended over 165 miles of mountains and desert, running from the Harmony Borax Works in Death Valley (Inyo County) to the railroad loading dock in Mojave (Kyle 1990:129).

With the construction of the railroad, historic development of Antelope Valley increased. Lancaster, to the northwest of Palmdale, was first settled in 1876 with the completion of the SPRR. Promotional literature espousing the charms of the new township location attracted settlers. In the early 1880s, Moses Langley Wicks founded a Scottish agricultural colony of around 150 people near present-day Lancaster. In 1884, Wicks purchased and platted the town site, which he named Lancaster after his Pennsylvania hometown. In the late 1880s, Lancaster was sold to James P. Ward, and the first land boom occurred in Antelope Valley. Ample rain during this period led to bumper wheat and barley harvests. The subsequent ten-year drought had severe consequences for farmers in Palmdale and Lancaster. The Antelope Valley experienced another swell of population growth in the early 1900s, when the region housed large numbers of workers constructing the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The area experienced a period of growth in the 1930s following construction of the Muroc Air Force Base (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007).

### 3.4.2 Antelope Valley

The Antelope Valley lies on the west end of the Mojave Desert, in the northern extent of Los Angeles County and extends into southern Kern County. A number of non-native expeditions transversed the Antelope Valley starting with Friar Francisco Garces in 1776, but the first non-native settlements did not occur until the 1850s through a combination of factors. Discovery of gold in Kern County and Silver in Inyo County in the early 1850s established new wagon routes, followed by the Butterfield mail stagecoach mail route in 1858, and the Los-Angeles Havilah Stage Line in 1864. The establishment of Fort Tejon in 1854 on the west end of the valley created a safe outpost for travelers, and a telegraph line that connected San Francisco to Los Angeles was completed in 1860. Construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad through this section of the Antelope Valley was completed in 1876 as part of the connecting route between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The alignment passed through the newly established railroad towns of Rosamond and Lancaster, approximately 7 miles west and south from the Project area (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2021; Lien 2021).

### 3.4.3 Wind and Solar Energy in Antelope Valley

The landscape and population size of the area around Willow Springs changed after Ezra Hamilton built his stone building resort at the turn of the twentieth century. That changed again in the early 1980s when the first wind power project in the Antelope Valley was constructed at the base of the Tehachapi Mountains, north of the Project area. The windy Tehachapi Pass in the Mojave Desert proved to be a valuable resource on the barren landscape. More wind, and eventually solar farms cropped up in Tehachapi Pass and Antelope Valley. Ground was broken on the 80-square mile Manzana Wind Power Project located just west of the Project area in 2011 for the 126 1.5-megawatt wind turbines and came online in December 2012. Developed, owned, and operated by Avangrid Renewables, the company sells electrical output to San Diego Gas & Electric, Silicon Valley Power, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. At the southwest corner of the Project area is the Southern California Edison (SCE) Whirlwind Substation was constructed in 2011 as part of a long-range SCE wind farm plan. The substation connects a series of substations through 500kv transmission lines to bring wind power to Los Angeles Basin. More recently, between 2013 and 2015, several large solar farms have been installed in the area south of the Project area below Rosamond Boulevard (*Palm Desert Post* 1982; AvangridRenewables.com 2021; Google Earth Pro 2013, 2015; Edison International 2021).

#### 3.4.4 Palmdale

The present town of Palmdale originated as two small communities called Palmenthal and Harold. Palmenthal was settled in 1886 by 50 or 60 families of Swiss and German settlers. The families, venturing west primarily from Illinois and Nebraska, were informed that once they saw palm trees they would be very near to the coast. Mistaking the Joshua trees for palm trees, they settled in the Antelope Valley, calling the township Palmenthal. That year, the Palmdale Water District was established, and shortly thereafter an irrigation ditch was excavated by the Palmdale Irrigation Company to divert water from Littlerock Creek to Palmdale. In 1890, the ditch was described as 7 miles in length, having cost \$16,000 to build. The principal crops the water supported were alfalfa, corn, potatoes, vegetables, fruit trees, and vineyards (Newell 1890:60; California State Mining Bureau 1896:538). In 1894, drought hit the area, and an increased supply of water was needed. An earthen dam, forming Harold Reservoir (now Palmdale Lake), was constructed by the Antelope Valley Irrigation Company in 1895, and another earthen ditch, linking Littlerock Creek to Harold Reservoir, was excavated alongside the earlier ditch. A flume and wooden trestle were incorporated into this design (Palmdale Water District 2004). The settlers prospered temporarily growing grain and fruit. An extended period of drought in the 1890s brought the boom to an end, and Palmenthal was largely abandoned. Harold, also known as Alpine Station and Trejo Post Office, was established at the crossroads of the Southern Pacific Railroad and Fort Tejon Road (now Barrel Springs Road). It was essentially abandoned when the railroad moved the site of its booster engine station to another location north of Harold (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007; Palmdale City Library 2008).

Mining in the Mojave Desert led to increased settlement during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Gold was discovered in the southwestern portion of Antelope Valley in 1842 in what is today known as Placerita Canyon. Gold seekers flocked to the canyon and an estimated \$100,000 of gold was mined there. Some of the miners settled permanently in the southwest Antelope Valley in the 1850s and 1860s, while others headed north to continue their search for wealth. Gold, silver, and copper were also mined from the Soledad Canyon region during the Civil War period (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007; Earle 2003). The town of Mojave was the rail terminus for the 20-mule-team borax wagons that operated from Death Valley between the years 1884 and 1889 (Kyle 1990:129). The United States Borax and Chemical Company (formerly the Pacific Coast Borax Company) developed sodium borate mining at Boron, about 30 miles north of Victorville. Gold was discovered at Standard Hill in 1894, and the Cactus Queen Mine produced the largest quantity of silver ore in California until World War II (Kyle 1990:130). By 1896, the Alpine Plaster Company had established a gypsum guarry one mile south of Palmdale, and the Fire Pulp Plaster Company also worked Palmdale's gypsum deposits (California State Mining Bureau 1896:504; Hess 1910:29). All of this activity rejuvenated the development of Antelope Valley.

The town of Palmdale was established in 1899 when settlers who remained at Palmenthal and Harold relocated closer to the Southern Pacific Railroad station and the San Francisco to New Orleans stagecoach line. In 1905, following the end of the drought, irrigation systems using pumps powered by gasoline, and later electricity, replaced the previous reliance on artesian wells. This more reliable source of water revived the agricultural industry in the Antelope Valley (County of Los Angeles Public Library 2007). Completion of the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1914 (to the west of Palmdale) further prompted development of the Palmdale area. That year, the Southern California Panama Expositions Commission (McGroarty 1914:78) described Palmdale as "a new town on the railroad with considerable improvement going on including the planting of a large acreage to young fruit trees." Palmdale's population began to steadily increase. Irrigated lands in the Valley increased from 5,000 acres in 1910, to 11,900 acres in 1919. The township apparently failed to impress at least one author who described it as "a lonely little town marking the terminus of the railroad", although he saw fit to comment on the "frequent cultivated fields which showed the fertility of this barren desert when irrigated" (Murphy 1921:306). Alfalfa, pears, and apples became staple crops in the area. Agriculture remained the primary industry of the Antelope Valley, with Palmdale serving as the "trading center of poultry and cattle ranchers and fruit growers" (Workers of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in Southern California [Writers' Program] 1941:397), until World War II. After World War II, Palmdale grew as a center for aerospace and defense industries with the establishment of Edwards Air Force Base in Kern County and U.S. Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale (see below) (Palmdale City Library 2006).

The town of Littlerock, to the southeast of Palmdale, followed a similar path of development. The first settler moved into the area in the 1860s, building an adobe along Little Rock Creek. He was shortly thereafter killed by a grizzly bear, and the adobe became a bandit hide-out. Legitimate settlement of the Littlerock township, originally called Alpine Springs Colony and then Tierra Bonita, began in the 1890s, when settlers planted 2,000 acres of almond trees, along with some pear trees. The almond trees were unsuited to the desert climate, and failed, while the pear trees flourished. Pear growing subsequently became the major industry, and Littlerock Dam was constructed in 1924 to provide irrigation to the orchards. While agricultural pursuits were the primary industries on the floor of the Antelope Valley at this time, extensive stock grazing continued in the foothills and in some other areas of the valley (Earle 2003). Littlerock, known as "The Fruitbasket of the Antelope Valley," did not experience the growth seen at Palmdale and Lancaster, and in 1941, with a population of 150, was described as "an isolated settlement surrounded by irrigation orchards" and as "the trade center of ranchers on 2,000 acres of land producing pears and miscellaneous fruits" (Workers' Program 1941:399). Littlerock remains a small town with a current population of approximately 9,100 (Littlerock California Chamber of Commerce 2003).

The military has played an important role in the modern history of the Mojave Desert. In 1933, Rogers Dry Lake (located between Barstow and Boron) was used as a gunnery and bombing range. In 1942, the first U.S. jet airplane was tested at Muroc Army Airfield. This installation became Muroc Air Force Base in 1948 and was renamed Edwards Air Force Base in 1981 (Kyle 1990:131, 132). In 1940, the Palmdale Airport was used as the Palmdale Army Air Field to serve as an emergency landing strip and for B-25 support training during World War II. In 1946, the Army Air Field was declared a surplus facility and Los Angeles County purchased it to serve as a municipal airport. The United States Air Force (USAF) again took over the airport in 1950 (purchased in 1951) to use in final assembly and flight testing of jet aircraft (California State Military Department 2008). In 1951, Lockheed Aircraft was contracted to develop a master plan for the site, which involved the construction of a facility "that would meet the requirements of full war mobilization and augment the industrial production potential of the major airframe manufacturing industry in southern California" (California State Military Department 2008). The plan was approved in 1953, and the site became officially known as Air Force Plant 42. The Federal Government took over ownership of the facility in 1954 (California State Military Department 2008). The Air Force Plant 42 is the home of the B-1 and B-2 bombers, along with the Space Shuttle. Palmdale has often been referred to as the Aerospace Capitol of the United States, with Rockwell, Northrop, Lockheed, and McDonnell Douglas maintaining production facilities at Air Force Plant 42. The Federal Aviation Administration's Air Route Traffic Control Center, which handles air traffic for the Western Region of the United States, is also located in Palmdale. With the development of the Palmdale Regional Airport, the possibility of a bullet train linking Palmdale to Los Angeles International Airport, and the relocation of Lockheed's secret research facilities to Palmdale, Palmdale's future in aerospace seems assured (Palmdale City Library 2006). In 1998, the Joe Davies Heritage Airpark was opened at Air Force Plant 42. Several aircraft that were flown, tested, designed, produced, or modified at Air Force Plant 42 are on display at the Heritage Airpark. The construction of a new visitors' center is planned for the future (City of Palmdale 2008).

When Palmdale incorporated in 1962, its land area measured 2.1 square miles. By 1965, the city limits contained 22.4 square miles, and by 1983, Palmdale had grown to 45 square miles and had 130 additional square miles in its planning area. Palmdale was the fastest growing city in the state in the 1980s, climbing 573 percent from a population of 12,227 in 1980 to 68,842 in 1990. The vast majority of Palmdale's land is vacant (75 percent), providing space for continued growth and development in the future.

Palmdale's growth in recent decades is not so much related to industrial growth as it is to the availability of affordable housing. Palmdale has become a 'bedroom' community, with a large number of residents commuting to the Los Angeles area to work.

Although the aerospace industry remains the area's largest source of employment, both Palmdale and Lancaster are trying to entice industry and jobs into the area. Increased population in the last decade provides a large labor force available to employers, and is expected to attract more companies, thus broadening the area's economic base. The combined population for the cities of Palmdale and Lancaster is projected to reach half a million by the year 2010 (Oxford Enterprises 2008).

# **4 CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY**

PaleoWest completed a literature review and records search at the SCCIC, housed at California, State University, Fullerton, on February 24, 2022. This inventory effort included the Project area and a 0.5-mile radius around the Project area, collectively termed the Project study area. The objective of this records search was to identify prehistoric or historic period cultural resources previously recorded within the study area during prior cultural resource investigations.

As part of the cultural resources inventory, PaleoWest staff also examined historical maps and aerial images to characterize the developmental history of the Project study area and vicinity. A summary of the results of the record search and background research are provided below.

### 4.1 PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS

The records search results indicate that 38 previous cultural resource investigations have been completed within the Project study area since 1986 (Table 4-1). Nine of these studies include or intersect the Project area. As a result, it appears that approximately 95-100 percent of the Project area has been previously inventoried for cultural resources.

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title		
LA-01547	1986	Brian D. Dillon	An Archaeological Resource Survey and Impact Assessment of the Antelope Valley Master Plan of Drainage, Anaverde Basin to Lockheed Basin, Los Angeles County, California		
LA-01732	1988	C.A. Singer & Associates, Inc.	Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for Lots 3 Through 6 of Tract No. 42991 in Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California		
LA-01758	1989	Planning Department	Archaeological Reconnaissance Report Desert Sands Park		
LA-01792	1989	Pyramid Archaeology	Archaeological Assessment of Thirty-Five Acres on Lockheed Way and 5 <sup>th</sup> Street East, Palmdale, Los Angeles County		
LA-01857	1989	-	Cultural Resource Survey Lockheed Plant 10 Expansion, Palmdale, California		
LA-01933	1989	McClelland Consultants (West), Inc.	Draft Environmental Impact Report Cup 89-26 American National Can Company Palmdale, California		
LA-01949	1990	RT Factfinders	Cultural Resource/archaeological Report: Cultural Resource Survey for 4.26 Acres in Palmdale, California		
LA-02023	1990	RT Factfinders	Cultural Resource Survey for Tentative Tract No. 49241 Palmdale, California		
LA-02324	1989	Chambers Group, Inc.	Cultural Resources Survey of the Lee-zizzii Property in Los Angeles County Near Palmdale, California		
LA-02485	1990	-	A Cultural Resources Investigation of Five Acres in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California		
LA-03017	1994	-	Results of Archaeological Records Check for the Mojave Alternatives of the Pacific Pipeline Project Los Angeles County, California		
LA-04008	1996	Science Applications International Corporation	Cultural Resources Investigation Pacific Pipeline Emidio Route		
LA-04141	1997	CRM Tech	Cultural Resources Report Bakersfield-Rialto Fiberoptic Line Project Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California		
LA-07160	2004	ISA Associates, Inc.	Archaeological Survey and Historic Property Reports Rancho Vista Boulevard Widening Project City of Palmdale		
LA-07177	2004	CRM Tech	Historical/archaeological Resources Survey Report Sierra Gateway Project Tentative Trace No. 42991 Gty of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California		
LA-08035			Historical/archaeological Resources Reconnaissance Report Palmdale Transit Village Specific Plan, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California		

Table 4-1. Previous Cultural	Investigations within	n the Project Study Area
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Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title		
LA-08427	2007	Jones & Stokes	Archaeological Survey Report for Southern California Edison Company 66kv Antelope Bus Split Project Los Angeles County, California		
LA-09457	2007	McKenna et al.	A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of The Strategic Realty Investors, Inc. Property at Avenue P And 10 <sup>th</sup> Street East, APNS 3022-022-005 And -023, Approximately 17.5 Acres In Palmdale, Ios Angeles Co. CA		
LA-09679	2008	ArchaeoPaleo Resource Management, Inc.	Cultural Resource and Paleontological Assessment, North Los Angeles / Kern County, Regional Recycled Water Master Plan, Los Angeles / East Kern Counties, California.		
LA-10498	2002	Cal Trans District 7	Archaeological Survey and Historic Study Report for the Acquisition of Right-of-Way Along the Avenue P-8 Corridor in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California.		
IA-10642	2010	CRM Tech	Preliminary Historical/Archaeological Resources Study, Antelope Valley line Positive Train Control (PTC) Project Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Lancaster to Glendale, Los Angeles County, California		
LA-10813	2011	RBF Consulting	Expansion Area Amendment to the Redevelopment Plans for the Merged Project Area		
IA-11275	2010	HEART.	Cultural Resources Record Search and Archaeological Survey Results for the Proposed Royal Street Communications, California, IIC, Site IA541 (IA Times Palmdale) located at 550 East Rancho Vista Boulevard, Palmo Los Angeles County, California, 93550		
LA-12095	2012	ESA	Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 Regional Recycled Water Project Phase 2		
LA-12658	2014	ISA Associates	Cultural Resources Assessment Class I Inventory Verizon Wireless Services Epsierra Facility City of Palmdale, County Los Angeles, California		
LA-12864	2015	Cogstone Resource Management	Supplemental Historical Resources Evaluation Report for the High Deser Corridor, Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties, California		
IA-12871	2014	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Combined Paleontological Identification and Evaluation Report Without Survey for The High Desert Corridor Freeway, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California		
		Archaeological Survey Report for The High Desert Corridor, Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties, California, 07-La/ 08-Sbd, Sr-14 To Sr-18, EA 116720			
LA-12873	2014	Earle and Associates	Historic Context and Potential National Register Eligibility of Archaeological Sites at Turner Springs, San Bernardino County.		
IA-12874	2014	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Extended Phase I Testing and Phase II Evaluation Proposal, High Desert Corridor/ Sr 138 Widening Project from Sr 14 To Sr 18 Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California, 07-La/Pm 48.0 To Sr 138 EA No. 116720		
IA-12875	2015	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Preliminary Historic Property Treatment Plan for The High Desert Corridor Project Sr-14 To Sr-18 Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California, 07-La/ 08-Sbd EA 116720, EFIS 07-1200-0035		
LA-12875A	2015	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	HDC Shell Bead Analysis		

Report No.	Year	Author(s)	Title	
LA-12875B	2015	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Lithic Analysis by Desiree Martinez	
LA-12875C	2015	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Reflectance Transformation Imagery (RTI) Analysis	
LA-12875D	2015	Cogstone Resource Management Inc.	Variable Pressure Scanning Electron Microscopy	
LA-12875E	2015	GeoVision	Geophysical Investigation for the High Desert Corridor SR-138 Widening Project in Victorville, California	
IA-12876	2014	Cogstone Resource Management	Historic Property Survey Report for The High Desert Corridor, Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties, California 07-La/ 08-Sbd, Sr-14 To Sr-18, EA 116720 EFIS 07-1200-0035	
LA-12877	2014	Cogstone Resource Management / GPA Consulting	Historical Resources Evaluation Report for the High Desert Corridor, Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties, California	

\*Italicized Cultural Resources Studies lie within or intersect the Project area

### 4.2 CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORTED WITHIN 0.5 MILE OF THE PROJECT AREA

The records search indicated that 28 cultural resources were previously documented within the Project study area (Table 4-2). Of the 28 resources, 27 are historic period resources comprised primarily of historic period refuse scatters and single-family residences, and one resource is a prehistoric period resource comprised of an isolated projectile point. None of the cultural resources were previously documented within the Project area.

Primary No.	Trinomial	Age	Туре	Description
P-19-002909	CA-LAN-002909H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter with nine distinct concentrations
P-19-002911	CA-LAN-002911H	Historic	Object, Site	Historic concrete irrigation standpipe structure
P-19-002912	CA-LAN-002912H	Historic	Site	Historic concrete irrigation standpipe structure and irrigation conveyance structures
P-19-002913	CA-LAN-002913H	Historic	Site	Historic house foundation and driveway
P-19-003258	CA-LAN-003258H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter with over 700+ artifacts
P-19-003645	CA-LAN-003645H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter, two segments of an abandoned earthen ditch, and an earthen reservoir
P-19-003705	CA-LAN-003705H	Historic	Site	Widespread historic refuse scatter that is located along east and west sides of 10 <sup>th</sup> Street E
P-19-004287	CA-LAN-004287H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter comprised of three concentrations

Table 4-2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resource within the Project Study Area

Primary No.	Trinomial	Age	Туре	Description
P-19-004719	CA-LAN-004719H	Historic	Site	Historic refuse scatter and cinderblock and mortar structural remnants of two rectangular buildings
P-19-101034	-	Prehistoric	Isolate	Isolated obsidian projectile point
P-19-101400	-	Historic	Isolate	Isolated green glass bottle base with Owen's Illinois maker's mark
P-19-180638	-	Historic	Structure	Segment of the Southern Pacific Railroad line; tracks still in use and maintained
P-19-187071	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190790	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190791	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190792	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190793	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190794	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190795	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190796	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190797	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190798	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190799	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190802	-	Historic	Building	Historic commercial building, 2-story
P-19-190817	-	Historic	Building	Two historic single story single family residences
P-19-190818	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190819	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence
P-19-190820	-	Historic	Building	Historic single story single family residence

### 4.3 ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Additional sources consulted during the cultural resource literature and data review include the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility, and the Office of Historic Preservation Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD). There are no resources previously listed within the Project area but there are six built environment resources previously recorded within 0.5-mile of the Project area that have been evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places; only one of the six resources (P-19-180638, Union Pacific Railroad) was determined eligible for the NRHP.

Historical maps consulted include Elizabeth Lake, CA (1915) 30-minute, Elizabeth Lake, CA (1915 and 1917) 30x60-minute, Lancaster, CA (1930 and 1933) 7.5-minute, Palmdale, CA (1958) 7.5-minute, Lancaster, CA (1958) 15-minute, Los Angeles, CA (1949, 1966, 1975) 1 degree by 2-degree USGS series maps. Historical aerial images from NETROnline dated 1948, 1953, 1959, 1965, 1971, 1974, 1987, 1994, 2010, and 2012 were also reviewed (HistoricAerials.com).

Aerial imagery indicates that in 1948 the Project area was undeveloped except for sparse roads that were built in the vicinity during the early twentieth century, a segment of the Union Pacific Railroad and Sierra Highway to the west, and four to five structures located near the southeast edge of the Project area. The USGS topo quads do not identify any structures within the Project area. Additionally, a search the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management's General Land Office Records did not identify any homesteads or land patents for the Project area (BLM 2022).

The Project area lacks many of the natural resources (e.g., water) that were exploited by prehistoric inhabitants of the region. One seasonal drainage, Amargosa Creek, is located approximately one mile west of the Project area. No other hydrological features are present near the Project area. Rosamond and Rogers Dry Lake are located approximately 11 miles to the north. Today, the Project study area is rural, consisting of undeveloped parcels where the original landform surface may still be observed. The underlying geology consists of Early and Middle Holocene quaternary alluvium comprising the unconsolidated fill of the Antelope Valley and has an estimated thickness of 100 feet or more (Dibblee 1960). These deposits consist of unconsolidated to weakly consolidated fine to medium sand with fine gravel. Gravels are primarily from granitic sources with many sub-angular fine gravel quarts clasts. This deposits due to the high energy involved in the transportation of sand and gravel. Given the lack of natural resources in the Project area and the low density of prehistoric sites identified in the records search area (only one isolated artifact), the Project area has a low sensitivity for preserving buried archaeological sites.

### 4.4 NATIVE AMERICAN COORDINATION

PaleoWest contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on February 1, 2022, for a review of the SLF. The objective of the SLF search was to determine if the NAHC had any knowledge of Native American cultural resources (e.g., traditional use or gathering area, place of religious or sacred activity, etc.) within the immediate vicinity of the Project area. The NAHC responded on March 24, 2022, stating that the SLF was completed with negative results. The NAHC suggested that nine individuals representing six Native American tribal groups be contacted to elicit information regarding cultural resource issues related to the proposed Project (Appendix A). PaleoWest sent outreach letters to the six recommended tribal groups on March 25, 2022. These letters were followed up by phone calls on April 1, 2022.

To date, five responses have been received:

- The Quechan Historic Preservation Department sent an email indicating the Tribe does not wish to comment on the Project, stating they defer to more local tribes.
- Mr. Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer for the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, responded via telephone that the Project area is sensitive for cultural resources and that there are previously recorded resources near the Project and along the Armargosa Creek. Additionally, Mr. Avila stated that the Tribe is prepared to share more information with the City and requests participation in the AB52 process.

- Mr. Ryan Nordness, the Cultural Resources Analyst for the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, sent an email stating that the Project area is not located near any known Serrano cultural resources.
- Mr. Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairman for the Serrano Nation of Mission Indians, responded via Telephone that the Tribe would like to be contacted if any cultural resources are identified during ground disturbance activities.
- Ms. Donna Yochum, Chairperson of the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians, responded via telephone that the Project area is sensitive for cultural resources and requests participation in the AB52 process.

# **5 FIELD INVESTIGATION**

### 5.1 FIELD METHODS

A cultural resources survey of the Project area was completed by PaleoWest archaeologist Evan Mills, M.A., RPA on March 28, 2022. The fieldwork effort included an intensive pedestrian survey of the entire Project area, totaling approximately 18 acres. The intensive pedestrian survey was conducted by walking a series of parallel transects running north/south spaced at 15-meter (49-feet) intervals. The archaeologist carefully inspected all areas within the Project area likely to contain or exhibit sensitive cultural resources to ensure discovery and documentation of any visible, potentially significant cultural resources within the Project area.

Prehistoric site indicators may include areas of darker soil with concentrations of ash, charcoal, bits of animal bone (burned or unburned), shell, flaked stone, ground stone, or even human bone. Historic period site indicators may include fence lines, ditches, standing buildings, objects or structures such as sheds, or concentrations of materials at least 45 years in age, such as domestic refuse (e.g., glass bottles, ceramics, toys, buttons, or leather shoes), refuse from other pursuits such as agriculture (e.g., metal tanks, farm machinery parts, horse shoes), or structural materials (e.g., nails, glass window panes, corrugated metal, wood posts or planks, metal pipes and fittings, railroad spurs, etc.).

### 5.2 FIELD RESULTS

The Project area is comprised of a heavily disturbed, undeveloped, graded lot (Figure 5-1 and Figure 5-2). It appears that the northern portions of the Project area were previously graded and potentially utilized as a parking lot or staging area as there are several piles of gravel and road base present across the area. The few undisturbed soils that are present are fine- to medium-grained alluvial sandy loam and gravel that are very light-tan in color made of quartz and granitic material. Vegetation within the Project area consists of moderately distributed Creosote Bush Scrub with creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), cheesebush (*Ambrosia salsola*), white bursage (*Ambrosia dumosa*), fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), and other low-lying grasses. Ground visibility in Project area is good to excellent (70-80 percent). Heavy amounts of modern trash and disturbance was noted throughout the Project area (Figure 5-3).

No prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 45 years or older) archaeological resources were identified on the surface of the Project area during the archaeological survey.



Figure 5-1. Overview of the Project area from northeast corner, facing south-southwest.



Figure 5-2. Overview of the Project area from southeast corner, facing north-northwest.

Cultural Resource Investigation in Support of the Palmdale 8<sup>th</sup> Street Project, City of Palmdale, Ios Angeles County, California | 24



Figure 5-3. Modern refuse dump in center of Project area, facing east.

# 6 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the cultural resource records search and survey, no prehistoric or historic period archaeological or built-environment resources were identified in the Project area. Based on the sparsity of prehistoric remains identified in the records search area, a review of the underlying geology, the result of the archaeological survey, and the amount of modern disturbance, the Project area has a low sensitivity for buried prehistoric archaeological sites and no to low sensitivity buried historic period archaeological sites. As such, PaleoWest recommends the following best management practices be implemented during Project construction.

- If cultural resources are encountered during Project related activities, work in the immediate area must halt and the Project Archaeologist should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be CRHR eligible, additional work such as data recovery excavation, Native American consultation, and archaeological monitoring may be warranted to mitigate any adverse effects.
- If human remains are found, existing regulations outlined in the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 state that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code § 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified within 24 hours of positive identification as human. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete

the inspection of the site within 48 hours of being granted access and provide recommendations as to the treatment of the remains to the landowner.

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# Appendix A. Native American Coordination

## Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

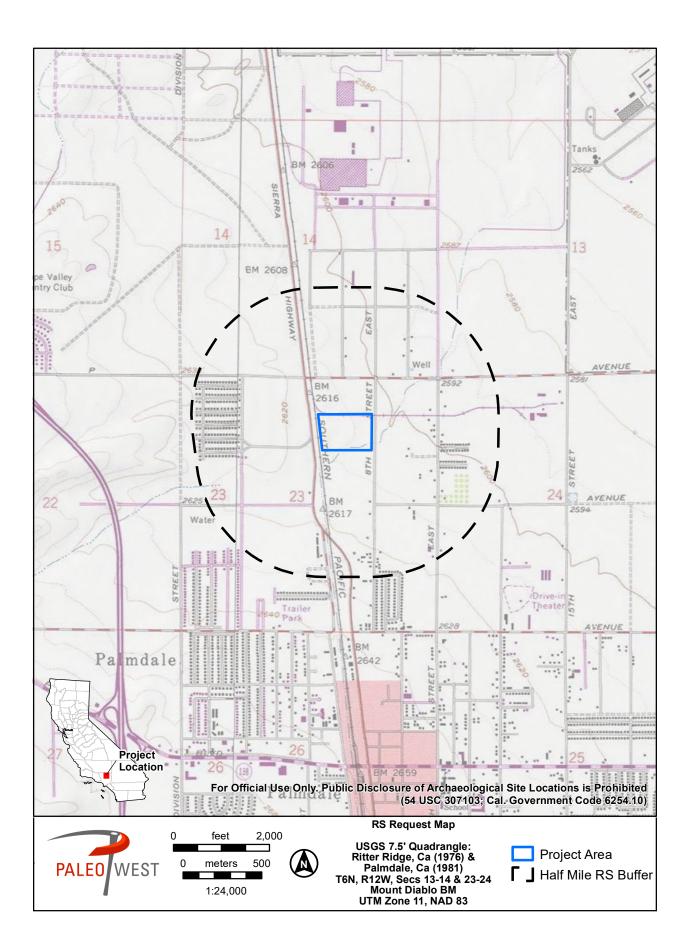
1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100 West Sacramento, CA 95501 (916) 373-3710 (916) 373-5471 – Fax <u>nahc@nahc.ca.gov</u>

## Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

Project:				
County:				
USGS Quadrangle				
Name:				
Township:	Range:	Section(s):		
Company/Firm/Agency:				
Contact Person:				
Street Address:				
City:		Zip:		
Phone:	Extension:			
Fax:				
Email:				

Project Description:

Project Location Map is attached





CHAIRPERSON Laura Miranda Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON **Reginald Pagaling** Chumash

Parliamentarian **Russell Attebery** Karuk

SECRETARY Sara Dutschke Miwok

COMMISSIONER William Mungary Paiute/White Mountain Apache

COMMISSIONER Isaac Bojorquez Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER Buffy McQuillen Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomlaki

Commissioner **Wayne Nelson** Luiseño

COMMISSIONER Stanley Rodriguez Kumeyaay

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Christina Snider Pomo

### NAHC HEADQUARTERS

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

## NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

March 24, 2022

Kyle Knabb PaleoWest Archaeology

Via Email to: <u>kknabb@paleowest.com</u>

### Re: 8th Street E Industrial Survey Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Knabb:

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

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 me. 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: <u>Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Indrew Green

Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

### Native American Heritage Commission Native American Contact List Los Angeles County 3/24/2022

### Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

Jairo Avila. Tribal Historic and **Cultural Preservation Officer** 1019 Second Street, Suite 1 San Fernando, CA, 91340 Phone: (818) 837 - 0794 Fax: (818) 837-0796 jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

Tataviam

### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla Serrano

### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla Serrano

### Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee P.O. Box 1899 Quechan Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com

### Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma

Reservation Jill McCormick, Historic **Preservation Officer** P.O. Box 1899 Quechan Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (760) 572 - 2423 historicpreservation@quechantrib e.com

## San Fernando Band of Mission

Indians Donna Yocum, Chairperson P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322 Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net

**Kitanemuk** Vanyume Tataviam

#### San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources 26569 Community Center Drive Serrano Highland, CA, 92346 Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuelnsn.gov

### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Serrano Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (253) 370 - 0167 serranonation1@gmail.com

### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Serrano Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (909) 528 - 9032 serranonation1@gmail.com

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 Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 8th Street E Industrial Survey Project, Los Ángeles County.

Groups Contacted	Date of Correspondence	Tribal Response
Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Jairo Avila, Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer 1019 Second Street, Suite 1 San Fernando, CA, 91340 Phone: (818) 837 - 0794 Fax: (818) 837-0796 jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Mr. Avila stated via telephone on 4/1/2022 that CA-LAN-1999, which is a milling site, is located near to the Project area along with multiple prehistoric resources being located along Amargosa Creek. Mr. Avila stated that the Project area is sensitive for cultural resources and looks forward to working the the City and requests participation in the AB52 process.
Morongo Band of Mission Indians Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Left voicemail on 4/1/2022. No response.
Morongo Band of Mission Indians Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Left voicemail on 4/1/2022. No response.
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Manfred Scott, Acting Chairman Kw'ts'an Cultural Committee P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (928) 750 - 2516 scottmanfred@yahoo.com	3/25/2022 via email;	See Ms. McCormick below.
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Phone: (760) 572 – 2423 historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	3/25/2022 via email;	Ms. McCormick responded via email on 3/28/2022 that the Tribe does not have comments on the project and defers to the more local Tribes and supports their decisions regarding the project.

Groups Contacted	Date of Correspondence	Tribal Response
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians Donna Yocum, Chairperson P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322 Phone: (503) 539 - 0933 Fax: (503) 574-3308 ddyocum@comcast.net	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Ms. Donna Yochum, Chairperson of the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians, responded via telephone that the Project area is sensitive for cultural resources and requests participation in the AB52 process.
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Jessica Mauck, Director of Cultural Resources 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346 Phone: (909) 864 - 8933 Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuel-nsn.Gov	3/25/2022 via email;	Mr. Ryan Nordness, Cultural Resources Analyst, responded via email on 3/28/2022 that the Project area is not located near any known Serrano cultural resources
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Wayne Walker, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (253) 370 - 0167 serranonation1@gmail.com	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Left voicemail on 4/1/2022. No response.
Serrano Nation of Mission Indians Mark Cochrane, Co-Chairperson P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Phone: (909) 528 - 9032 serranonation1@gmail.com	3/25/2022 via email; 4/1/2022 via telephone	Mr. Cochrane requested via Telephone on 4/1/2022 that if any cultural resources are identified during ground disturbance that he and Mr. Walker be notified.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Jairo Avila, Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians 1019 Second Street, Suite 1 San Fernando, CA, 91340 Transmitted via email to jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Avila,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

The proposed Project includes the development of approximately 18 acres of undeveloped land bounded by 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the east and Sierra Highway to the west (see attached map) and located on Assessor's Parcel Number 3022-0014-027.

A cultural resource literature review and records search conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center indicates that 27 historic period resource and one prehistoric resource have been identified within a one-half-mile radius of the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area, PaleoWest requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) Sacred Lands File (SLF). The NAHC responded on March 24, 2022 indicating that that their search of the SLF was negative. However, should your records show that cultural properties exist within or near the Project area, please contact me at (626) 376-6729 or <u>kknabb@paleowest.com</u>.

Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Ann Brierty, Morongo Band of Mission Indians 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Transmitted via email to <u>abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov</u>

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Brierty,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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yle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Co-Chairman Mark Cochrane, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Transmitted via email to serranonation1@gmail.com

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairman Cochrane,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

The proposed Project includes the development of approximately 18 acres of undeveloped land bounded by 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the east and Sierra Highway to the west (see attached map) and located on Assessor's Parcel Number 3022-0014-027.

A cultural resource literature review and records search conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center indicates that 27 historic period resource and one prehistoric resource have been identified within a one-half-mile radius of the Project area.

As part of the cultural resource investigation of the Project area, PaleoWest requested a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC's) Sacred Lands File (SLF). The NAHC responded on March 24, 2022 indicating that that their search of the SLF was negative. However, should your records show that cultural properties exist within or near the Project area, please contact me at (626) 376-6729 or <u>kknabb@paleowest.com</u>.

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Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Chairman Robert Martin, Morongo Band of Mission Indians 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Transmitted via email to abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

## RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairman Martin,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

The proposed Project includes the development of approximately 18 acres of undeveloped land bounded by 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the east and Sierra Highway to the west (see attached map) and located on Assessor's Parcel Number 3022-0014-027.

A cultural resource literature review and records search conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center indicates that 27 historic period resource and one prehistoric resource have been identified within a one-half-mile radius of the Project area.

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Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Jessica Mauck, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA, 92346 Transmitted via email to Jessica.Mauck@sanmanuelnsn.gov

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Mauck,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Jill McCormick, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Transmitted via email to historicpreservation@quechantribe.com

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. McCormick,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Chairman Manfred Scott, Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366 Transmitted via email to scottmanfred@yahoo.com

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairman Scott,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Co-Chairman Wayne Walker, Serrano Nation of Mission Indians P. O. Box 343 Patton, CA, 92369 Transmitted via email to serranonation1@gmail.com

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairman Walker,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

March 25, 2022

Chairwoman Donna Yocum, San Fernando Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322 Transmitted via email to ddyocum@comcast.net

# RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Dear Chairwoman Yocum,

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) is conducting a cultural resource investigation in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project (Project) in the City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California. This letter constitutes informal outreach by PaleoWest as part of the cultural resources investigation and is not government to government consultation.

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Your comments are very important to us, and to the successful completion of this Project. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Kyle A. Klt

Kyle Knabb, Ph.D., RPA Senior Archaeologist

### **Gena Granger**

From:	Quechan Historic Preservation < historicpreservation@quechantribe.com>
Sent:	Monday, March 28, 2022 8:05 PM
То:	Gena Granger
Cc:	Kyle Knabb
Subject:	RE: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8th Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

This email is to inform you that we have no comments on this project. We defer to the more local Tribes and support their decisions on the projects.

From: Gena Granger [mailto:GGranger@paleowest.com]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 2:51 PM
To: historicpreservation@quechantribe.com
Cc: Kyle Knabb
Subject: Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8th Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California

Please see the attached letter and map for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Project in Los Angeles County, California.\

Best,



Gena Granger, MA, RPA | Associate Archaeologist PaleoWest ggranger@paleowest.com mobile: 562-310-0153 www.paleowest.com

Los Angeles, California 517 S. Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016





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From:	Ryan Nordness
To:	Kyle Knabb
Subject:	Cultural Resource Investigation for the 8th Street Industrial Project, City of Palmdale, Los Angeles County, California
Date:	Monday, March 28, 2022 11:59:28 AM

Thank you for reaching out to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians concerning the proposed project area. SMBMI appreciates the opportunity to review the project documentation received by

the Cultural Resources Management Department on March 25<sup>th</sup> 2022. The proposed project is not located near any known Serrano cultural resources. Thank you again for your correspondence, if you have any additional questions or comments please reach out to me at your earliest convenience. Respectfully,

Ryan Nordness

### **Ryan Nordness**

Cultural Resource Analyst Ryan.Nordness@sanmanuel-nsn.gov O:(909) 864-8933 Ext 50-2022 M:(909) 838-4053 26569 Community Center Dr Highland, California 92346



### For General Inquiries: T: 886.563.2536 T: 602.254.6280 info@paleowest.com

### Phoenix, Arizona

T: 602.261.7253 319 East Palm Lane Phoenix, AZ 85004 info@paleowest.com

www.paleowest.com

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