



**Green sheet item no. 11 information provided
after posting of the agenda**

Biological & Environmental Consultants
15555 Main Street, #D4-235, Hesperia, CA92345
(760) 596-0017, fax (760) 244-0791, rca123@aol.com
www.rcaassociatesinc.com

August 4, 2017

DHR Verma Inc.
16815 Main Street
Hesperia, CA 92345

Re: Cultural survey for commercial development (APN 0412-172-01) in Hesperia, California.
#2017-72

Dear Sirs:

RCA Associates, LLC conducted a pedestrian survey on the project site referenced above which is located at the northeast corner of Ranchero Road and Seventh Avenue in Hesperia, California (Township 4 North, Range 4 West, Section 32) (Figures 1, 2, 3 & 4). The proposed project will include a convenience store with office above, gas station, drive-thru restaurant, and retail building. This pedestrian survey was performed on the 3.46-acre parcel pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and was conducted to determine if there were any cultural resources present on the property. The cultural survey was performed by RCA Associates, LLC staff archaeologist Ms. Alina Landa (BS, Archaeology, Cal Poly, Pomona, CA).

The property has been significantly disturbed by past development activities and a single-family residential dwelling is located in the northwestern portion of the property (Figure 4). Numerous vehicle tracks were noted throughout the property and several debris piles were scattered throughout the site. The vegetation consisted primarily of California juniper (*Juniperus californica*), ephedra (*Ephedra nevadensis*), Russian thistle (*Salsola tragus*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), brome grass (*Bromus sp.*), and yellow-green matchweed (*Gutierrezia sarothræ*).

The cultural setting of the surrounding region is summarized below:

Prehistory: California's prehistory is marked by its environmental shifts, which caused influence in subsistence and settlement patterns for the Native Americans of the high desert region. Cool and moist temperatures caused glaciation, which led to the creation of pluvial lakes during the late Pleistocene (Antevs, 1953). Various culturally-defined periods represent the regional changes in subsistence and settlement patterns during this time of rapid environmental change. They are: Lake Mojave, Pinto, Gypsum, Saratoga Springs, and Protohistoric Periods (Warren 1984).

Ethnography: The project site is located in the City of Hesperia, which was occupied by the Serrano cultural groups. Those groups include the Alliklik, the Vanyume, the Kitanemuk, and the Serrano (Kroeber, 1925). The name "Serrano" describes the tribes who lived in the general region of the San Bernardino Mountains (Kroeber, 1925). The Serrano people, being hunter-gatherers, would create tools that allowed them to process acorns, pinon nuts, mesquite, and cacti fruits. Evidence of occupation of this area shows that the Serrano used points, scrapers, knives, cores, and some milling stones to process foods (Moratto, 1984). The Serrano manufactured goods such as baskets, pottery, rabbit-skin blankets, arrows and arrow straighteners, sinew-backed bows, stone pipes, and musical instruments. (Bean and Smith, 1978:571).

History: The Historic era of California is divided into the Mission or Spanish Period (1769 to 1831), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

Spanish Period: The first explorers to come into this region were led by a Spanish priest named Francisco Garces, who guided Juan Bautista de Anza. In 1771, De Anza led a group from Arizona to create a headquarters at the Mission San Gabriel near the area known today as Pasadena (Beck and Haase, 1974). In 1776, the Mojave Trail was established as a route across the Mojave Desert to the San Gabriel Mission. Another, more utilized trail known as the Old Spanish Trail was established by 1831.

Mexican Period: Spanish rule was overthrown by Mexico in 1891. The missions lost their land holdings as the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act in 1833 (Beattie and Beattie, 1974).

American Period: After the Mexican-American War in 1848 and the discovery of gold in California, the Old Spanish Road was founded as a widely-used trade route for the shipment of goods and Mexican mules and horses. This allowed travelers from Salt Lake City to Las Vegas through the Cajon Pass to reach the San Bernardino and Los Angeles areas (Bean and Vane, Young et al, 1981). In the 1870s and afterward, small towns in the high desert region and near the Calico Mountains were established as railway stops along the Santa Fe Railroad (Kyle, 1990). A silver strike in the Calico Mountains brought upon a great mining boom in 1881 (Schuiling, 1984:95).

RESULTS

During the field survey conducted on August 3, 2017, Ms. Landa carefully inspected the property for the presence of any cultural resources, including prehistoric or historic buildings. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects in a north-south direction. The transects were spaced approximately 10 meters apart in order to provide total coverage (i.e. 100 percent) of the site. Meandering transects were also conducted in areas where ground coverage was blocked by trees and/or structures (i.e., house, outbuildings, etc.). Shovel test pits were also excavated at a depth of approximately 30 cm at the following coordinates and Figure 4 depicts the location of the two pits:

Test Pit #1: N34° 23.039' W117° 19.147'

Test Pit #2: N34° 23.068' W117° 19.158'

During the survey, no cultural resources, including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic buildings, were observed within the boundaries of the project site or within the two shovel test pits. Therefore, based on the results of the August 3rd survey, it is the opinion of

DHR Verma Inc.

Page 4

RCA Associates, LLC that no additional cultural resources surveys are necessary. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during development activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting or halting construction activities if necessary, to avoid impacting the cultural resource. 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 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 the notification by the NAHC.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the results of the cultural investigation, please contact our office at (760) 596-0017 or (760) 956-9212. We can also be reached at rca123@aol.com.

Sincerely,



Randy Arnold

President

RCA Associates, LLC

REFERENCES

Antevs, E.

1953 On Division of the Last 20,000 Years. *University of California Archaeological Survey Reports* 22: 5-8. Berkeley.

Bean, L. J., and C.R. Smith

1978 Serrano. In *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8 California: 570-574. R.F. Heizer, ed. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.

Bean, Lowell John, Sylvia Brakke Vane, and Jackson Young

1981 The Ivanpah Generating Station Project: Ethnographic (Native American) Resources. On file at San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center SBCM, Redlands, CA.

Beattie, George W., and Helen P. Beattie

1974 *Heritage of the Valley: San Bernardino's First Century*. Biobooks: Oakland.

Beck, Warren A., and Ynez D. Haase

1974 *Historical Atlas of California*. Oklahoma City: University of Oklahoma Press.

Kroeber, Alfred L.

1925 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Washington: Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institution. Reprinted in 1976, New York: Dover.

Kyle, D.E.

1990 *Historic Spots in California*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press.

Moratto, M.J.

1984 *California Archaeology*. Orlando: Academic Press.

Schuiling, Walter C.

1984 *San Bernardino County: Land of Contrasts*. Windsor Publications, Woodland Hills, California.

Warren, Claude N.

1984 The Desert Region. In *California Archaeology*, by M. Moratto, contributions by D.A. Frederickson, C. Raven, and C.N. Warren, pp. 339-430. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida.

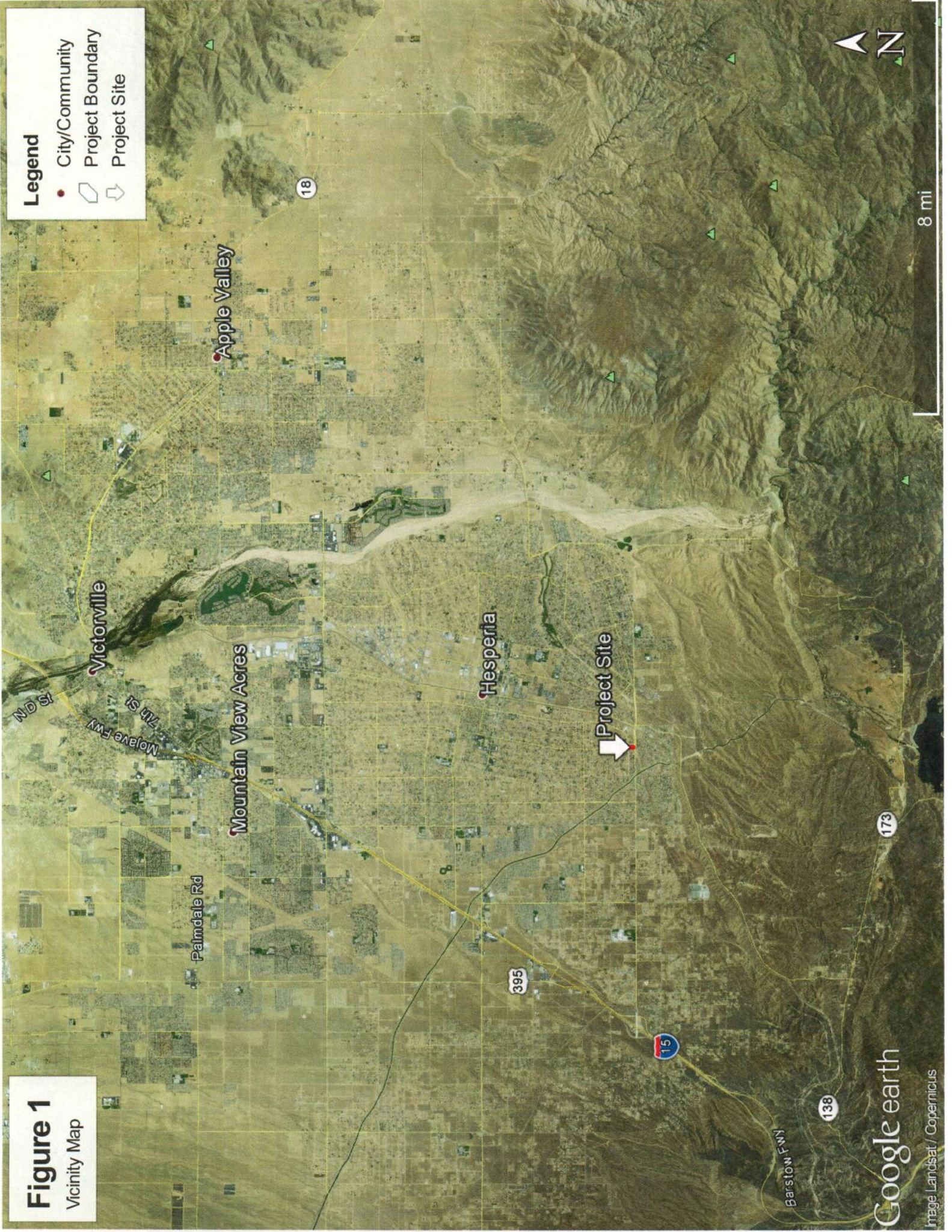
FIGURES

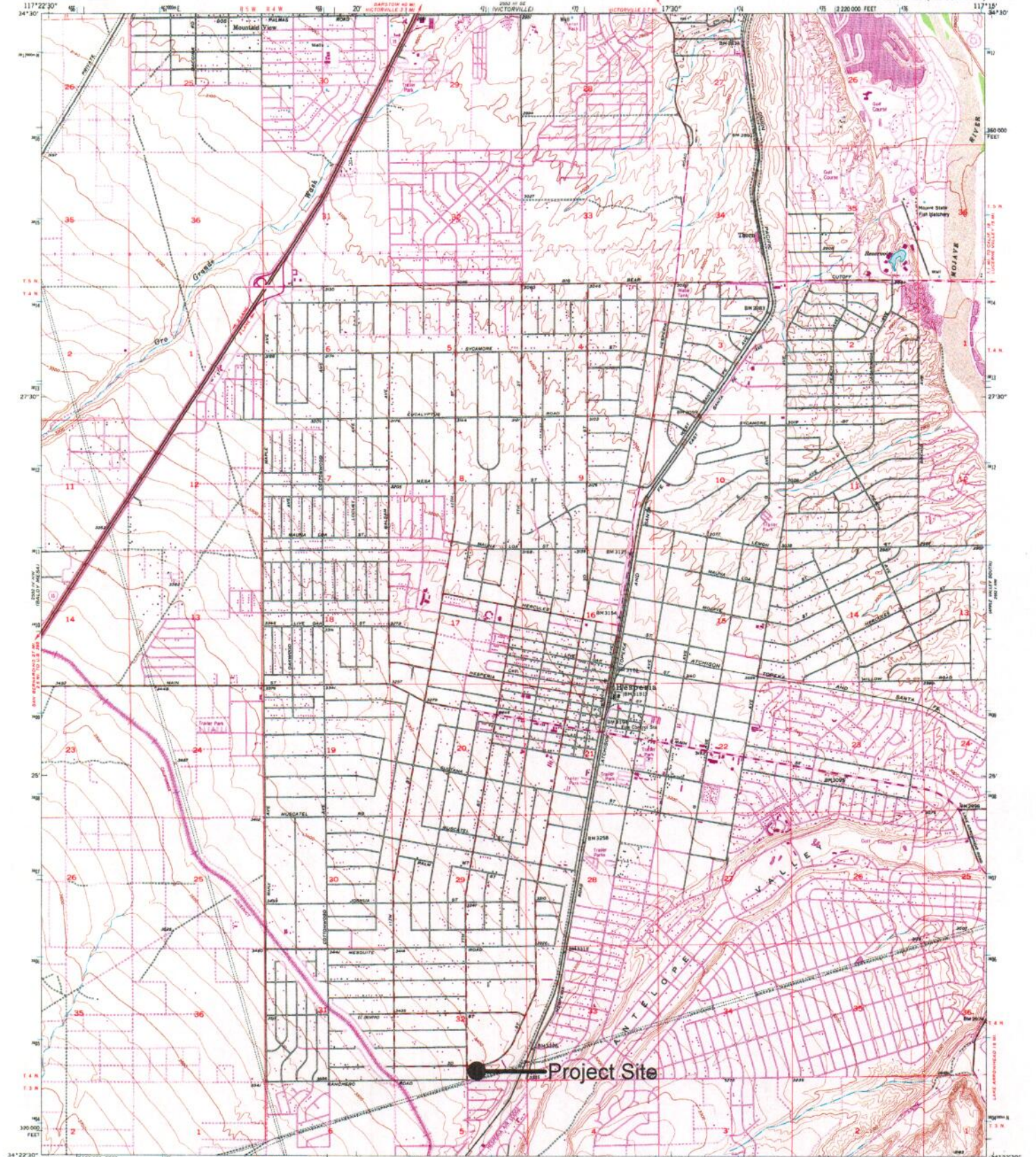
Figure 1

Vicinity Map

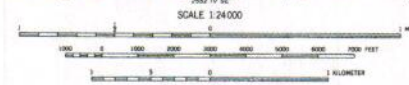
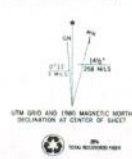
Legend

- City/Community
- ▭ Project Boundary
- ➔ Project Site

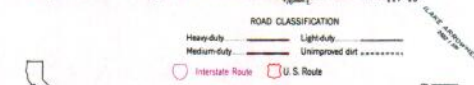




Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1962. Field check 1965
Polyconic projection
10,000-foot grid based on California coordinate system, zone 5
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 11, shown in blue - 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
from the projection lines 2 meters north and
8.2 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Revisions shown in purple and woodlands compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1978 and other source data
This information not field checked. Map voted 1980



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DASHED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



HESPERIA, CALIF.
N 3422.5 - W 11715.7.5
1980
PHOTOREVISED 1980
DMA 2052 IV RE - SERIES 1985



CENTER LOOKING NORTH



CENTER LOOKING EAST



FIGURE 3
SITE PHOTOS

CENTER LOOKING SOUTH



CENTER LOOKING WEST



FIGURE 3 Cont.
SITE PHOTOS

Figure 4

Aerial Map

Legend

- Property Boundary
- Shovel Test Pit

