APPENDIX D

Archaeological Resources Assessment

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

Lancaster Health District Project

City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California

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Project No. MER1601

Data Base Information:
Type of Study: Intensive Survey
Resources Within Project Site Boundaries: P-19-419, 485, 486, 2533, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2550, 100192, 100193
Keywords: Historic-refuse, Lithics, Lithic Isolate, Groundstone
USGS Quadrangles: 7.5-minute *Lancaster West* (1974)

BCRCONSULTING LLC

September 5, 2016

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Meridian Consultants to complete an Archaeological Resources Assessment of the Lancaster Health District Project (project) located in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. Please note that this assessment does not address historic-period buildings or paleontological resources. An archaeological resources records search and intensive-level pedestrian field survey were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The records search revealed that 60 previous cultural resource studies have taken place and 15 archaeological resources have been recorded within one mile of the project site. Of the previous studies, eight have assessed portions of the project site, and 10 archaeological resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. The 10 archaeological resources include four historic-period archaeological sites, three prehistoric archaeological sites, one archaeological site with historic-period and prehistoric components, and two isolated artifacts (one historic-period and one prehistoric).

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists identified two of the 10 previously recorded resources within the project site boundaries. These included P-19-2539 (a historic-period refuse scatter) and P-19-485 (a prehistoric lithic scatter). The two resources identified are not recommended eligible for the California Register, and as such are not recommended "historical resources" under CEQA. Existing building and parking lot construction have destroyed the remaining eight resources. Since they have been destroyed, these resources are also not recommended eligible for the California Register, and are not recommended "historical resources" under CEQA. However, due to the previous identification of numerous archaeological resources within the project site boundaries, it is possible that ground-disturbing activities could reveal the presence of resources not identified during the current study. Therefore, BCR Consulting recommends that an archaeological monitor be present during any earthmoving activities proposed within the project site boundaries. The monitor shall work under the direct supervision of a cultural resource professional who meets the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for archaeology. The monitor shall be empowered to temporarily halt or redirect construction work in the vicinity of any find until the project archaeologist can evaluate it. In the event of a new find, salvage excavation and reporting will be required.

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

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INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Meridian Consultants to complete an Archaeological Resources Assessment of the Lancaster Health District Project (project) located in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. Please note that this assessment does not address historic-period buildings or paleontological resources. An archaeological resources records search and intensive-level pedestrian field survey were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project site, as identified in this report, is located in Section 21 of Township 7 North, Range 13 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian (see Figure 1).

NATURAL SETTING

Geology

The project site is located in the southwestern portion of the Mojave Desert. Sediments within the project site boundaries have been derived from several geologic units (Hernandez 2010). These units include:

- Holocene slope wash composed of loose sand and rubble debris from downslope movement of Holocene surficial materials;
- Holocene modern alluvium containing unconsolidated fluvial gravel, sand and silt;
- Younger alluvial fan deposits (Holocene to Late Pleistocene) consisting of consolidated, dark-yellowish-brown, silty, fine sand with clay and calcium carbonate.

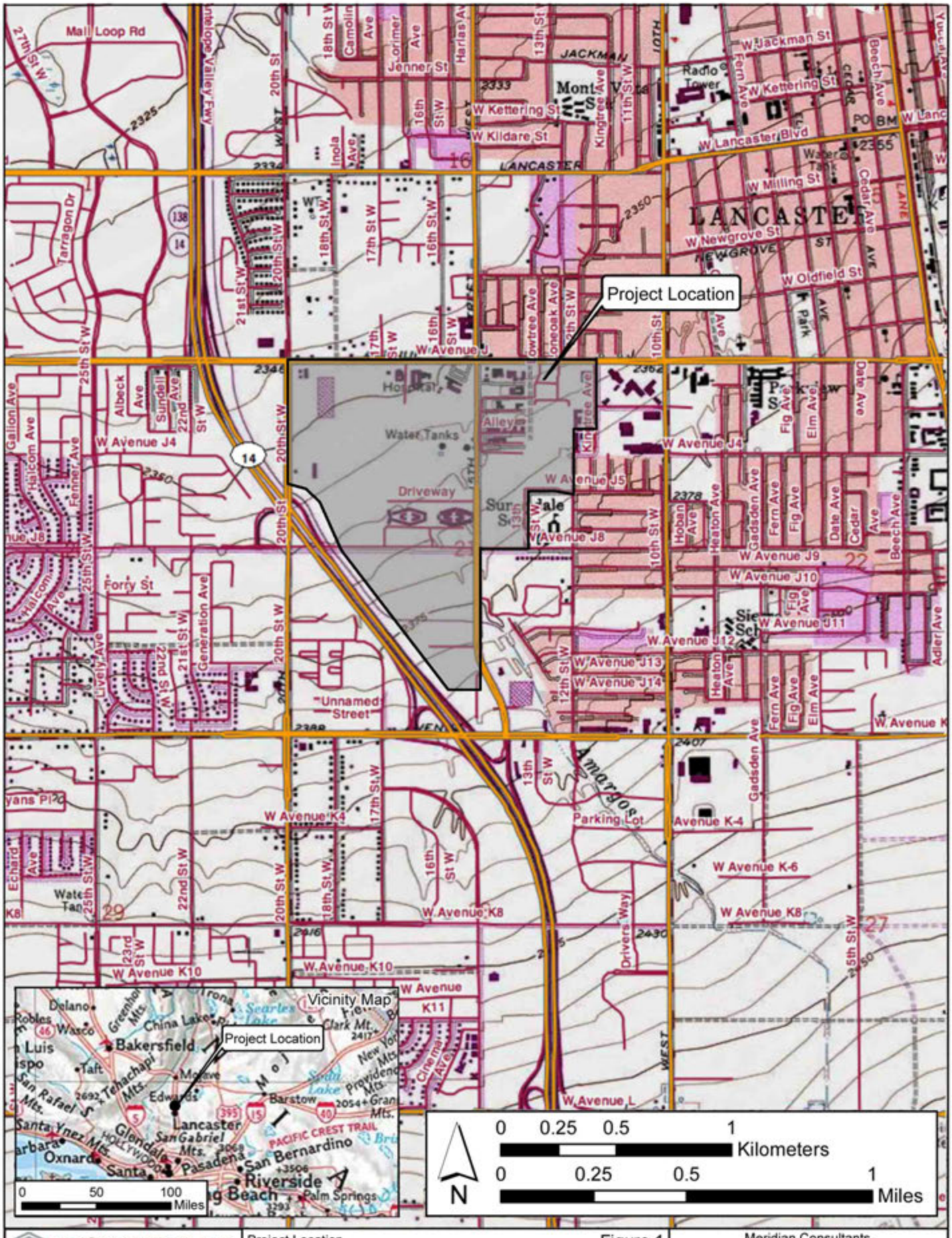
Field observations during the current study are basically consistent with these descriptions, although disturbances related to excavation and grading for fire suppression, building and parking lot construction, and utility and road installations were severe. The survey has revealed the presence of some lithic materials (including chalcedony and chert) within the project site boundaries that have been used in the manufacture of prehistoric stone tools.

Hydrology

The project site elevation ranges from approximately 2,343 to 2,395 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sheetwashing generally occurs from southeast to northwest, and flood channels are often active after summer and winter storms. To the southeast, the peaks of the San Gabriel Mountains rise above 10,000 feet and are often capped with snow until late spring or early summer. The area currently exhibits an arid climate, with dry, hot summers and cool winters. Rainfall ranges from five to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer.

Biology

The mild climate of the late Pleistocene allowed piñon-juniper woodland to thrive throughout most of the Mojave (Van Devender et al. 1987). The vegetation and climate during that epoch attracted significant numbers of Rancholabrean fauna, including dire wolf, saber-toothed cat, short-faced bear, horse, camel, antelope, mammoth, pelican, goose, duck, cormorant, and eagle (Reynolds 1988). The drier climate of the middle Holocene resulted in the local development of complementary flora and fauna, which remain largely intact to this day. Common native plants currently include creosote, cacti (various species), rabbit bush, interior golden bush, cheesebush, sage (various species), buckwheat (at high elevations



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Project Location
Lancaster Health District Project

Figure 1

Reference: ESRI; USGS Quad: *Lancaster West* (1974), *California*

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and near drainages), Joshua tree, and seasonal grasses. Common native animals include coyotes, cottontail and jackrabbits, rats, mice, desert tortoises, roadrunners, raptors, turkey vultures, and other bird species (see Williams et al. 2008).

CULTURAL SETTING

Prehistory

The prehistoric cultural setting of the Mojave Desert has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for the Mojave are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the Mojave and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, Mojave chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study synthesizes Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

Paleoindian (12,000 to 10,000 BP) and Lake Mojave (10,000 to 7,000 BP) Periods. Climatic warming characterizes the transition from the Paleoindian Period to the Lake Mojave Period. This transition also marks the end of Pleistocene Epoch and ushers in the Holocene. The Paleoindian Period has been loosely defined by isolated fluted (such as Clovis) projectile points, dated by their association with similar artifacts discovered in-situ in the Great Plains (Sutton 1996:227-228). Some fluted bifaces have been associated with fossil remains of Rancholabrean mammals approximately dated to ca. 13,300-10,800 BP near China Lake in the northern Mojave Desert. The Lake Mojave Period has been associated with cultural adaptations to moist conditions, and resource allocation pointing to more lacustrine environments than previous eras (Bedwell 1973; Hester 1973). Artifacts that characterize this period include stemmed points, flake and core scrapers, choppers, hammerstones, and crescentics (Warren and Crabtree 1986:184). Projectile points associated with the period include the Silver Lake and Lake Mojave styles. Lake Mojave sites commonly occur on shorelines of Pleistocene lakes and streams, where geological surfaces of that epoch have been identified (Basgall and Hall 1994:69).

Pinto Period (7,000 to 4,000 BP). The Pinto Period has been largely characterized by desiccation of the Mojave. As formerly rich lacustrine environments began to disappear, the artifact record reveals more sporadic occupation of the Mojave, indicating occupants' recession to the more hospitable fringes (Warren 1984). Pinto Period sites are rare, and are characterized by surface manifestations that usually lack significant in-situ remains. Artifacts from this era include Pinto projectile points and a flake industry similar to the Lake Mojave tool complex (Warren 1984), though use of Pinto projectile points as an index artifact for the

era has been disputed (see Schroth 1994). Milling stones have also occasionally been associated with sites of this period (Warren 1984).

Gypsum Period. (4,000 to 1,500 BP). A temporary return to moister conditions during the Gypsum Period is postulated to have encouraged technological diversification afforded by the relative abundance of resources (Warren 1984:419-420; Warren and Crabtree 1986:189). Lacustrine environments reappear and begin to be exploited during this era (Shutler 1961, 1968). Concurrently a more diverse artifact assemblage reflects intensified reliance on plant resources. The new artifacts include milling stones, mortars, pestles, and a proliferation of Humboldt Concave Base, Gypsum Cave, Elko Eared, and Elko Corner-notched dart points (Warren 1984; Warren and Crabtree 1986). Other artifacts include leaf-shaped projectile points, rectangular-based knives, drills, large scraper planes, choppers, hammer stones, shaft straighteners, incised stone pendants, and drilled slate tubes. The bow and arrow appears around 2,000 BP, evidenced by the presence of a smaller type of projectile point, the Rose Spring point (Rogers 1939; Shutler 1961; Yohe 1992).

Saratoga Springs Period (1,500 to 800 BP). During the Saratoga Springs Period regional cultural diversifications of Gypsum Period developments are evident within the Mojave. Basketmaker III (Anasazi) pottery appears during this period, and has been associated with turquoise mining in the eastern Mojave Desert (Warren and Crabtree 1986:191). Influences from Patayan/Yuman assemblages are apparent in the southern Mojave, and include buff and brown wares often associated with Cottonwood and Desert Side-notched projectile points (Warren 1984:423). Obsidian becomes more commonly used throughout the Mojave and characteristic artifacts of the period include milling stones, mortars, pestles, ceramics, and ornamental and ritual objects. More structured settlement patterns are evidenced by the presence of large villages, and three types of identifiable archaeological sites (major habitation, temporary camps, and processing stations) emerge (McGuire and Hall 1988). Diversity of resource exploitation continues to expand, indicating a much more generalized, somewhat less mobile subsistence strategy.

Shoshonean Period (800 BP to Contact). The Shoshonean period is the first to benefit from contact-era ethnography –as well as be subject to its inherent biases. Interviews of living informants allowed anthropologists to match artifact assemblages and particular traditions with linguistic groups, and plot them geographically (see Kroeber 1925; Gifford 1918; Strong 1929). During the Shoshonean Period continued diversification of site assemblages, and reduced Anasazi influence both coincide with the expansion of Numic (Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers across the Great Basin, Takic (Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers into southern California, and the Hopi across the Southwest (Sutton 1996). Hunting and gathering continued to diversify, and the diagnostic arrow points include desert side-notch and cottonwood triangular. Ceramics continue to proliferate, though are more common in the southern Mojave during this period (Warren and Crabtree 1986). Trade routes have become well established across the Mojave, particularly the Mojave Trail, which transported goods and news across the desert via the Mojave River, to the west of the study area. Trade in the western Mojave was more closely related to coastal groups than others.

Ethnography

The Uto-Aztecan “Serrano” people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term “Serrano” to four groups, each with distinct territories: the

Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. Bean and Smith (1978) indicate that the Vanyume, an obscure Takic population, was found along the Mojave River at the time of Spanish contact. The Kitanemuk lived to the north and west, while the Tataviam lived to the west. The Serrano lived mainly to the south (Bean and Smith 1978). All may have used the western Mojave area seasonally. Historical records are unclear concerning precise territory and village locations. It is doubtful that any group, except the Vanyume, actually lived in the region for several seasons yearly.

History

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

Spanish Period. The first European to pass through the study area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, they camped at the headwaters of the Mojave River, one night less than a day's march from the mountains. Today, this is estimated to have been approximately 11 miles southeast of Victorville (Marenczuk 1962). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

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

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

Local Sequence. Lancaster grew up around the Southern Pacific Railroad, which entered the area in 1876. The railroad brought speculators that used artesian wells to found an early

local agricultural and horticultural economy. A newspaper was established in 1884, and grammar schools and a local post office soon followed (Lewis Publishing Company 1889:350). Parcels within the new town were originally settled near today's I Street and the Sierra Highway. Although farming was initially successful, it was also subject to the caprices of desert rainfall that varied dramatically and caused a downturn during the early 20th century. Continued well drilling managed to revive local agriculture and by the teens and 1920s local mining and the continued influence of the railroad resulted in an economic resurgence. Municipal advancements included paved streets in 1916, the formation of a local Los Angeles County Waterworks district in 1919, a fire department in 1921, and electric service brought by Southern California Edison in 1923. Although the economy slowed again during the depression and World War II, the founding of the Muroc Lake Bombing and Gunnery Range (now Edwards Air Force Base) in 1933 compensated somewhat for the losses, and mining and alfalfa farming remained locally viable (Ford 1998). The post war years brought an economic boom to Lancaster, which was locally punctuated by the opening of the first local ready-mix plant, the Antelope Valley Freeway plan, and eventually resulted in the local population expanding to 40,609 by 1970. Lancaster finally incorporated in 1977 and has since developed into a bedroom community, in addition to remaining a hub for farming, mining, and transportation (City of Lancaster 2012). McKenna (2004 and 2005) and numerous others have complied historical information for the study area.

PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. Mr. Brunzell also conducted the archaeological resources records search through information from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) located at California State University, Fullerton, and compiled the technical report. Mr. Brunzell completed the archaeological field study with assistance from Archaeological Crew Chief Mary Shockley, M.A., RPA, and Staff Archaeologist Judy Bernal, B.A.

RESEARCH DESIGN

This work was completed pursuant to CEQA, the Public Resources Code (PRC) Chapter 2.6, Section 21083.2, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5. The pedestrian archaeological resources survey was intended to locate and document previously recorded and new archaeological sites, features, and isolates that exceed 45 years in age within defined project site boundaries. The project site was examined using systematic pedestrian field survey methods. The study is intended to determine whether archaeological resources are located within the project site boundaries, whether any archaeological resources are significant pursuant to the above-referenced regulations and standards, and to develop specific mitigation measures that will address potential impacts to existing or potential resources. Tasks pursued to achieve that end include:

- Archaeological resources records search to review any studies conducted and the resulting resources recorded within a one-mile radius of the project site boundaries
- Systematic pedestrian survey of the project site

- Evaluation of California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) eligibility for any archaeological resources discovered
- Development of recommendations for archaeological resources documented within the project boundaries, following CEQA guidelines
- Completion of Department of Park and Recreation (DPR) 523 forms for any discovered archaeological resources.

METHODS

Research

Prior to fieldwork, a records search was conducted using records from the SCCIC. This archival research reviewed the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one mile of the project site. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register, and documents and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

Field Survey

An intensive-level archaeological resources field survey of the project site was conducted on August 1, 2, and 31, 2016. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across the site. Preparation for the field survey involved a thorough review of modern and historic aerial photos and topographic maps, and field checks and updates for previously identified archaeological resources (see Appendix A). Digital photographs were taken at various points within the project site. Archaeological resources were recorded per the California OHP *Instructions for Recording Historical Resources* in the field using:

- Detailed note taking for entry on DPR Forms (Appendix B)
- Hand-held Global Positioning Systems for mapping purposes
- Digital photography of all archaeological resources (see Appendices B and C).

RESULTS

Research

Data from the SCCIC revealed that 60 previous cultural resource studies have taken place and 15 archaeological resources have been recorded within one mile of the project site. Of the previous studies, eight have assessed portions of the project site, and 10 archaeological resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries (plotted in Appendix A). The records search results are summarized as follows:

Table A. Archaeological Resources and Reports Within the Project Site

USGS 7.5 Minute Quad	Archaeological Resources	Cultural Resource
Lancaster	P-19-419: prehistoric lithic scatter	LA-1813, 1838, 2229,

USGS 7.5 Minute Quad	Archaeological Resources	Cultural Resource
West (1974), *California*	P-19-485: prehistoric midden and lithics P-19-486: prehistoric lithic scatter P-19-2533: prehistoric lithic scatter and historic refuse P-19-2538: historic-period refuse P-19-2539: historic-period refuse P-19-2540: hist.-period agricultural site P-19-2550: historic-period homestead P-19-100192: isolated auto fender P-19-100193: prehistoric isolated mano fragment	3607, 3610, 3894, 6629, 8040

Table B. Archaeological Resources and Reports Outside Project Site, Within One Mile

USGS 7.5 Minute Quad	Archaeological Resources Within One Mile of Project Site	Cultural Resource Studies Within One Mile of Project Site
Lancaster West (1974), *California*	P-19-766, 2171, 2215, 2402, 24611	LA-644, 1975, 2033, 2238, 2539, 2593, 2627, 2808, 2935, 2963, 2989, 3088, 3221, 3333, 3409, 3621, 3784, 4354, 4392, 5317, 5798, 6070, 6074, 6625, 6630, 6641, 6881, 7965, 8321, 8343, 8346, 8348, 8354, 8359, 8427, 8436, 8439, 8440, 8446, 8926, 9393, 9451, 10642, 10812, 11034, 11035, 11171, 11888, 11323, 12669, 112671, 12786

Field Survey

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists attempted to identify each of the 10 resources that had been previously recorded within the project site boundaries. Of these, eight have been destroyed by building and parking lot construction (see Appendix A). The below table summarizes the status of each of these resources.

Table C. Status of Resources Previously Identified within the Project Site

Resource	Status
P-19-419: prehistoric lithic scatter	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-485: prehistoric midden and lithics	Destroyed by 1969 excavation (Robinson 1969), re-routing of creek, grading for fire suppression, and road construction and maintenance activities.

Resource	Status
P-19-486: prehistoric lithic scatter	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-2533: prehistoric lithics/historic refuse	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-2538: historic-period refuse	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-2539: historic-period refuse	In place
P-19-2540: hist.-period agricultural site	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction, and by grading for fire suppression.
P-19-2550: historic-period homestead	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-100192: isolated auto fender	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction
P-19-100193: prehistoric isolated mano	Destroyed by parking lot and building construction

Eight resources have been destroyed by building and parking lot construction could not be relocated and are not described any further. The two remaining archaeological resources are described below.

P-19-485. R.W. Robinson originally recorded this resource in 1969 as a "small midden lying along one of the many channels of Amargosa Creek" (Robinson 1969). Robinson noted extensive damage from vandalism, and that salvage excavations by Antelope Valley College "yielded the remains of a butchered calf associated with chipped stone hunting and butchering implements" (ibid.). The presence of a calf indicates a late (i.e. post-European contact) site. BCR Consulting archaeologists revisited this site location on August 2 and August 31. Although two small chalcedony flakes were located on the surface, remains of the Amargosa Creek channel can no longer be identified. The site has been subject to severe grading for fire suppression, rerouting of the former channel, and with construction and maintenance activities associated with the adjacent 15th Street West. The previous archaeological excavation, combined with disturbances described, have destroyed this site.

P-19-2539. R.H. Norwood originally recorded this resource in 1997 as a historic to recent refuse deposit that "has been thoroughly destroyed and mixed due to grading" (Norwood 1997). This effort included some surface collection and the artifacts were "to be curated at the Lancaster Museum" (ibid.). BCR Consulting archaeologists revisited this site on August 1, 2016 and recorded the site in place as described. The site condition is considered poor.

SIGNIFICANCE EVALUATIONS

The records search identified 10 archaeological resources within the project site boundaries. Eight of these have been destroyed by building and parking lot construction. As a result these are not considered "historical resources" under CEQA, and do not require further evaluation. Two resources (P-19-485 and 2539) were plotted in open fields and had not been destroyed by these developments. As a result, attempts at relocation and updated recordation, in addition to California Register eligibility evaluation are pursued for these two resources (see Field Survey Results above).

CEQA (PRC Chapter 2.6, Section 21083.2 and CCR Title 145, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5) calls for the evaluation and recordation of historic and archaeological resources

(non-isolates). The criteria for determining the significance of impacts to cultural resources are based on Section 15064.5 of the *CEQA Guidelines* and Guidelines for the Nomination of Properties to the California Register. Properties eligible for listing in the California Register and subject to review under CEQA are those meeting the criteria for listing in the California Register, National Register, or designation under a local ordinance. Please note that the current study has not addressed historic-period buildings that may be present within the project site boundaries.

Significance Criteria

California Register of Historical Resources. The California Register criteria are based on National Register criteria. For a property to be eligible for inclusion on the California Register, one or more of the following criteria must be met:

1. It is associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history, or the cultural heritage of California or the U.S.;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to local, California, or U.S. history;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values; and/or
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California, or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

California Register Evaluation

P-19-485. BCR Consulting has conducted substantial research regarding the project site. There is nothing to suggest a clear association between this resource and any important events (California Register Criterion 1), or important persons (California Register Criterion 2). Prehistoric lithic scatters and middens do not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values (California Register Criterion 3). The 1969 excavations have exhausted the resource's data potential, and (combined with subsequent disturbances) have destroyed the site (California Register Criterion 4). The site does not exhibit any integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Because of the failure to meet any of the above criteria combined with a lack of integrity BCR Consulting recommends that P-19-485 is not potentially eligible for the California Register, and therefore is not recommended a historical resource under CEQA.

P-19-2539. BCR Consulting has conducted substantial research regarding the project site, and there is nothing to suggest a clear association with any important events (California Register Criterion 1), or important persons (California Register Criterion 2). This type of

refuse scatter is ubiquitous throughout the region and as such does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values (California Register Criterion 3). Due to extensive damage to the site related to fire suppression excavation and grading, the site's data potential is not considered significant (California Register Criterion 4). Although the complex does retain a measure of integrity of location and materials, the site lacks integrity of setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association. Because of the failure to meet any of the above criteria combined with diminished integrity, BCR Consulting recommends that P-19-2539 is not potentially eligible for the California Register, and therefore is not recommended a historical resource under CEQA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

BCR Consulting conducted an intensive Archaeological Resources Assessment for the Lancaster Health District Project in the City of Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California. The records search identified 10 previously recorded resources within the project site. Eight of these were destroyed by building and parking lot construction and as a result are not recommended "historical resources" under CEQA. The remaining two resources included P-19-485 (a prehistoric lithic scatter and midden) and P-19-2539 (a historic-period refuse scatter). The research and field survey have indicated that P-19-485 has been destroyed by previous archaeological excavation combined with subsequent disturbances associated with fire suppression, and road construction and maintenance. P-19-2539 remains in place as described, but has been subject to severe disturbances and lacks integrity. Therefore, these two resources are not recommended eligible for the California Register, and as such are not recommended "historical resources" under CEQA. However, due to the previous identification of numerous archaeological resources within the project site boundaries, it is possible that ground-disturbing activities could reveal the presence of resources not identified during the current study. Therefore, BCR Consulting recommends that an archaeological monitor be present during any earthmoving activities proposed within the project site boundaries. The monitor shall work under the direct supervision of a cultural resource professional who meets the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for archaeology. The monitor shall be empowered to temporarily halt or redirect construction work in the vicinity of any find until the project archaeologist can evaluate it. In the event of a new find, salvage excavation and reporting will be required.

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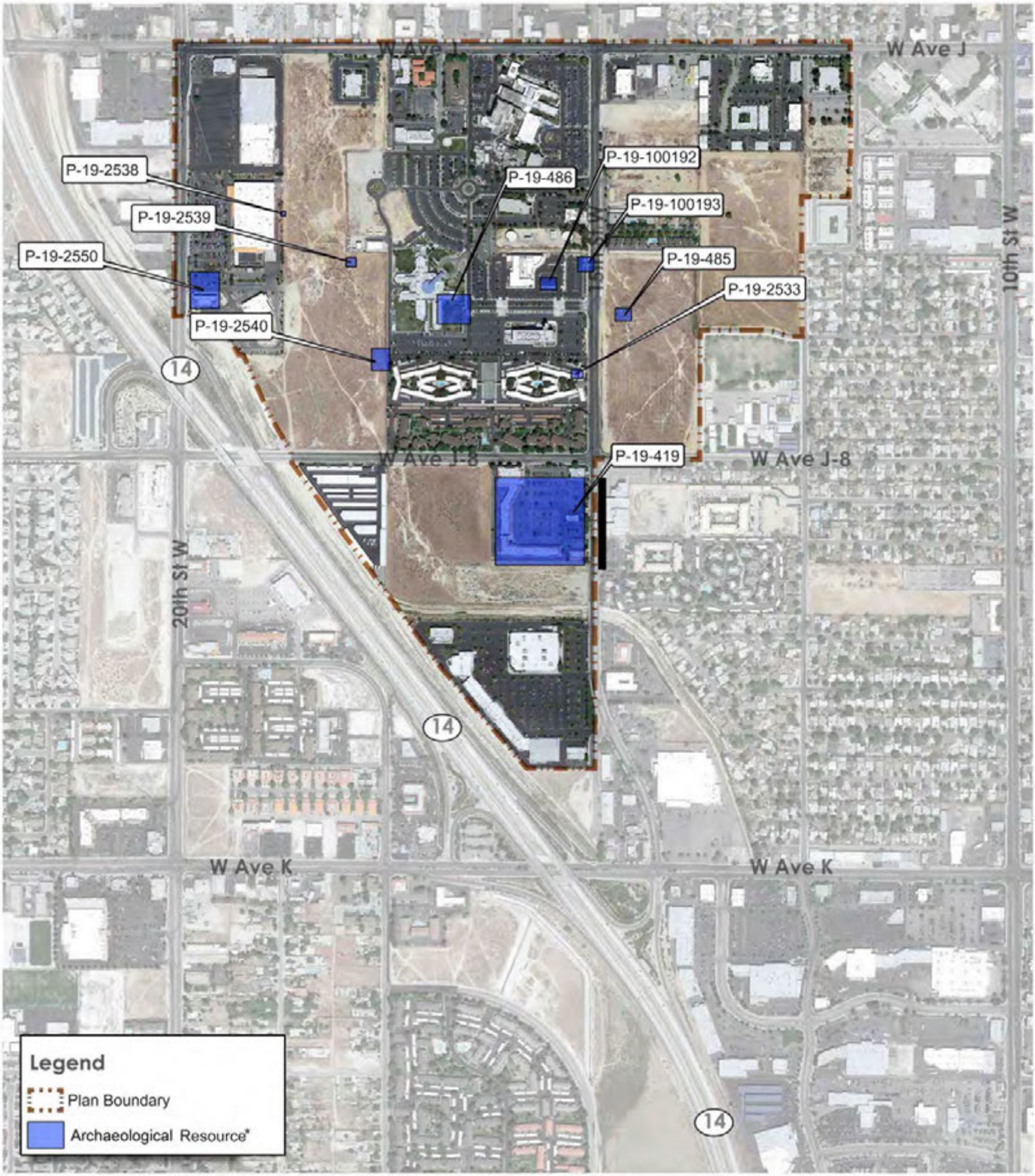
APPENDIX A

CONFIDENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE LOCATIONS EXHIBIT



*ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE LOCATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

0' 300' 600'

N

Plan Area & Vicinity

Lancaster Health District Plan | Lancaster, CA

SARGENT TOWN PLANNING

14 June 2016

APPENDIX B

DPR523 FORMS

***Recorded by:** David Brunzell, Mary Shockley, Judith Bernal ***Date:** August 31, 2016 ☐ Continuation ☑ Update

R.W. Robinson originally recorded this resource in 1969 as a "small midden lying along one of the many channels of Amargosa Creek" (Robinson 1969). Robinson noted extensive damage from vandalism, and that salvage excavations by Antelope Valley College "yielded the remains of a butchered calf associated with chipped stone hunting and butchering implements" (ibid.). The presence of a calf indicates a late (i.e. post-European contact) site. BCR Consulting archaeologists revisited this site location on August 2 and August 31. Although two small chalcedony flakes were located on the surface, remains of the Amargosa Creek channel can no longer be identified. The site has been subject to severe grading for fire suppression, rerouting of the former channel, and with construction and maintenance activities associated with the adjacent 15th Street West. The previous archaeological excavation, combined with disturbances described, have destroyed this site.

Reference:

Robinson, R.W.
1969 Site Record for P-19-485. On File at the South Central Coastal Information Center. Fullerton, California.

***Recorded by:** Judith Bernal ***Date:** August 2, 2016 ☐ Continuation ☑ Update

R.H. Norwood originally recorded this resource in 1997 as a historic to recent refuse deposit that "has been thoroughly destroyed and mixed due to grading" (Norwood 1997). This effort included some surface collection and the artifacts were "to be curated at the Lancaster Museum" (ibid.). BCR Consulting archaeologists revisited this site on August 1, 2016 and recorded the site in place as described. The site condition is considered poor.

Reference:

Norwood, R.H.
1997 Site Record for P-19-2539. On File at the South Central Coastal Information Center. Fullerton, California.

APPENDIX C

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1: Northwestern Portion of Project Site Overview (South View)

Photo 2: Northeastern Portion of Project Site Overview Corner (North View)

Photo 3: Historic-period Refuse from P-19-2539 (View NE)

Photo 4: South Central Portion of Project Site Overview (View West)

Photo 5: Overview at P-19-485 (View East)